



July 2, 2020

It is officially summer, and July 4th is just days away which usually means there will a lot of grills being fired up for family events. We all have our favorite recipes and traditions that make these events memorable. While you are dusting off your grills and getting a grocery list of ingredients together, take a few minutes to read the following checklist for grill safety so that all your memories for this year will be of good food and company.

Read the Instructions that came with your grill.

Wash off your grill before and after use. This will help with grease buildup that can cause flare ups and the uneven cooking of your food.

Do not grill within 12 feet of your house / garage or other structure. Set the grill up away from where kids or pets may be playing but close enough where it can always be monitored. When you need to step away from the grill, designate a grown up to watch it until your return. There should always be eyes on the grill from fire up to cool down.

Always Grill on a Sturdy Surface. Always place the grill on a level, sturdy surface. Test the grill for sturdiness before adding the charcoal. If using propane, make sure all nozzles are connected tightly and properly. For safety, when using any type of open flame, keep a source of water ready for flare-ups or other emergencies.

Watch Your Smoke. Heavy smoke from a grill can be toxic so set it up so that smoke does not blow into your or your neighbor's home.

Never Store or Use Portable Grills Inside Never keep propane in your house, garage, or car. Store near the grill outside.

Portable grills can be used practically anywhere but never cook inside your house, garage or near your car. Never use a grill in any area where there is flammable material.

Do not use or store even a lukewarm grill near the gas meter or other gas hookups.

Use Caution with Lighter Fluid Do not use gasoline to start a fire. Gasoline is toxic and is harmful if digested. Use a chimney or a charcoal starter instead of lighter fluid,

the food will taste better, and it is much less dangerous. If you are going to use lighter fluid, avoid flare ups and possible serious injury by applying in short spurts especially over an open flame.

If using lighter fluid, soak the coals before lighting and then light the flame with a long match or a rolled-up newspaper.

Avoid Flare Ups on Portable Grills. Grease is released out of most meats cooked over an open flame. To mitigate the occasional grease flare ups, close the top of the grill and the vents to suffocate the flame for a few moments.

If you cannot wait for the coal to die down, you should get rid of them in a designated fireproof receptacle. Hot coals should be watched until you have confirmed they are cool and until then should not be stored on wooden deck, under building eaves, or inside a structure as they can flare up and cause a fire.

To all our residents, “Bon Appetite!” and have a “Happy and Safe 4th of July!”

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Independence Day falls on a Saturday this year and City offices will be closed. **However, collection will still happen on Friday, July 3. There is no impact due to the holiday this year.**

TRASH AMNESTY--No-tag collection week is July 6-10. No-tag ("trash amnesty") weeks happen twice a year and on special occasions. During those weeks, residents can put out up to **12 bags** curbside without any additional tags if each bag weighs less than 40 pounds. Regular trash rules apply. No hazardous waste, bulky items or leaf and brush will be collected.



July 9, 2020

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CARS PARKED IN THE YARDS

We seem to have an over abundance of cars parked illegally in yards throughout the neighborhood and it is beginning to look like a used car lot! Therefore, we will notify the owner and/or property manager once, so that the problem can be addressed. Then after that, the City will be notified as a code violation.

Sec. 48-27. - Wrecked, damaged, demolished, disabled, disassembled or currently unlicensed vehicles.

The following are declared to constitute a nuisance:

- (1) Any wrecked, damaged, demolished, disassembled or disabled vehicle left or permitted to remain upon any portion of the premises other than within a private garage, as that term is defined in section 80-20 except when a license for salvaging vehicles has been issued for the property where the vehicles are located and the salvage vehicles are being stored properly pursuant to other applicable provisions of the Code of Ordinances of Kansas City, Missouri.
- (2) Any motor vehicle without a state license plate that is current, and that is parked, stored or otherwise located on any premises within a residentially zoned district or lots otherwise used for residential purposes, other than within a private garage, as that term is defined in section 80-20, unless the vehicle is not required to have current state license plates under state law. Any motor vehicle with a state license plate that has been expired less than one month shall be excepted from this subsection.

(Ord. No. 971346, § 1, 10-2-97)

Sec. 48-28. - Off-street parking of vehicles.

The off-street parking of vehicles other than on a driveway or parking space in compliance with [section 56-112](#), is hereby declared to constitute a nuisance.

(Ord. No. 971346, § 1, 10-2-97; Ord. No. [190718](#), § 1, 9-26-19)

REMEMBER Just because the neighbors do it, it is considered a nuisance code violation and can mean a trip to Housing Court and a fine.



July 30, 2020

SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE

Sidewalks are being built in our community and requires certain maintenance, so they remain ADA compliant. We now have sidewalks going from Ruskin Way circle to Greenwood Rd. Currently construction for more sidewalks is being planned to go east on 107th Street from Blue Ridge Blvd on the north side of street to James A Reed Rd.

The sidewalks are great, but residents have a responsibility of keeping them clear so that pedestrians can use the sidewalks--including those that are pushing baby strollers and using assisted aid devices. It should be clear of parked cars, snow removal and grass clippings and leaves. According to City codes, sidewalks shall be maintained in a safe and approved condition.

ELECTIONS AND VOTING. This is an election year and just a reminder to vote Tuesday, August 4th. Just a reminder, for those wishing to vote by mail, you may request your application for a ballot up to 10 weeks in advance of the election but no later than the second Wednesday prior to the election.

Please note that all ballots must be notarized (except those submitted by an incapacitated or confined voter*), signed and received by the Election Board no later than 7 p.m. on election day. Ballots received after the deadline will not be counted.

Just remember, we offer free notary for our members living in our area. You will need to call and make an appointment with Sandy for notarization of your ballot.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 4th -- **Elections--go vote**
- August 6th -- **Class in session for Landlord/Tenant University**
Representatives from our Neighborhoods and Housing Services Department and facilitators from Legal Aid of Western Missouri are holding the first session of Landlord/Tenant University on Thursday, Aug. 6 from 11 a.m. to noon at the KC Kings Conference Room, 4400 Blue Pkwy. Because of Covid-19 concerns, in-person seating is limited, but the training session will also be streamed via Zoom

videoconferencing. If you want to attend in person, please RSVP via [Eventbrite](#). Anyone interested in attending online or needing more information should contact Leranda Brewer at (816) 513-9024 or Tenant.university@kcmo.org. Media can contact [Shawn Kirkwood](#), Landlord/Tenant University Coordinator at (816) 513-9054.

- August 6th -- **A virtual job fair that promises careers starting at \$15/hr has come to the rescue for those who face the possibility of homelessness.** On Thursday, August 6th, various employers will present job opportunities via a Zoom platform starting at 8 am.

To participate as either a job seeker or employer, go to www.careerfairkc.org.

Kudos to Mid-America Association of Real Estate Investors, Landlords, Inc., KC Regional Housing Alliance and WinVestors for sponsoring the event and Stacey Johnson-Cosby for organizing it. (You can call Stacey at 816-591-5921 for more info.)

- August 7th -- **Free Food Giveaway 2-4PM Paradise Baptist Church, 1600 E 58th St, Kansas City, MO 64110 Food donated by Harvesters.**