



Monthly news & updates

April 2023 - CITY OF WESTWOOD HILLS

Upcoming Events:

April

There will not be an April Planning Commission Meeting



19

Smart Recycling Workshop

Please join The Green Team on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 10 am to noon for a volunteer work day. Bring your rakes, weed diggers, and pruning shears. We will start our cleanup on the 50th Street side.

22

Volunteer Day on The Green
Drug Take Back Day
Deep Roots Earth Day Festival

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, from 4 pm-5:30 pm will be the backup day if it rains or if we need to finish anything from Saturday.

May

8

City Council Meeting

13

2024 Budget Workshop

18

Planning Commission Meeting



There will **not** be an April Planning Commission Meeting

2023 Elections

The candidate filing deadline is June 1, 2023 (for the November 7, 2023 election). Applications must be submitted in person at the Johnson County Election Office - 2101 E. Kansas City Road, Olathe, KS 66061.

Westwood Hills City Council is comprised of a Mayor and five City Council persons



- all serving a two-year term. You can find more information on filing [here](#).

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 for the application. All projects must be installed by October 31, 2023. Requests for refunds must be received by November 30, 2023.

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

Contain the Rain
BY IAN FANNIN-HUGHES

It's that time of year again! Time to get the shovels, gloves and seeds out for another year in the dirt. If you are looking for a way to improve your home AND help the environment, look no further. Johnson County's Contain the Rain Program will be opening for its 13th year this spring to residents who want to help protect our valuable water resources through the installation of native plants and treatment of stormwater. Through this program, Johnson County provides funds for cities to administer reimbursements for residents who install approved projects.

Residents in the following cities are eligible for reimbursement through the Contain the Rain Program:

- De Soto
- Gardner
- Fairway
- Lake Quivira
- Leawood
- Lenexa
- Merriam
- Mission
- Mission Hills
- Overland Park
- Prairie Village
- Roeland Park
- Shawnee
- Westwood
- Westwood Hills
- Plus Unincorporated Johnson County

Residents who wish to receive reimbursement must install one or more of the following projects:

- cisterns
- floating wetlands
- impervious pavement
- native plant swales
- native tree(s)
- rain barrels
- rain gardens

For residents concerned about the environment and climate change, taking part in the Contain the Rain Program is one of the best hands-on actions we can take to make our communities more climate resilient. Projects like rain gardens not only benefit the environment by preventing pollution, but they also help support our local pollinator species, make our lawns more resilient and help reduce unnecessary water usage.

Let's work together to improve water quality and stop stormwater pollution in Johnson County! If you would like more information or already have a project in mind, please visit our program website at containtherainjoco.com. You can find information about your city's program, how to plan a project and resources to help get your project off the drawing board. 🌻

Deep Roots & GaleHart Communities Present Earth Day Festival & Native Plant Sale & Callery Pear Buyback

Are you looking for high-quality native plant plugs to enhance your home's landscape? Are you interested in learning more about what regional organizations are doing to benefit the environment and the local community? And do you enjoy spending time outside learning from experts on how best to plant and maintain your native landscapes? If you answered yes to any of these, then the Earth Day 2023 Native Plant Sale is for you! Join Deep Roots on Saturday, April, 22 from 10 am to 2 pm at the MCC-Longview Campus. Learn more by clicking [here](#).



Drug Take Back Day

Turn in your unused, unneeded, or expired medication for safe disposal on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 10 am-2 pm. There are several disposal sites near Westwood Hills, one being the Fairway Hen House. Go to DEATakeBack.com for more collection sites.

Budget Workshop

The 2024 Budget Workshop will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at the offices of Higdon and Hale CPA - 6310 Lamar, Suite 110, Overland Park, KS 66202. All residents are welcome to attend.



Egg Hunt & Arbor Day Celebration Photos





National Gun Violence Awareness Day

At the April City Council Meeting, Mayor Podrebarac signed a proclamation proclaiming June 2, 2023, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Click [here](#) for the proclamation. Gun locks are available at the Westwood Police Department, located in City Hall - 4700 Rainbow Blvd. There is no charge to receive gun locks.

Johnson County Revaluation Report

The annual Revaluation Report provides an overview of the valuation process. It includes illustrations and charts showing the impact of residential real estate, commercial real estate, and personal property values in Johnson County. Find the Revaluation Reports [here](#).

Smart Recycling Workshop

Wednesday, April 19, 7:00 PM
Powell Community Center, 6200 Martway, Mission, KS

Join Sustainability Commission member Terri Baugh, City of Mission, KS, to hear a presentation about what is recyclable and what is not in today's world. There have been some major changes to recycling in the last few months. This will be a "show and tell" type of presentation that will help everyone walk away with 'current' knowledge of how they can recycle correctly.

Information will also be provided for Specialty Recycling such as electronics, glass, holiday lights, batteries, polystyrene foam, and plastic bags. Everyone will receive a recycling guide for further reference to be used at home.



The National Suicide Prevention Line is reachable at 988, and the call center will direct callers to local crisis centers for assistance. The existing crisis line for Johnson County Mental Health Emergency Services is still accessible at (913) 268-0156.

Stormwater Management Plan and Annual Report

The 2021 Stormwater Management Plan and the 2022 SMP Annual Report can be found on the City's [website](#).

CITY OF WESTWOOD HILLS, KS | www.westwoodhillssks.gov

[Visit our website](#)

[Visit our Google Drive](#)



City Information

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