

## Roundabout Rules

**Roundabouts have been proven to reduce crashes, injuries, traffic delays and fuel consumption.**

Each year the City of Lawrence receives numerous requests from citizens to improve roadway safety – for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. In an effort to find appropriate ways to deal with these concerns and make our residential areas more livable, the city has started to use roundabouts in situations where they can be successful to mitigate traffic concerns.



The city's newest roundabout was completed in January 2015 at Wakarusa and Inverness Drive. When approaching a roundabout, remember to yield to traffic in the roundabout and choose your lane based on the direction you wish to go.

Roundabouts have been used to reduce crashes, injuries, traffic delays, fuel consumption, air pollution and construction costs, while increasing capacity and enhancing intersection beauty. They have also successfully been used to control traffic speeds in residential neighborhoods and are accepted as the safest type of intersection design.

"At a roundabout, with two through lanes like Wakarusa and Inverness, choosing your lane based on the direction you wish to go with a roundabout is no different than when approaching a traditional four-way stop," said David Cronin, city engineer. "If you want to make a right turn, get into the right lane. If you want to go left, be in the left lane and continue around the roundabout. If you want to go straight, you can stay in either lane and proceed through the roundabout without changing lanes."

A roundabout is a circular intersection. The major distinction between a roundabout and a traditional intersection is yielding to traffic already circulating in the roundabout. Traffic always travels in a counter-clockwise direction through a roundabout and only allows right-in/right-out access.

Additionally, the purpose of the central island is not only to define the circulatory roadway, but it also must deflect vehicles from a straight path, causing them to slow their speed, thereby reducing the severity of potential crashes.

Pedestrians and bicyclists have far less risk navigating roundabouts than the typical intersections primarily because of the lower speeds. A pedestrian has an 85% chance of being killed by a vehicle traveling at 45 MPH. That drops to 15% when the vehicle is traveling at 20 MPH (source: Federal Highway Administration).

"The next time you approach a roundabout, remember 3 things: 1) Look for pedestrians and yield to them if present, 2) Before entering roundabout, look to your left and yield to traffic already in roundabout and 3) After entering a roundabout do not stop and continue to your exit," said Cronin. "Once you've travelled through the area a few times, you'll get comfortable travelling in the roundabout and you just might find it safer for you and others."

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## RECYCLING REMINDER



### Carton Containers

The last drop of milk, juice, or soup does not mark the end of a carton's useful life. Cartons are easy to recycle and in high demand. Made from mostly paper, the high-quality materials used in cartons make them very desirable for remanufacturing into new products: recycled paper products and building materials. **To recycle**, simply rinse cartons and place in your blue recycling cart with other recyclable materials. Make sure cartons are empty. Please remove any caps and straws.



Did you know? Cartons are made from paper in the form of paperboard, as well as thin layers of polyethylene (plastic) and/or aluminum. There are two types of cartons – shelf-stable and refrigerated. Both are recyclable!

[www.LawrenceRecycles.org](http://www.LawrenceRecycles.org)

## Lunch N Learn 2015 Business Education Series

The City of Lawrence Planning and Development Services Department offers a quarterly Lunch N Learn (LNL) program focused on topics for businesses and others utilizing the city's development processes, services and programs. The PDS Lunch N Learn series are held on Fridays from Noon to 1:00 p.m. to accommodate busy business schedules.



The following topics have been set for 2015:

**May 22** – *Understanding the Sign Code*

**Sept. 25** *Parking 101: Why it is Important to the Planning Process*

**November 20** *The Plan Review and Approval Process*

The Lunch N Learn program is attended by designers, contractors, bankers, realtors and small business professionals.

For more information, contact *Cyndi Hermocillo-Legg*, small business facilitator at (785) 832-3156 or [clegg@lawrenceks.org](mailto:clegg@lawrenceks.org) or RSVP today at [dewert@lawrenceks.org](mailto:dewert@lawrenceks.org).

Past Lunch N Learn resources can be downloaded at [www.lawrenceks.org/pds/Lunch-N-Learn-Series-Resources](http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/Lunch-N-Learn-Series-Resources).

## The Big Event at KU

**Big Event at KU** is a campus organization seeking local community service projects. This includes raking leaves, trimming trees, cleaning houses and planting at Lawrence homes, schools, community organizations and public spaces.

Register a project online:  
[thebigeventku.com](http://thebigeventku.com)

## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY IN LAWRENCE!

Come join the City of Lawrence in celebrating Earth Day! The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Celebration in South Park on Saturday, April 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event is hosted by the city's Solid Waste Division.



[www.LawrenceRecycles.org](http://www.LawrenceRecycles.org)

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