

## Monthly news & updates

### April 2022 - CITY OF WESTWOOD HILLS

#### Upcoming Events:

April 16, 2022 - Arbor Day Celebration and Egg Hunt

April 23, 2022 - Callery Pear Tree Buy Back and Deep Roots Native Plant Sale

April 30, 2022 - Metropolitan Energy Center Earth Day

April - May - Parade of Hearts Display

May 9, 2022 - City Council Meeting

May 19, 2022 - Planning Commission Meeting

Late Spring / Early Summer - City-Wide Systematic Codes Inspections

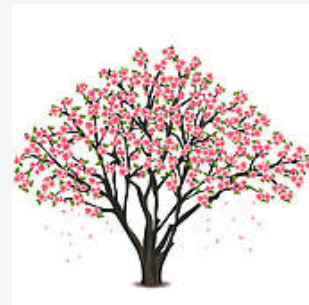
April  
SHOWERS  
BRING  
May  
FLOWERS



#### Egg Hunt and Arbor Day Celebration

The Annual Arbor Day Celebration and Egg Hunt will take place on The Green, Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 10AM. Don't miss this chance to see the bunny and enjoy donuts, juice and coffee with your neighbors. There will also be an egg hunt for the children. Thank you to the Westwood Hills Community Association for putting on this always fun event.

In honor of Arbor Day, this year, the City will plant a dwarf dogwood on The Green.



Depending on the level of COVID activity, masks may be advisable and social distancing remains prudent for all social gatherings.





## Deep Roots Native Plant Sale

The Deep Roots Native Plant Sale will take place on Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at 7711 Delmar Street (Prairie Village Pool Parking Lot).

Johnson County Parks and Recreation Department (JCPRD) and the KS Forest Service will be on-site to provide information on native trees for residents as well as information on the Contain the Rain Program. A native plant sale will also be hosted during the event. This is a great way to take advantage of the cost-share program.

For more information, and additional plant sale dates, go to: <https://deeproots.org/plantsale/>

\*Remember, in order to be reimbursed, approval must be obtained before planting and installation.



## Callery Pear Tree Buyback Recall

JCPRD is collaborating with the KS Forest Service and the non-profit Deep Roots, as well as multiple MO agencies, to spread the word about the problems with the highly invasive Callery Pear tree species. This is an ornamental tree that has been planted in large numbers across JOCO. These are the trees that burst with white blooms that smell like dead fish.

For more information on the issues with Callery Pears, visit the link here: <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/callery-pear-bradford-pear>.

To help combat these invasive species, the partners listed above are hosting an event on April 23, 2022, in Prairie Village to provide all JOCO residents with the opportunity to get a free, 3-gallon native tree to replace a Callery Pear they have removed from their property. See the links below for how residents can sign up for the event.

<https://deeproots.org/event/callery-pear-tree-buyback-recall-event-kansas-residents/>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/callery-pear-buy-back-in-the-kansas-city-area-ks-residents-tickets-288691573267>



## Systematic Codes Enforcement

The City will be conducting systematic city-wide codes enforcement in late May or early June. Please notify the City Clerk at [clerk@westwoodhillsks.gov](mailto:clerk@westwoodhillsks.gov) if you have work planned for summer or early fall.



## Homes Association (HOA) Board Changes

At the March HOA meeting, Mike Sexton was elected the HOA President. Scott Mathews, the HOA Treasurer, will also be the new trash liaison.



## 2022 Occupation Licenses

If you operate a business from your home, please complete the [Home Occupation License form](#) and mail the completed application, with a \$25.00 check payable to the City of Westwood Hills, to the City Clerk. Home occupation licenses must be renewed annually.



# meeting

## There will not be an April Planning Commission Meeting

### Insulate Your Home - Winter, and Summer

In recognition of Earth Day on April 22, 2022, the Farmer's Almanac in this year's edition lists 15 practical steps that you can take toward a more sustainable environment that is also cost-effective. The Almanac's No. 1 suggestion is "Weather Seal Your Home".

Whether you are wanting to reduce your current energy costs, you may want to consider obtaining an Energy Audit. An audit is not a one size fits all service, i.e., an audit should possibly be considered before or as a part of a remodeling project; considered when a homeowner is replacing appliances or HVAC equipment; or when a homeowner wants a complete evaluation to make the home more energy-efficient - and find out what will be the estimated ROI (return on investment). One consequence of having an energy audit in advance of replacement or remodeling projects is that you may find that with simple repairs to seal escaping heating and cooling around doors and windows that you do not need as high powered and more expensive HVAC equipment (or in some cases two HVAC systems to heat or air condition your home [known as zoning]).

A recommended source for obtaining the right company to perform an energy audit is the non-profit Metropolitan Energy Center, Mary English, Energy Program Manager, Building Performance, [Mary@Metroenergy.org](mailto:Mary@Metroenergy.org), 816.531.7383. The website is [www.metroenergy.org](http://www.metroenergy.org). This organization has been in operation since 1983.

The cost for a typical audit starts at \$300.00 and takes about 2-3 hours to perform. A report with recommended repairs or upgrades is prepared along with an ROI estimate if the repairs or recommended upgrades are completed. Once the recommended is complete, the auditor will return and perform another blower test to ensure that the repairs to seal windows, doors, and attics have been completed as expected.

For additional information: Please go to the Metropolitan Energy Center website which is listed above or go to "What is a Home Energy Audit? A Guide" edited by Mary English – <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/professional-home-energy-assesstments>.

Want to tour a model energy-efficient home? Metropolitan Energy Center is hosting an event on April 30, 2022, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Go to <https://metroenergy.org/event/earth-day-2022-2/> for more details.



### Stormwater Cost Share Program

The City of Westwood Hills encourages individual homeowners to incorporate Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) on their properties to aid in the improvement of local and regional water quality.



At the same time, the City encourages planting native plants and trees to support the natural ecosystem and provide food for pollinators like bees and butterflies. The BMP Cost Share program will reimburse applicants up to 50% of eligible expenses, not to exceed a project reimbursement cap for the proper installation of the following best management practices:

Project Type	Project Reimbursement Cap
Rain Barrel	\$75 per barrel, up to two
Native tree planting	\$150 per tree, up to two

Rain garden/pollinator garden \$1000

Go to [containtherainjoco.com](http://containtherainjoco.com) for the application.

Start planning your garden now. Visit the [K-State Research and Extension Online Gardening Calendar](#) to help with your planning.



### Johnson County Severe Weather Guide

Severe weather is possible in Johnson County throughout the year. This hazardous weather can put people's safety at risk and cause damage to property. Johnson County Government has [created an online guide](#) to help residents prepare for and monitor severe weather.

### COVID At-Home Tests

Residents can order up to 4 **additional** free at home COVID-19 tests at <https://www.covidtests.gov/>



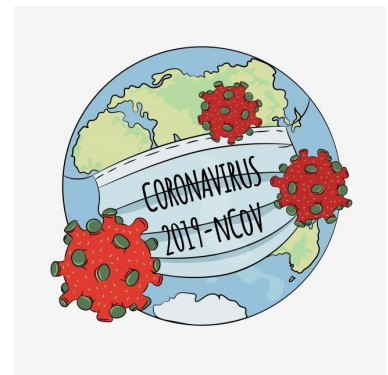
## COVID-19 HELPFUL INFORMATION

### COVID-19 Vaccinations:

Schedule an appointment with the County at <https://jocovaccine.rsvpify.com/>.

### COVID-19 Testing:

Ongoing - COVID-19 saliva testing at various locations around the area. Find testing sites and sign up at: <https://www.gogettested.com/kansas#booking-widget>



Free COVID-19 testing for Johnson County residents is available at the Department of Health and Environment's **Olathe location**. Go to <https://www.jocogov.org/schedule-covid-19-test> for more information or to schedule a test.

### Johnson County COVID-19 Webpage

Did you know that Johnson County has a COVID-19 webpage? Go to <https://www.jocogov.org/coronavirus-covid-19-update> to schedule a free COVID-19 test, view the COVID-19 dashboard, locate vaccine information, and more!

Starting January 19, 2022, residents can order up to 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests at [covidtests.gov/](http://covidtests.gov/).



## Stormwater Management Plan and Annual Report

Click [here](#) for the new 2021 Stormwater Management Plan and [here](#) for the 2021 SMP Annual Report.

CITY OF WESTWOOD HILLS, KS | [www.westwoodhillssks.gov](http://www.westwoodhillssks.gov)

[Visit our website](#)

[Visit our Google Drive](#)



## City Information

City Clerk: Beth O'Bryan - [clerk@westwoodhillssks.gov](mailto:clerk@westwoodhillssks.gov) - 913-262-6622

Mayor: Paula Schwach - [mayor@westwoodhillssks.gov](mailto:mayor@westwoodhillssks.gov)

### City Council

Michael Anfang - Budget and Finance - [anfang@rocketmail.com](mailto:anfang@rocketmail.com)

Ed Gogol - Landscaping - [gogol.monday@gmail.com](mailto:gogol.monday@gmail.com)

Rosemary Podrebarac - Ordinances and Building - [rpodrebarac1@kc.rr.com](mailto:rpodrebarac1@kc.rr.com)

Karen Shelor Sexton - Public Safety - [kls@sextonandshelor.com](mailto:kls@sextonandshelor.com)

Dave Schmitz - Public Works - [daveschmitz@gmail.com](mailto:daveschmitz@gmail.com)