





## City of Topeka Neighborhood Services Guide

## What do I do when ...

- a property has blight, weeds, abandoned vehicles, vehicles on the lawn, stagnant water, rats and vermin, or other hazard?
- a house has the doors or windows open, allowing access to anyone?
- graffiti is sprayed on my garage or property?

Answer: Call 368-3161 with the property address and description of the problem.

How do I report a broken water main, sewer emergency, broken curb, traffic light, street light, street sign, alley or pothole problem, or ask about septic tanks, sewer smells, flooding, my water bill or trash service?

Answer: Call 368-3111 and follow the instructions.

Where do I find answers about curb cuts, street projects, traffic counts, my property line, and obtaining City sewer and water when outside of the City limits?

Answer: Call 368-3842 for assistance.

How do I get a building permit?

Answer: Call 368-3704 for assistance.

How do I report a house in my neighborhood that is used for suspected illegal activity?

Answer: For suspected <u>drug</u> activity call 368-9430 or 368-9030. For other criminal activity call 368-9464.

What do I do about barking dogs, loud stereos, etc? Answer: Call 368-9200 with the address and issue.

How do I report neighbor's pets that are abused or neglected or running loose, or if I have a question about an animal license?

Answer: Call 368-9203 with the address and issue.

Who is responsible for trimming trees growing in the right-of-way? And what do 1 do with limbs, grass clippings, and brush from my yard?

Answer: Call 368-3700 for information.

How do I apply for Historical Landmark status or inquire about zoning issues?

Answer: Call 368-3728 for information.

What do I do when my sidewalk has settled or heaved and is creating a hazard?

Answer: Call 368-3971 and ask about our Sidewalk Replacement Program. It may provide up to 50% of the replacement cost.

If I improve my property will my taxes go up? Answer: Call 368-3728 and ask about the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. Your improvements may qualify you for a tax rebate.

How/where do I dispose of paint, chemicals, tires, and hazardous materials? Where can I recycle my glass, magazines, and newspapers?

Answer: Call 233-6147 or 291-4940.

Can the City help if I need a wheelchair access ramp to my home?

Answer: Call 368-3711 about the Accessibility Program available to income-qualified clients.

Can the City help if a house I own is vacant, in disrepair, and needs demolishing?

Answer: Call 368-3711 and ask about our citywide Voluntary Demolition Program.

Can the City help if my home needs insulation in the walls and attic, or if it needs repairs to the furnace, or to seal major air infiltration leaks?

Answer: Call 235-9296 (Community Action) and ask for the Home Exterior Weatherization program to see if you qualify.

How can my Neighborhood Improvement Association organize a neighborhood clean up effort?

Answer: Call 368-3711 to make arrangements for a dumpster or to arrange a neighborhood clean-up.

How do I report housing discrimination? Answer: Call 368-3606 for information.

Can the City help if the house I own and occupy has a furnace or sewer line that has failed, or it has a major electrical or plumbing problem, or I have a documented medically-required mechanical system, and I am of low income?

Answer: Call 368-3711 and ask about the citywide Emergency Repair program. Must meet income qualifications. (Note: minor repairs remain the owner's responsibility.)

Is there a program that lets me buy an existing home that's affordable, remodel it, and live there?

Answer: Call 234-0217, ext 313 and ask about the TOTO II program, a citywide program that assists homebuyers purchase and remodel existing homes.

Is there a non-profit organization that accepts the donation of a vacant lot, or vacant, rundown home that is still salvageable, and turns it around for people who need affordable housing?

Answer: Contact these organizations, providing them with the property's address and, if known, the owner's name. (\* You may receive a tax advantage.)

- Cornerstone of Topeka\*, 232-1650 for rehabilitation of homes for affordable housing.
- Habitat for Humanity\*, 296-0257 for Demolition/Vacant Lot/New Construction.
- The City of Topeka, 368-3711 for Demolition/Vacant Lot/New Construction.

Some programs have funding limitations, federal & city program policies and income restrictions.