



Livable
Neighborhoods
TASK FORCE

Resource Guide



Resource Guide

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OUR MISSION

The Livable Neighborhoods mission is to improve the quality of life in our community through organized neighborhood and government partnerships that provide information, training, resources and a forum for open discussion.

THE PURPOSE OF LIVABLE NEIGHBORHOODS IS:

- ✔ To develop strategies for building better neighborhoods.
- ✔ To identify problems and seek solutions by bringing together neighborhood leaders and local government representatives.
- ✔ To create working partnerships that provide a positive impact on the livability of our neighborhoods.
- ✔ To strive to recommend programs and initiatives that will empower, rebuild and revitalize our community.

The Livable Neighborhoods Taskforce was originally created through a partnership of citizens and local government officials to address three areas of common concern: code enforcement, reduction of crime and delinquent taxes.

Livable Neighborhoods Taskforce meets regularly on the fourth Thursday of every month (with the exception of November and December) at 9 a.m. at the Neighborhood Resource Center, 4953 State Ave. The meetings provide informational speakers along with opportunities for open discussion on communitywide issues and innovative successful programs.

Livable Neighborhoods Task Force is committed to providing support and assistance to help promote the establishment of organized neighborhood groups.

Livable Neighborhoods Task Force is funded by Community Development Block Grants.

DO
something
GOOD
in your
neighborhood



WHAT IS AN NBR?

NBR is a Neighborhood Business Revitalization Organization. There are currently eight NBR organizations in Kansas City, Kansas. The NBR's have a contract with the Unified Government (UG) to provide a scope of services to residents, businesses, and neighborhood groups. They are nonprofit organizations formed with a Board of Directors. Each NBR works within a specific set of geographic boundaries. They provide services in the following areas: resource and advocacy, neighborhood group support, youth programming, minor home repair for low-income homeowners, revitalization efforts, cleanups, crime prevention, and economic development.

ARGENTINE BETTERMENT CORPORATION

PO Box 6613
Kansas City, KS 66106

☎ Call 816-529-2742

🌐 argentinekc.org

Argentine Betterment Corporation (ABC) is dedicated to the preservation and improvement of the existing Argentine neighborhood and to improve the health and quality of life for the residents.

ARMOURDALE RENEWAL ASSOCIATION

801 Armourdale Pkwy.
Kansas City, KS 66105

☎ Call 913-371-5696

🌐 armourdale.org

Armourdale Renewal Association (ARA) serves as a bridge in the community, they help Armourdale to be a strong and vibrant part of our city.

CENTRAL AREA BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION

1303 Central Ave.
Kansas City, KS 66102
PO Box 171262
Kansas City, KS 66117

☎ Call 913-281-9222

📧 admin@cabakck.org

🌐 cabakck.org

Central Avenue Betterment Association (CABA) improves the quality of life and economic development of Central Avenue and its area of operation.

DOWNTOWN SHAREHOLDERS

726 Armstrong Ave., Ste. 201
Kansas City, KS, 66101

☎ Call 913-371-0705

🌐 downtownshareholders.com

Downtown Shareholders (DTS) advances the revitalization of Downtown KCK through a combination of outreach, programming, services, and advocacy that share two common goals: to bring people to Downtown KCK, and to make the existing community even more diverse, vibrant, and successful.

GROUNDWORK NORTHEAST REVITALIZATION GROUP

PO Box 172403
Kansas City, KS 66117

☎ Call 913-371-9298

📧 info@northeastkck.org

🌐 northeastkck.org

Groundwork NRG's works to sustain and revitalize the beloved Northeast KCK community through forward-looking and inclusive action rooted in the principles of equity, community cohesion, institutional transparency, and environmental justice.

LEAVENWORTH ROAD ASSOCIATION

6100 Leavenworth Rd.
Kansas City, KS 66104

☎ Call 913-788-3988

📧 Lrakcks@gmail.com

🌐 Lrakck.org

Leavenworth Road Association (LRA) advances the economic development of the Leavenworth Road area, to improve business, neighborhood, and social image, and to promote small businesses and neighborhood organizations.

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

1403 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, KS 66103

☎ Call 913-677-5097

📧 info@rosedale.org

🌐 rosedale.org

Rosedale Development Association (RDA) works with residents, businesses, and institutions to develop a thriving Rosedale community.

TURNER COMMUNITY CONNECTION

☎ Call 913-731-5494

📧 turnercommunityconnection@gmail.com

Turner Community Connection's (TCC) mission is to create a better quality of life for the Turner area community through community-based problem solving, neighborhood-oriented services, and public/private cooperation.



NBRs SERVED AS A CONNECTION HUB FOR NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS. The following map shows the four Neighborhood Based Regions (NBRs) that serve as a connection hub for Neighborhood Resource System (NRS) groups. Note that each NBR appears in boldface, and not of an NBR.

1

Gerding Gardens Neighborhoods Association
Quindaro Urban Improvement Club
Groundwork Northeast Revitalization Group
Caring Neighborhood Association
Field of Dreams Association
Oak Grove Neighborhood Association
Organization for Community Preservation
Parkwood Colony
Leavenworth Road Association
Block Hawks Neighborhood Watch Association
Field of Dreams Association
Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Neighbors Who Care
North Welborn Watch Association
Welborn Community Watch Group

2

Armourdale Renewal Association
Central Avenue Betterment Association
Cathedral Neighborhood Association
Prescott/South of Central Neighborhood Association
St. Joseph Watchdogs
Downtown Shareholders
Strawberry Hill Neighborhood Association
Townhouse Tenants Association

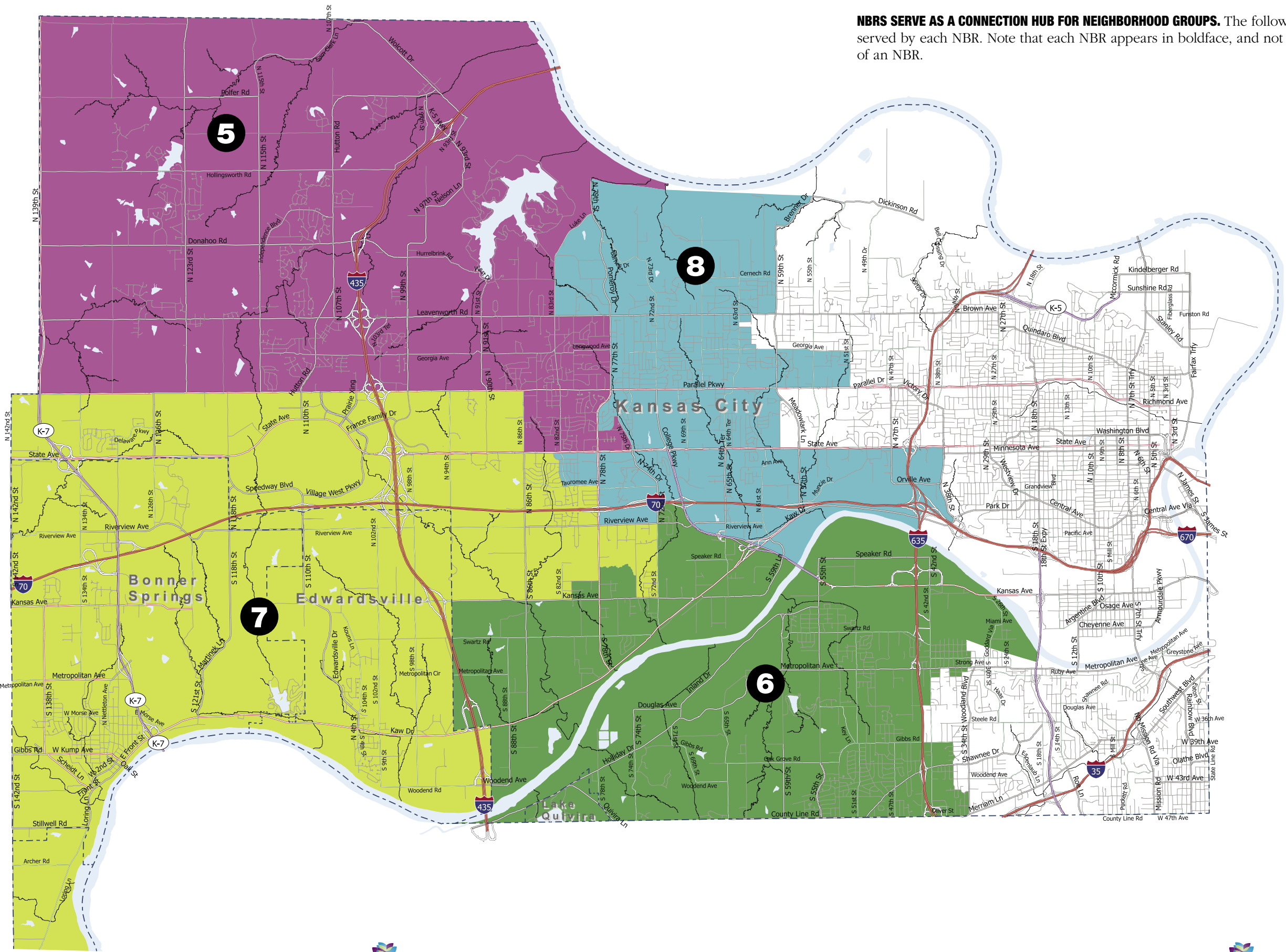
3

Argentine Betterment Corporation
Villa Argentina Neighborhood Association
Rosedale Development Association
Frank Rushton Neighborhood Association
Historic Hanover Heights Neighborhood
Shawnee Road Neighborhood Group
Spring Valley

4

Wyandotte Countians Against Crime
Central Avenue Betterment Association
Groundwork Northeast Revitalization Group
Douglass/Sumner Neighborhood Club
Historic Westheight Neighborhood Association
Kensington Community Area Watch
Strugglers Hill Neighborhood Association
Turtle Hill Community Association
Leavenworth Road Association
Neighbors Who Care

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS BY COMMISSION DISTRICTS



NBRs serve as a connection hub for neighborhood groups. The following list outlines the neighborhood groups that are served by each NBR. Note that each NBR appears in boldface, and not every neighborhood group is within the boundaries of an NBR.

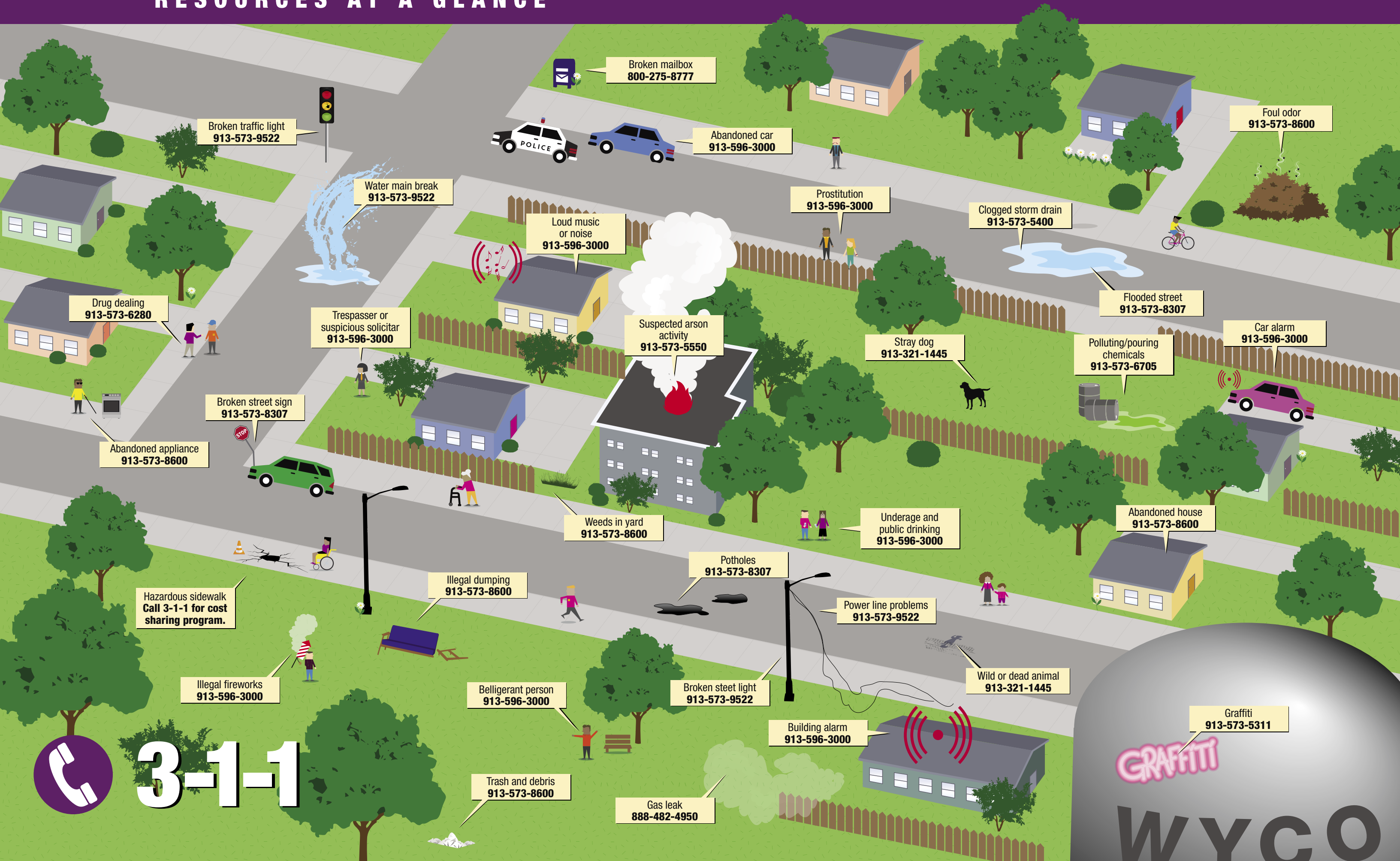
- 5**
- Hazelwood Homeowners' Association
 - Piper Estates Homeowners Association
 - Leavenworth Road Association**
 - Brooks-Eyes
 - Crystal Ridge Residential Homes Association
 - Normandy West Homes Association
 - Parkway Village Homeowners Association
 - Pemberton Tenants Association
 - Westborough Neighborhood Association
 - White Oaks Neighborhood Watch
 - Windhill Estates Homeowners Association

- 6**
- Grinter Community Group
 - Argentine Betterment Corporation**
 - Crosslines Retirement Tenant Association
 - Heather Heights Neighborhood Association
 - Southwest Argentine Neighborhood Watch
 - Turner Community Connection**
 - Getty Grove Neighborhood Watch
 - Morris Neighborhood Watch Group
 - Neighbors on Watch
 - SAFE Neighbors
 - South Turner Neighborhood Association

- 7**
- Foxmoor Neighborhood Association
 - Stony Point/Hunters Glen Neighborhood Association

- 8**
- Leavenworth Road Association**
 - Cernech Area Neighborhood Association
 - Countryside West Homeowners' Association
 - Pomeroy Neighborhood Watch Group
 - Presidential Highfields Homeowners Association
 - Schlagle Area Involved Neighbors' Team
 - Turner Community Connection**
 - Heather Heights Neighborhood Association

RESOURCES AT A GLANCE



Broken mailbox
800-275-8777

Broken traffic light
913-573-9522

Abandoned car
913-596-3000

Foul odor
913-573-8600

Water main break
913-573-9522

Prostitution
913-596-3000

Clogged storm drain
913-573-5400

Flooded street
913-573-8307

Car alarm
913-596-3000

Polluting/pouring
chemicals
913-573-6705

Stray dog
913-321-1445

Suspected arson
activity
913-573-5550

Loud music
or noise
913-596-3000

Trespasser or
suspicious solicitor
913-596-3000

Drug dealing
913-573-6280

Broken street sign
913-573-8307

Abandoned appliance
913-573-8600

Weeds in yard
913-573-8600

Underage and
public drinking
913-596-3000

Abandoned house
913-573-8600

Potholes
913-573-8307

Power line problems
913-573-9522

Wild or dead animal
913-321-1445

Graffiti
913-573-5311

Building alarm
913-596-3000

Broken street light
913-573-9522

Belligerent person
913-596-3000

Trash and debris
913-573-8600

Gas leak
888-482-4950

Illegal dumping
913-573-8600

Illegal fireworks
913-596-3000

Hazardous sidewalk
Call 3-1-1 for cost
sharing program.

 **3-1-1**

GRAFFITI

WYCO

The Neighborhood Resource Center was established through a partnership between neighborhood groups and the UG to improve services to neighborhoods. More information regarding the Neighborhood Resource Center can be found on the UG website.

wycokck.org/NRC

Divisions within the Neighborhood Resource Center:

BUSINESS LICENSE

Business License is responsible for the billing and collection of occupation taxes for businesses. This division also issues regulatory permits and licenses including those for the sale of alcoholic beverages, garage sales, coin operated amusement devices, and taxicabs.

Call 913-573-8780

BUILDING INSPECTION

Building Inspection handles permits and inspections for building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, demolition, and excavating.

Call 913-573-8620

RENTAL LICENSING AND INSPECTION

Rental Licensing and Inspection protects the character and stability of residential areas; corrects and prevents housing conditions that adversely affect life; ensures safety, general welfare, and health including physical, mental, and social wellbeing of persons occupying dwellings; enforces minimum standards; preserves the value of land and buildings; and protects the public from increased criminal activity that tends to occur in residential areas that are unstable due to dwellings that are blighted or substandard.

Call 913-573-8649

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement enhances the level of public safety and city aesthetics through effective enforcement of city ordinances and ensures due process for each citizen of Wyandotte County and KCK.

Call to find out who the code inspector is for your neighborhood.

Call 913-573-8600

DEMOLITION AND ABATEMENT

Demolition promotes the safety of the community by razing blighted structures that are hazardous, abandoned, or structurally unsound.

Call 913-573-8647

COMMUNITY POLICING

Community Policing works together with residents to identify and solve neighborhood crime and quality of life issues. The unit assists with organizing and supporting neighborhood groups.

The unit's officers regularly attend neighborhood watch meetings; business/merchant association group meetings; and meet with citizen activists, church leaders, and other public service agencies and providers. The officers network with other police departments and governmental agencies to address crime, blight, and overall neighborhood concerns.

Each community policing officer is assigned to a specific area of the city. Call to find out who your community policing officer is.

Call 913-573-8720

CODE ENFORCEMENT PROCESS

Complaints are received from community members, neighborhood groups, the police department, and UG staff. Each complaint is logged and assigned to a code officer (responsible for an area of the city) who makes the initial inspection.

Research is done on ownership and property history. Notification is sent to all interested parties and an appropriate amount of time is given to address the issue depending on the type of violation.

A re-inspection date is scheduled when generating the letter and the property is inspected unless the homeowner has called and asked for an extension.

Once the case is corrected it is closed. If the case is not corrected, the codes officer can issue a court summons or give an extension if an effort has been made but not yet completed.

Call 913-573-8600

WHAT TO DO IF YOU RECEIVE A VIOLATION

If you have received a notice from the Code Enforcement office, there will be an inspector's name and number on the document. Please contact them as soon as possible to ask questions and get clarification. Define any extenuating circumstances that would make it difficult for you to comply and they will be willing to accommodate any reasonable requests. Inspectors spend a lot of time outside the office, so please leave a message and be patient when waiting for a response.

RESOURCES

The Home Repair Coalition coordinates resources and services to ensure that low-income, disabled or elderly homeowners can enjoy healthy, safe, and comfortable home environments. It is a collaboration of local organizations that provide housing repairs for individuals and families. Together, they make it possible for homeowners to thrive in their homes. Volunteer for the coalition request assistance.

Call 913-573-8737



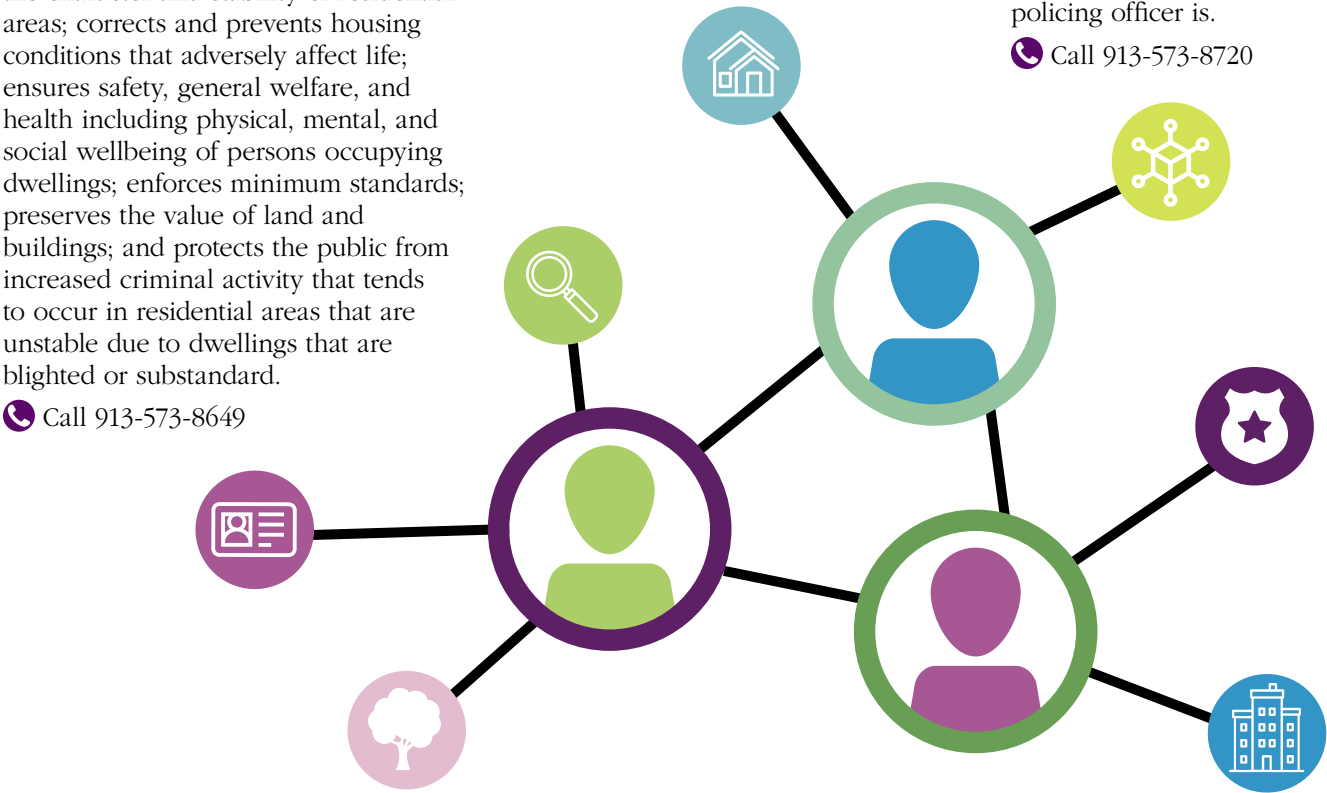
Top Code Issues

- Excessive grass and weeds over eight inches tall
- Structural dilapidation (paint, roofs, windows, and unsecured residence)
- Junk and trash strewn about the property
- Trash set out to curb improperly (Trash cans can be set out no earlier than 4 p.m. the night before scheduled pickup and removed no later than 7 a.m. the following day.)
- Dead trees and limbs that need disposed of or removed
- Illegal vehicles (not having tags, parked on grass, inoperable)
- Graffiti

NRC E-LINK

The Neighborhood Resource Center E-Link is a website that provides up-to-date information on code enforcement complaints, building inspection permits, demolition permits, rental licenses, business licenses and some planning applications. To access the NRC E-Link go to wycokck.org under the Neighborhood Resource Center.

mauwi.wycokck.org/citizenaccess



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Streets

wycokck.org/public-works

How can I get a pothole fixed near me?

The UG fixes potholes temporarily when the ground is frozen and repairs them permanently as soil conditions permit.

☎ Call 3-1-1

What if my street needs major repairs?

Resident requests will be prioritized during the annual resurfacing program. Due to limited funding, it may take years before the street gets repaired.

☎ Call 3-1-1

Who maintains the sidewalks and curbs in front of my house?

The UG will share the cost of sidewalk and curb repairs with an individual homeowner or business through the “sidewalk incentive program,” that requires cooperation among a majority of owners along one side of a block to form a benefit district. The UG sometimes replaces curbs and sidewalks at no expense to the owners when reconstructing a major street.

☎ Call 3-1-1

Who is responsible for snow removal?

The UG clears streets as soon as possible after a snowfall. Homeowners are responsible for clearing the snow ridge left behind by plows.

☎ Call 3-1-1

Who replaces the bulbs in streetlights?

The Board of Public Utilities (BPU) replaces burned-out light bulbs.

☎ Call 913-573-9522

How do I get a streetlight installed?

The UG will evaluate and prioritize the request within two weeks, BPU’s installation can take up to six months.

☎ Call 3-1-1

Who replaces damaged traffic signs?

The UG replaces faded, damaged, or missing stop and yield signs within 24 hours of notification, and other traffic signs within 48 hours.

☎ Call 3-1-1

How do we get a neighborhood watch sign?

Neighborhood groups are responsible for purchasing their own watch signs and Public Works installs them.

☎ Call 3-1-1

Can we close our street for a block party?

The UG/Traffic Engineering issues permits for block parties and special events after a petition is signed by a majority of the residents or businesses with adjoining the streets. Allow two weeks to process the permit.

☎ Call 913-573-5770

wycokck.org/host-a-block-party



Solid Waste Disposal

wycokck.org/solid-waste

How Do I prepare my trash for pickup?

Trash in closed bags or cans should be set three feet from the curb. Trash cans must be smaller than 50-gallon capacity and weigh less than 50 pounds. Bulky items, such as furniture, beds, washers or dryers, should be set next to the trash cans. Limbs and twigs must be bundled and no longer than 48 inches. Tires must be removed from rims and set at the curb for pickup. There is a limit of two tires per week per residence.

When should I set my trash out?

Set out trash no later than 7 a.m. on collection day, but no earlier than 4 p.m. the day before.

Is trash pickup delayed for holidays?

Trash is not picked up on New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, or Christmas Day. When one of these holidays falls on a weekday, pickup will be the next day.

What can’t I put in the trash?

Household hazardous wastes such as motor oil, batteries, antifreeze, degreasers, lawn and garden insecticides/pesticides, household cleaning products, paints, varnishes, and solvents should not be set out or dumped in the sewer. These products should be taken to 2443 S. 88th St.

Arrange for a special pickup for appliances that have refrigerants in their systems, such as refrigerators, air conditioners, and freezers for no charge.

☎ Call Deffenbaugh 913-631-3300

What items can I recycle at the curb?

Paper, paperboard, aluminum and steel cans, corrugated cardboard, cartons (milk or juice) and assorted plastic containers No. 1-No. 7.

☎ Call 913-573-5311

What is the Recycling and Yard Waste Center?

The Recycling & Yard Waste Center is available at no charge to all residents. The Center accepts recyclable items including glass and yard waste such as grass clippings, garden trimmings, leaves, branches, and logs smaller than 12 inches in diameter and shorter than four feet in length. Recycling bins are also available. The Center is located at 3241 Park Drive and is open Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weather permitting.

☎ Call 913-573-5311



Building and Permits

wycokck.org/building-inspection

Do I need a permit for a shed or carport?

Yes, a permit is required for any accessory building over 120 square feet. Sheds, carports, garages, or barns are considered accessory buildings. Zoning determines how many are allowed.

Do I get driveway installation or repair permits from Building Inspections?

Driveway approaches or repairs to approaches to existing homes are issued and inspected through the City Engineers office on the 7th floor of the East Municipal Building.

☎ Call 913-573-5700

Do I need a permit to replace siding and windows?

Permits for siding are required only if sheathing is replaced. Permits are required for window replacement.

☎ Call 913-573-8620

How much does a building permit cost?

Except for new home construction, the fee is based on the cost of the project.

When can I burn my leaves and yard waste?

Open Burn season are times throughout the year dedicated to burning yard waste such as leaves, brush, and grass. There are two periods in the year when residents are allowed to conduct opening burning: the months of April and mid-October to mid-November. The Kansas City, KS Fire Department (KCKFD) strongly advises against open burning during unfavorable weather conditions like strong winds, air stagnation, and poor air quality. A permit is needed for opening burning. Visit the KCKFD website for information on Open Burn permits and frequently asked questions.

kckfd.org/burn-permits



Land Bank

wycokck.org/land-bank

What is the Land Bank?

The duties of this division are to put delinquent tax properties back on the tax roll through various strategies that benefit the community. This includes marketing, removing prior year’s taxes, maintaining an inventory list, accepting parcels as donations, and researching neighborhoods in Wyandotte County that contain properties with delinquent taxes. Call for more information of to view available properties.

☎ Call 913-573-8977

How do I report a maintenance problem with a Land Bank lot?

The Parks and Recreation department is responsible for mowing and varying maintenance of the following areas:

- ✓ Vacant Land Bank lots
- ✓ Parks
- ✓ Trails and paths
- ✓ Sports fields
- ✓ Playgrounds
- ✓ Medians with grass
- ✓ Water Pollution Control sites
- ✓ Cemeteries

parksinfo@wycokck.org

☎ Call 913-573-8327

Who owns the property next to me?

The UG manages a database of all properties located in Wyandotte County. This database is open to the public, but users must agree to a terms and conditions that prohibits the buying or selling of information within the database and solicitation of any kind.

wycokck.org/dotmaps



Neighborhood Cleanups

How do I organize a neighborhood cleanup?

1. Choose a place and time.

Determine where and when you’d like to host a neighborhood cleanup. You’ll need a place, date, and start time.

2. Contact Livable Neighborhoods

Livable Neighborhoods’ office will make the event fliers, provide trash bags, and notify the proper waste collection authorities of your upcoming event.

☎ Call 913-573-8737

livableneighborhoods@wycokck.org

3. Gather the supplies.

Although Livable Neighborhoods will supply the trash bags, you’ll need to provide the other necessary items like gloves or trash pokers.

4. Rally your neighbors.

Distribute the event flyers and promote your neighborhood cleanup at nearby neighborhood group meetings.

5. Ensure trash pickup.

After the trash is all picked up, snap some pictures, text them to 913-433-6851, and let us know the cleanup is complete and ready to be collected.

What is the Adopt-a-Spot program?

Adopt-a-Spot is a volunteer program for individuals or groups that have an interest in keeping Wyandotte County litter-free. The UG has identified numerous spots such as streets, parks and Land Bank properties throughout the county that would benefit from cleanup efforts. Volunteers choose to “adopt” one of these spots, are asked to host three cleanup events a year, and in return a personalized sign will be placed at the adopted location.

wycokck.org/Adopt-A-Spot

3-1-1 CALL CENTER

The UG’s 3-1-1 Call Center network is a unique customer service proactively making every effort to provide a simple and easy three-digit access to a live person that can answer general questions about Wyandotte County.

When calling 3-1-1:

- ✓ To report an issue, be sure to have a specific address.
- ✓ A translation service is available to assist non-English-speaking callers.
- ✓ From outside Wyandotte County, dial 913-573-5311.
- ✓ Hours of operation are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Animal Services	913-321-1445
Appraiser (commercial and residential)	913-573-8400
Area Agency on Aging	913-573-8531
Atmos Gas	888-286-6700
Board of Commissioners	913-573-5040
Board of Public Utilities (BPU)	913-573-9000
Building Inspections	913-573-8620
Business Licensing	913-573-8780
Clerk’s Office	913-573-5260
Community Development	913-573-5100
Community Policing	913-573-8720
County Administrator	913-573-5030
Customer Service Electricity Outage (BPU)	913-573-9522
Deffenbaugh Industries	913-631-3300
Delinquent Real Estate (tax sales, etc.)	913-573-2817
Demolition and Abatement	913-573-8647
Dispute Resolution	913-573-5225
District Attorney	913-573-2851
Election Commissioner	913-573-8500
Emergency Management	913-573-6300
Fire Department	913-573-5550
Fire Dispatch (non-emergency)	913-596-3050
Human Services	913-573-5460
Human Resources	913-573-5660
Kansas Driver’s License	913-287-2900
Kansas Protection Report Center (children or adults)	800-922-5330



Kansas Gas Service	800-794-4780
Land Bank	913-573-8977
Legal Department	913-573-5060
Livable Neighborhoods Task Force	913-573-8737
Mayor’s Office	913-573-5010
Motor Vehicle Licensing (auto tags)	913-573-2823
Municipal Court	913-573-5200
Planning and Urban Design	913-573-5750
Parks and Recreation	913-573-8327
Police Department (Chief’s Office)	913-573-6010
Police Dispatch (non-emergency)	913-596-3000
Police Report Desk (non-emergency)	913-573-6202
Property Maintenance Compliance	913-573-8600
Public Health	913-573-8855
Public Works	913-573-0311
Register of Deeds	913-573-2841
Rental Licensing	913-573-8649
Sheriff’s Office	913-573-2861
Sheriff’s Office (Park Services)	913-573-8395
Treasury (real estate, personal and property taxes)	913-573-2821
Victim Services (KCKPD)	913-573-5616
Visit Kansas City, Kansas	913-321-5800
Wyandotte Developmental Disability Organization	913-573-5311

DO something GOOD in your neighborhood

— Paul Soptick

- ✓ Know your neighbors. Look after them and they will look after you.
- ✓ Be respectful of those around you.
- ✓ Leash your dog and clean up after it.
- ✓ If you rent a home, help your landlord keep it looking nice.
- ✓ Take pride in your community.
- ✓ Get to know the kids in your neighborhood.
- ✓ Greet people.
- ✓ Sit on your porch.
- ✓ Plant flowers or a garden to share.
- ✓ Buy from local merchants.
- ✓ Support neighborhood schools.
- ✓ Fix it even if you didn't break it.
- ✓ Have potlucks and picnics.
- ✓ Pick up litter even if you didn't drop it.
- ✓ Hire young people for odd jobs.
- ✓ Organize a block party.
- ✓ Bake extra and share.
- ✓ Ask for help when you need it.
- ✓ Share your skills.
- ✓ Mediate a conflict.
- ✓ Seek to understand.
- ✓ Be civil.



Neighborhoods in partnership with Government

4953 State Ave.
Kansas City, KS 66102
913-573-8737
livableneighborhoods@wycokck.org
wycokck.org/ln



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