



Monthly news & updates

June 2022 - CITY OF WESTWOOD HILLS

Upcoming Events:

See the Covid-19 information below regarding free at-home antigen tests

June 23, 2022 - Planning Commission Meeting

July 4, 2022 - Fourth of July Parade and Picnic

July 11, 2022 - City Council Meeting

July 12, 2022 - Voter Registration Deadline

July 21, 2022 - Planning Commission Meeting

September 17, 2022 - Environmental Fair

September 17, 2022 - Paper Shredding and e-Cycle Event



4th of July Celebration

Please join your friends and neighbors on Monday, July 4th, at 11:00 AM for the 2022 Westwood Hills 4th of July parade. This event is sponsored by the Westwood Hills Community Association.

The parade begins at 11:00 AM at the corner of 49th Street and Rainbow - and will proceed to Flag Island via Glendale. A Westwood Police Officer on a motorcycle will lead the parade, and 49th Street and Glendale Road will be barricaded during the parade.

Everyone is encouraged to dress patriotically as well as to decorate their bikes, scooters, strollers and pets to march in the parade. A prize will be awarded for best decorations.

There will be an ice cream truck with treats near Flag Island. Glendale Road will remain closed until 1:00 p.m. to accommodate the festivities. Hope to see you there.



Rosemary Podrebarac was sworn in as the City's new mayor.

Prior to becoming Mayor, Podrebarac has served the City of Westwood Hills as a councilperson since 2006 and has filled the role of President of the Council since May 2013.

Mayor Podrebarac may be reached at mayor@westwoodhillsks.gov.



meeting

The June Planning Commission Meeting will be held on **June 23, 2022**, at 7 pm via Zoom. The Zoom link will be available on the City's website.

Note: This is a date change from the normal day.

Voter Registration Deadline

The final day to register to vote during the August 2, 2022, primary election is Tuesday, July 12th. To check your voter registration, register to vote, or look up more information about the August 2, 2022, Primary Election, visit the Johnson County Election Office's [website](#).

YOTM

Congratulations to Jayne and Jim Nash for the June Yard of the Month!



If you read Westwood Nextdoor, you will see a lot of posts regarding crime, specifically porch thieves, and auto break-ins and thefts. Our little city is not immune to these crimes. Please follow the guidelines laid out in the @9PMRoutine for ways to prevent these crimes. In addition, the City of Westwood has many great tips on its website. You can find them [here](#).

JOIN US!

@9PMRoutine

Here's how:

Every night @9PM adopt these habits:

1. Remove valuables from vehicles
2. Lock vehicles' doors and windows
3. Take in mail, newspaper and door solicitations
4. Close windows, garage & exterior doors
5. Turn on exterior lights
6. Call 913.782.0720 or 911 if you see suspicious activity!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AT: Westwood KS Police Department
FOLLOW US ON: Nextdoor.com

Kansas Housing Launches Mortgage Relief Program

Assistance supports homeowners facing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic



The Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC) has launched the [Kansas Homeowner Assistance Fund \(KHAFF\)](#), providing mortgage and utility assistance to Kansas households impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Since the beginning of the pandemic, we’ve provided more than **\$190 million** in assistance to keep Kansans stably housed and connected to vital services,” said Ryan Vincent, Executive Director of Kansas Housing. “We’re so pleased to extend that support to homeowners with KHAF. We know that the economic impact of the pandemic is far from over, and these dollars will be vital in ensuring Kansans can remain in their homes.”

The KHAF program, supported through funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and administered by KHRC, will help qualifying Kansans get current on their mortgages and property taxes and avoid foreclosure.

The KHAF program provides:

- Mortgage payments
- Property taxes and charges
- Utility, internet, and broadband fees
- And more

To qualify for assistance, applicants must:

- Own their primary residence in Kansas;
- Provide valid proof of identification;
- Meet income guidelines;
- Be at risk of losing their home; and
- Experience a documented financial hardship during the COVID pandemic.

Households earning up to 150 percent of their area’s median income are eligible to apply. For example, a family of four living in Johnson County could earn up to \$145,200 to qualify for assistance. Eligible hardship must include a reduction in income or an increase in living expenses associated with the pandemic.

Applications are accepted online, and assistance is paid directly to the lender or service provider. Eligible homeowners may receive up to \$35,000 in mortgage assistance and up to \$10,000 in property charges and utility assistance.

The KHAF program was developed in consultation with housing stakeholders and community members through a [public feedback process](#). The program will operate until the state’s \$56.6 million KHAF allocation is fully expended. Homeowners are encouraged to apply as soon as possible to ensure that they receive assistance in a timely manner. Applicants may check the status of their application at any time by logging in to the KHAF portal.

To learn more and apply, visit kshousingcorp.org

Westwood Hills, along with eight other NEJC Cities, is hosting an Environmental Fair (**GO GREEN 2022!: Save Our Planet and Your Pocketbook!**). The Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at the Powell Community Center, 6200 Martway, in Mission, KS. There will be Exhibitor Booths and Activities for Kids. Stay tuned for more details.

A huge thank you to Councilwoman Karen Sexton and Gary and Susan Ripple for volunteering their time for this event. Click [here](#) for a pdf version of the flyer.



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.

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 are now available at the JCDHE Olathe Offices, Joco libraries, and SMSD and Olathe Public Schools



Summer lunch sites.

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

Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) is distributing free, at-home rapid (antigen) testing kits at its Olathe office, 11875 S. Sunset Drive, via drive-thru only. The drive-thru is open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., no appointment needed, while supplies last. Rapid tests are self-administered, and results are available within 15 minutes. PCR saliva test kits are available upon request.

JCDHE has partnered with the Johnson County Library to distribute at-home rapid (antigen) testing kits at each of the library's 14 locations. Click [here](#) for a list of library locations.

JCDHE will distribute free at-home rapid (antigen) COVID-19 tests at Shawnee Mission School District and Olathe Public Schools summer lunch sites. Test kits will be available at each location while supplies last. Families are encouraged to take home a free test kit for each member of their family and use it when needed.

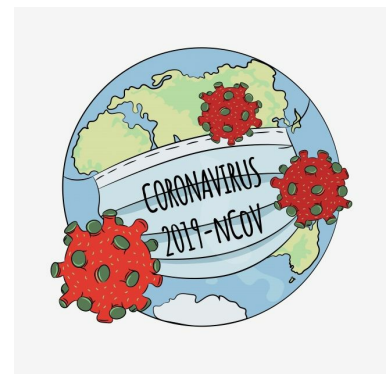
COVID-19 HELPFUL INFORMATION

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!



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.westwoodhillsks.gov

Visit our website

Visit our Google Drive



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