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. (NOTE: Email address change)

The Liveable Neighborhood Taskforce Presents “Excite, Engage, Empower”

Are you a part of your neighborhood group? Are you interested in starting one? Are you trying to figure out ways to make an impact on our Community?

1st Brainstorming Session of 2015!
Saturday, May 16, 2015
10a.m.-12p.m.
Neighborhood Resource Center
4953 State Ave, Kansas City, KS 66102
For more information contact LaMonica Upton at 913-573-8739 or via email at lmunton@wycokck.org

The Women’s Chamber offers scholarships to women who are non-traditional students.
The scholarship amount ranges from $500 to $2,500 based on the available funds and the individual need. The Women’s Chamber defines a “non-traditional student” as: 24 years of age or older, is financially independent, and has dependents. All applicants must be residents of Wyandotte County that are attending any post-secondary institution.
The Women’s Chamber is currently accepting applications for 2015: http://www.womenschamberkck.org/content/scholarships

Please submit application and all required documents no later than May 30, 2015 to:

Gayle Lee, WCC Scholarship Chairman
Women’s Chamber of Commerce KCK
PO Box 12611, Kansas City, KS 66112

We offer free, one-on-one, coaching to help you effectively manage your healthcare. Learn about your health insurance, and find a primary care doctor, as well as access other resources, like utility or food assistance!

Did you just turn 26? Happy birthday! But that may mean that you are no longer on your parent’s insurance. If so, you may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to access the coverage you need! Other SEP Qualifications include:

- Loss of health coverage
- Birth or Adoption of a Child
- Moving
- New immigration status
- Marriage or Divorce
- Job Change
- Turning 26 (if you were previously on your parent’s plan)
- New income above 100% FPL

For more information, or to setup an appointment, contact the Community Health Council of Wyandotte County at 913-371-9298 ext. 209.
Neighborhood News

Tell us your story!
The library is conducting oral histories on the Kansas City, Kansas experience. Who are your heroes? What inspires you? How has KCK shaped your life? Share your story with us and it will be archived with the Generation Exchange project and posted on our website. Interviews will be recorded April through June. For more information contact Anne Lacey at 913-527-0306, or alacey@ckckpl.org

Police Patrol Division
Meet and Greet Events 2015

East Patrol Division

Thursday, May 14th, 2015 at 6:00pm

East Patrol Station: State Line West to 29th Street, I-70 North to Missouri River

South Patrol Station: State Line West to I-435, Kansas River south to County Line

West Patrol Division

Wednesday, May 20th, 2015 at 6:00pm

West Patrol Station: 65th Street west to County Line, Missouri River North to Kansas River South

Midtown Patrol Station: 29th Street west to 65th Street, Missouri River North to Kansas River South

Location for both meetings:
The Dr. Thomas Burke Technical Education Center
6565 State Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66109

Anyone with questions regarding these community meetings may contact a community policing supervisor or their community policing officer at: (913) 573-8720.

May Calendar of Events

April 6 to May 25 ~ “Spirited: Prohibition in America”
Wyandotte County Museum - Free to the public.
631 N. 126th St., Bonner Springs
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday ~9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sat.

May 2, 2015 ~ 31st Annual Polski Day Celebration
Free Event  http://www.polskiday.com
All Saints Parish
811 Vermont, Kansas City, KS 66101

May 2, 2015 ~ 9th Annual Marble Day
Downtown Bonner Springs
913-441-1432

May 15, 2015 ~ The U.G. Public Health Department hosts—Annual WOMEN’S HEALTH FAIR
10:00 am-2:00pm
John F Kennedy Center ~1310 N 10th KCK


May 28, 2015 ~ Liveable Neighborhoods Meeting
Free—everyone welcome
Neighborhood Resource Center at 4953 State Avenue
8:30am-10:00am
913-573-8737 or liveableNeig

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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 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 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.

By Kirk Suther, Operation Brightside

Memorial Day Impacts Residential Trash & Recycling Services

Deffenbaugh will be observing Memorial Day as a holiday. Deffenbaugh will not be picking up residential trash or curbside recycling on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2015 in Kansas City, Kansas. Service for both trash pickup and curbside recycling will be moved back one day for Kansas City, Kansas residents the week of May 25, 2015.

Monday’s pickup will be done on Tuesday. Tuesday’s pickup will be done on Wednesday. Wednesday’s pickup will be done on Thursday. Thursday’s pickup will be done on Friday. Friday’s pickup will be done on Saturday.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

Household Hazardous Waste Collection days for Wyandotte County residents includes the following Saturdays: May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, and October 17. The site will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on these collection Saturdays. The site is located at 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)

When bringing items to the collection site please label or identify all items. Items accepted include tires (limit of 10 tires and rims need to be removed), motor oil, batteries, antifreeze, degreasers, paints, varnishes, solvents, lawn & garden insecticides/pesticides, and household cleaning products.

For additional information call 573-5400.
Who Litters and Why People Litter?

Along roadways, motorists (52%) and pedestrians (23%) are the biggest contributors to litter. Research also shows that individuals under 30 are more likely to litter than those who are older. In hand, individuals who hold the belief that littering is wrong, and consequently feel a personal obligation not to litter, are less likely to do so.

**Litter begets litter.** Individuals are much more likely to litter into a littered environment. And once there, it attracts more litter. By contrast, a clean community discourages littering and improves overall community quality of life. Availability and proximity to trash and recycling receptacles also impact whether someone chooses to litter.

**Where do People Litter, and What Is Littered?**

K.A.B.’s 2009 National Visible Litter Survey and Litter Cost Study identified individual behavior as the primary contributor to litter in all locations. Individuals are littering on roads and highways and in retail, recreational, and residential locations:

**Roadway Litter** - Tobacco products, mostly cigarette butts, are the most littered item on U.S. roadways (38%). This is followed by paper (22%) and plastic (19%). Most of the litter on roads and highways is caused by people. Research shows that littering along roadways is generated by the following individual actions: motorists (52%); pedestrians (22.8%); improperly covered truck or cargo loads, including collection vehicles (16.4%); and improperly secured containers, dumpsters, trash cans or residential waste or recycling bins (1.3%)

**Non-Roadway Litter** - Off the roads and highways, litter originates from many sources, but litter primarily collects at “transition points”.

- Transition points are entrances to businesses, transportation, and other places where items must be discarded before entering. Confection (candy, chocolate, gum, etc.) ranks at the top (53.7%) of what is littered at transition points; this is followed by cigarette butts at 29.8%.
- Other locations that attract litter—starting from where most non-roadway litter occurs to least—include:
  - Storm drains - Located primarily in gutters and designed to drain excess rain from paved streets, parking lots, etc. storm drains tend to attract cigarette butts, confection, and other litter.
  - Loading docks - Areas behind retail and wholesale business where products are loaded/unloaded from trucks and trailers can become littered with cigarette butts, confection, and paper.
  - Recreational Areas - Parks, beaches, courts, and open areas where people congregate for leisure activities create lots of opportunities for littering.
  - Construction sites - Active residential or commercial construction are a trap for cigarette butts, paper, and plastic.
  - Retail - High-traffic locations such as shopping centers, strip malls, and convenience stores can generate packaging litter and cigarette butts and confection on the ground.

(Source: Keep America Beautiful Inc.)