



“We Have Tomorrow — Bright Before Us, Like A Flame.”

Langston Hughes



# City of Lawrence

## The Flame | December 2019

### Preparing for Census 2020

This spring, every Lawrence resident has an opportunity to help give millions of dollars to our local communities. All you have to do is participate in the 2020 Census.

The census is a count of *everyone* in the United States, both citizens and non-citizens. The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every ten years. It tallies city, state and national populations, and it is used to determine federal funding as well as representation in the U.S. House of Representatives, among other things.

The next Census Day is April 1, 2020. For the census, a person's household is considered the place where they are residing on Census Day. This is an especially important note for Lawrence, where many college students are living away from home for the first time. All college students living in Lawrence on April 1, 2020, should be counted as Lawrence residents in the census. While those living on campus are counted by the universities, those living off campus are responsible for responding themselves.

By April 1, 2020, all households should receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. There are three options for responding to the census questionnaire:

- 1. Online:** 2020 is the first year that online responses will be collected for the census. This method is safe and secure and, like all census collections, information remains private.
- 2. Phone:** Census enumerators will be ready to take your information, question by question, over the phone.
- 3. Mail:** Paper forms will be mailed to, or dropped at, your residence. They can be filled out and returned via mail.

Residents are asked to respond to Census questionnaires quickly. Self-response is the

key to our local success as it means fewer resources will need to be spent following up with people. Further instructions on how to respond will be provided with the invitation to participate.

As the census happens once every 10 years, it can seem daunting for residents and organizations to prepare for it. To assist in supporting Census 2020 efforts in our community, the City of Lawrence is part of the Lawrence-Douglas County Complete Count Committee. Throughout the first half of 2020, committee members will be working to spread awareness of the importance of Census 2020 as well as how to participate. The goal of the committee is to make sure "Everyone Counts" in Lawrence and Douglas County.



In addition to the City of Lawrence, the Complete Count Committee is comprised of members of Douglas County government as well as various organizations throughout the area, including the University of Kansas, Haskell University, Lawrence Public Library and more. By banding together, we are hoping to make Census 2020 a simple and straightforward process for all residents.

One of the biggest barriers to response we're fighting against will be for those residents who do not have readily available access to phones or internet. These individuals can still submit their census questionnaires by mail, but if they are interested, local organizations like the Lawrence Public Library will also be able to assist. The library will have computers available and they will be training staff to

### THE K-12 SPRING SEMESTER BUS PASS

*A great way to get around Lawrence!*

Riding the bus is a fun and easy option for getting around Lawrence, and the K-12 Spring Bus Pass is a low-cost way for students to get where they need to go.

The K-12 Spring Bus Pass costs \$10.00, and it can be used for unlimited bus rides from January through April 2020. Students can use the pass to ride any Lawrence Transit bus, so they are free to get to and from school or visit attractions throughout town, including parks, the library, shopping and more.

The passes go on sale on Monday, Dec. 16, and can be purchased at The Merc, Hy-Vee, or any Dillons in Lawrence. They can also be purchased at City Hall and at Parks and Recreation facilities, including the East Lawrence Community Building, the Indoor Aquatic Center, Sports Pavilion and Holcom.

More information on the K-12 Fall Buss Pass can be found on our website at [lawrencetransit.org](http://lawrencetransit.org). You can also reach Lawrence Transit staff by phone at (785) 864-4644.



**GO PLACES!**  
SEE YOUR CITY ON THE BUS

K-12 STUDENT SEMESTER BUS PASS	\$10.00
SPRING 2020 JAN / FEB / MAR / APR	

help those interested in going online to respond to the census questionnaire.

More information on local census-related resources, as well as reminders to participate, will be shared in the coming months. You can also learn more on our website: [lawrenceks.org/census](http://lawrenceks.org/census)

City info available online at [lawrenceks.org](http://lawrenceks.org) and on cable Channel 25.

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# SNOW SEASON ...everything you need to know!

For all snow & ice accumulations, treatment starts on primary streets followed by residential streets.



Street crews will plow primary streets from edge-of-pavement to edge-of-pavement. Residential streets are not plowed, but will be treated for ice.

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Street crews will plow primary streets edge-of-pavement to edge-of-pavement. Residential streets will receive one pass in each direction. Once the first pass is completed, edge-of-pavement residential plowing will begin.

## Snow on Sidewalks

Per city code (16-115), property owners are responsible for the removal of snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property within 48 hours after the snow or ice stops accumulating. More information is available online: [lawrenceks.org/snow-removal](http://lawrenceks.org/snow-removal)

## Holiday Trash & Recycling Schedule

**Christmas Day**  
Wednesday, December 25

**New Year's Day**  
Wednesday, January 1

There will be no collection services on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday collections for trash, recycling and yard waste will be delayed one day. Monday and Tuesday collection routes will not be affected by these two holidays.

## Christmas Tree Recycling

Recycling your Christmas tree is a great way to return it to nature. During the month of January, you can place live-cut trees at the curb or alley by 6 a.m. on your collection day, and City crews will collect them.



## HELP OUR SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS

**Do not park on the street.** Park your vehicles in the driveway and don't allow them to extend into the roadway. When vehicles are parked on narrow streets, on hills or on both sides of the street, the City may not be able to clear snow from that street.



**Place basketball goals, hockey goals, skateboard ramps and other structures at least ten feet from the street** to allow for proper snow removal. The City is not responsible for damage that may occur if these items are left in the street or right-of-way.

**Help us avoid damage to our trucks and allow for complete snow removal** by trimming back tree limbs that hang over the roadway.

**Check for updates on weather conditions** before traveling.

**Be alert and drive with caution.** Remember that winter storms create slick road conditions. Maintain a safe distance between vehicles and decrease your normal driving speeds to allow for additional time to stop.

**Be patient and expect some delays.** Allow plenty of extra driving time for planned trips, errands and appointments. On average, it can take 12 hours after the end of a storm to complete a first pass on residential streets. This can be much longer for heavy snowfalls or ice accumulations.

**Stay at least 50 to 100 feet from the rear of snow plow trucks** so the rock salt they spread will not hit your vehicle. Some trucks can even plow multiple lanes of snow at one time with wing plows. **Avoid passing or driving beside plow trucks** — especially to their right (passenger) side.

**Do not place snow from your driveway into the street when shoveling.** Also be aware that with heavy snow falls, plowing may create snow windrows in driveways.

**For more information on snow procedures, visit [lawrenceks.org/snow](http://lawrenceks.org/snow)**



## CITY OFFERS LOAN PROGRAM FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS

**Emergency & furnace loans available for income-qualified Lawrence homeowners**

The City offers an emergency loan program that can provide up to \$5,000 for emergency repairs that either eliminate immediate hazards to health and safety or repair damage to a structure likely to cause health and safety hazards. Additionally, the City offers a furnace loan program, which can provide up to \$5,000 for the replacement or addition of an existing heating and/or cooling source with approved energy-efficient appliances.



Both programs require a zero interest, zero payment mortgage to be placed on the property. The loan amount is due in full when the applicant is no longer the owner/occupant. Please contact City of Lawrence Community Development staff at (785) 832-7700 for additional terms and conditions, or visit [lawrenceks.org/pds/housing\\_programs](http://lawrenceks.org/pds/housing_programs) to download an application.

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*Committed to providing excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence community*