



City of Westwood Hills ***February*** ***2019 Newsletter***

Yard Waste Collection

Yard waste will only be collected on the second Monday during January, February and March (remaining date is March 11).

Regular weekly collection will resume on April 1, 2019.

Please remember that yard waste must be placed in biodegradable bags.

Public Comment - Listening Forum

Please mark your calendars and join fellow residents to provide your input on the Quality of Our Community and Investment Goals for the City's Future Capital Improvements. Help set goals for our City and Community as we move into the next century of our City. The forum will be held from 10:30 a.m.- Noon, on Saturday, February 23, 2019, at the home of Mike Sexton and Karen Shelor Sexton, 4940 State Line Road. Water and cookies will be provided.

K-State Research and Extension

K-State Research and Extension offers a gardening calendar, and helpful gardening information. Find out more at: <https://www.johnson.k-state.edu/lawn-garden/gardening-calendar/index.html>

Animal Control Services

Beginning January 1, 2019, the Mission Police Department, through their new civilian Community Service Officer program, will be taking over responsibilities for animal control services for the cities of Fairway, Mission, Mission Woods, Roeland Park, Westwood, and Westwood Hills.

Northeast Animal Control Commission (NEACC) has been comprised of the noted member cities since 1983. NEACC was its own separate entity, but the day to day administrative function of NEACC has always been handled by the Mission Police Department and the City of Mission. For well over a year, the member cities conducted an evaluation to determine the best course of action moving forward. The decision was made to dissolve NEACC. The group consensus was that animal control services could be delivered more efficiently through this new program. There will be two Community Service Officers filling these new roles; the same number of full-time positions NEACC

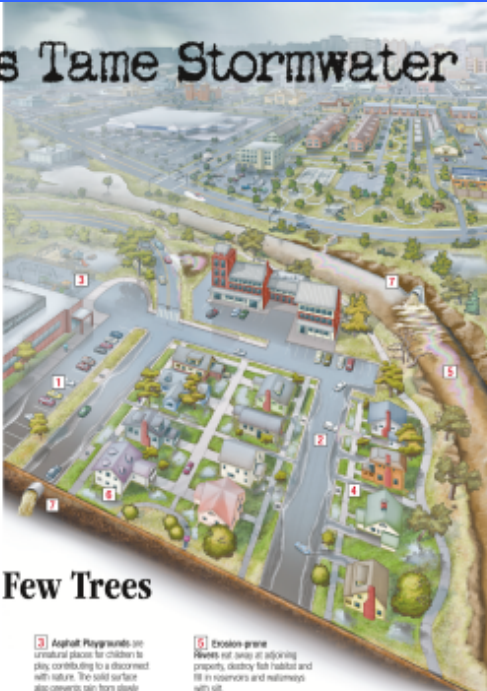
had. Shortly after the first quarter of 2019, you will see a Mission Police Department truck driving down our streets to answer animal control calls for service.

As in the past, if you need animal control services, call Dispatch at 913-782-0720, and the Community Service Officers will be dispatched on a priority basis. As with any new program there may be some adjustments, but, given the long experience that Mission has with administering animal control services, we believe this new arrangement should serve us well.

Trees Tame Stormwater

RAIN REFINESSES THE LAND AND SOFTENS THE GREEN LANDSCAPE. But as houses, stores, schools, roads and parking lots spread and natural tree cover is lost, so is the absorbing effect of vegetation and soil. The welcome rain becomes costly stormwater runoff. Without the benefit of trees and vegetated infrastructure, waterways are polluted as oils, heavy metal particles and other harmful substances are washed away. Fish and wildlife suffer, drinking water becomes expensive or impossible to reclaim, property values are reduced, and our living environment is degraded.

There's a difference and every tree matters. It's never too late for municipalities, homeowners, businesses, and schools to plant abundant trees to retain more water on site, enhance permeation into the soil, reduce the expense of pipes and treatment plants, and prevent environmental quality. For more information, including an interactive version of these pages, please visit arborday.org/stormwater.



Landscaped the face of falling rain and reduce sediment. They retain 2-7 percent of more of the water produced by a storm-event, allowing it to soak into the ground. As trees decompose on the ground, they help to create a sponge layer of topsoil that retains water and contributes to plant growth.



Permeable Materials such as gravel, interlocking stone, brick, cobblestones, gravel, etc. are porous and allow water to infiltrate the ground. They also take up quantities of water that would otherwise contribute to runoff.

Tree Roots break the soil and prevent erosion. They also take up quantities of water that would otherwise contribute to runoff.



Few Trees

- 1. Treeless Parking Lots** are asphalt, add to stormwater runoff and are a source of heat that is not only uncomfortable but increases air pollution.
- 2. Treeless Streets** deprive the community of social benefits and ecological services. Following storms, water rushes along the street sides.
- 3. Asphalt Playgrounds** are unsuitable places for children to play, contributing to a discolored runoff. The solid surface also prevents rain from slowly re-charging groundwater, instead adding extra volume to runoff.
- 4. Treeless Homes and Parks** reduce property values, increase energy costs and other harmful to run into gutters.
- 5. Erosion-prone Streets** not only erode adjacent property, destroy fish habitat and fill in reservoirs and waterways with silt.
- 6. Compacted Lawns** without trees are not only less appealing, they often can't soak up heavy rains fast enough. Excessive runoff flows across sidewalks and down driveways and streets.
- 7. Overhead Sewerage Systems** can lead to untreated sewage being swept into waterways. Upgrades are expensive, adding to local tax burdens.

Abundant Trees

- 1. Well-Landscaped Parking Lots** can be designed to allow storm runoff and beautify the community. They cool paved cars, reducing evaporated gasoline that contributes to air-polluting smog. Tree shade also adds longevity to paved surfaces.
- 2. Tree-lined Streets** retain large volumes of rainfall, reducing and clearing runoff. They also increase property values, encourage shopping and business, reduce air pollution, calm traffic and lower noise levels.
- 3. Nature Explore Classrooms** at schools can be combined with nearby community gardens and natural areas to serve as neighborhood parks. Their unpaved surfaces increase rainwater retention as they provide natural-rich play and learning spaces for children.
- 4. Shaded Homes and Tree-lined Streets** make urban life more pleasant and provide practical benefits such as lower heating and air conditioning costs and increased resale values. The tree canopy is also a major contributor to stormwater runoff reduction.
- 5. Riparian Buffers** consisting of trees and shrubs along waterways stem flood waters, reduce erosion, cool the water for fish, and filter harmful runoff from adjoining land.
- 6. Rain Gardens** hold water onsite, reducing residential runoff and providing moisture for 300-500 and faster back. They also filter chemicals during rain events, driveways and streets.
- 7. Managed Stormwater Runoff** results from abundant trees, multi-use catch basins and rain gardens, reduced impervious surfaces, and increased ground vegetation. The benefits are lower costs and a more livable, sustainable environment.



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See the .pdf version [here](#).



Snow Ordinance

Please remember not to park on the street during a snow storm and 24 hours after a 2 inch or greater snow so the plows can thoroughly clear the streets.

Violators will be ticketed, and any vehicle remaining on a street 2 hours following a snow accumulation of 2 inches or more may be towed from the street by the city at the expense of the owner of the vehicle. Additionally, please be a good neighbor and shovel the public sidewalks in front of your residence to keep them clear from snow.

Thank you for your cooperation in aiding the snow removal.

There will not be a February Planning Commission Meeting.

2019 Home 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. Home occupation licenses must be renewed annually.

Construction

If you are considering any work around your property, you may need a permit. Because the entire City is an historic district, all permits must go through the State for review and receive approval of the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in order for the permit to be approved and issued by the City. Permit requests for work which impacts the exterior of your home, especially window and door repair and replacement projects, often receive more stringent SHPO review with a goal of maintaining the historic quality and characteristics of Westwood Hills properties. Although this additional approval by SHPO adds some time to the permit process, projects with costs in excess of \$5,000 may be eligible for the Kansas State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, which is equal to 25 percent of the qualifying expenses on a qualifying project. Check with the City Clerk at whclerk@gmail.com before starting any work.



Pet Registration

Please register your animals living in Westwood Hills. Please ensure that all your animals are always current on their proper vaccinations. If you need to register a pet now, please fill out the [Pet Registration Form](#) and return to Beth O'Bryan. Westwood Hills allows two cats and two dogs per residence.

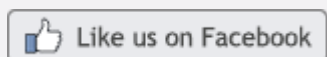
March Meetings

The March regular City Council meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 11, 2019. Please contact Beth O'Bryan if you have an item to place on the agenda.

The February Planning Commission meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2019. Please contact Beth O'Bryan if you have an item to place on the agenda.

Both meetings are held at the Westwood City Hall - 4700 Rainbow Boulevard.

STAY CONNECTED



City Information

City Clerk/Administrator: Beth O'Bryan whclerk@gmail.com - 913-262-6622
 Mayor: Paula Schwach - schwach3p@gmail.com
 City website: www.westwoodhills.org

City Council

Mary Becker - Landscaping - MXB37@psu.edu
 Rosemary Podrebarac - Ordinances and Building - rpodrebarac1@kc.rr.com

Karen Shelor Sexton - Public Safety - kls@sextonandshelor.com
Ludwig Villasi - Public Works - lvillasi@kc.rr.com
John Weedman - Budget and Finance- john@midwestbinding.com

Meetings are held at Westwood City Hall - 4700 Rainbow Blvd.

City of Westwood Hills, 2216 West 49th Street, Westwood Hills, KS 66205

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