

# Lawrence Parks and Recreation Receives Recognition for Community's Commitment to Health and Wellness for Third Time

The City of Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department accepted the BlueCHIP Award from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas and the Kansas Recreation and Park Association at the 2016 KRPA Annual Conference in February. This is the third time LPRD received the BlueCHIP award since 2011.

The BlueCHIP Award is given out in three categories based on population and recognizes Kansas communities that encourage and support healthy lifestyles through programs, initiatives, policies and community involvement.



Lawrence received the award in the Large Community category, which is for those communities with a population of more than 50,000 people. Other communities receiving awards were: Arkansas City, Chanute, Garnett, Hepler and Potwin.

The BlueCHIP selection committee was comprised of representatives from Shawnee County Parks and Recreation, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, League of Kansas Municipalities, KRPA and BCBSKS. The reviewing committee looked for communities who were keeping "CHIP" in their community goals, which are: "C," clean air; "H," healthy food choices; "I," initiatives to curb obesity; and "P" physical activity.

The application for the award was submitted on behalf of the Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department with its partner organizations: LiveWell Lawrence, Douglas County C.H.I.P., Lawrence Memorial Hospital, Douglas County Health Department, Lawrence Public Schools, Community Mercantile (the Merc) Hy-Vee of Lawrence, Outside for a Better Inside, and the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence.

With the award, the department received \$2,500, which will go toward continuing the OrganWise Guys program which was first implemented in the summer of 2012. The program helps children understand the body's organs and how making healthy food and active lifestyle choices helps to have them work effectively.

Lawrence received the BlueCHIP Award for 2011, the award's inaugural year, and again in 2013. Lawrence Parks and Recreation has also been the recipient of the Governor's Council on Fitness' Health Champion Award in 2013.

#### Small Business Seminars



The City of Lawrence
Planning and Development
Services Department offers
a quarterly Lunch N Learn
program. Attendees will gain
insight on the City of Lawrence's
development processes, services
and programs. The PDS Lunch
N Learn is always delivered on a
Friday from Noon to 1:00 p.m. in
the City Commission Room, 6 E.
6th Street.

Neighborhood Planning: Understanding the Oread Design Guidelines March 25, 2016

Getting Your Contractor's License with The City of Lawrence June 17, 2016

Economic Development 101 September 23, 2016

BizFuel: Small to Medium Enterprise Support Network November 11, 2016

All of the resources from the Lunch N Learn series are available online at www.lawrenceks.org/pds/Lunch-N-Learn-Series-Resources. For more information, contact Cyndi Hermocillo-Legg, small business facilitator at (785) 832-3156 or clegg@lawrenceks.org.



# RECYCLING REMINDER



## Extra Recycling Cart



At the start of the new curbside recycling program, Lawrence households received a 95-gallon blue recycling cart for everyother-week collection service. Although this standard cart works for most, for some households one cart does not hold all their recyclable materials for two weeks.

Did you know you can request another recycling cart at no additional fee? Order an extra 95-gallon recycling cart online at www.LawrenceRecycles.org or by calling 832-3032. Once your request is submitted, the city's Solid Waste Division staff will deliver a 95-gallon recycling cart to your address.

If you do not need an extra recycling cart but on occasion have stacks of large cardboard boxes that do not fit in your blue recycling cart, there are several city-sponsored drop-off recycling bins throughout town for cardboard boxes. Visit www.LawrenceRecycles.org for the location nearest you.

www.LawrenceRecycles.org



### **Celebrate Earth Day in Lawrence!**

Earth Day, observed on April 22, was created in 1970 to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's natural environment. After over 40 years, Americans are still dedicated to creating and maintaining a healthy and sustainable environment. Come join the City of Lawrence in celebrating Earth Day!

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Celebration in South Park, hosted by the City of Lawrence Solid Waste Division, will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 23. The day starts with a parade, hosted by KU Environs, at 11:00 a.m. on Massachusetts Street from Seventh Street to South Park. All activities are free and open to the public.

Come down to South Park and join the celebration! There will be local food vendors, live music, children's activities and exhibits about waste reduction, recycling, composting, energy conservation, land preservation, and wildlife and habitat preservation. The City of Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department will host South Park Tree ID tours.

In addition, the Lawrence Transit System will offer free rides on the T all day Saturday, April 23, providing the experience and benefits of public transportation on all fixed routes.

For more information about the Lawrence Earth Day Parade and Celebration, visit <a href="https://www.LawrenceRecycles.org">www.LawrenceRecycles.org</a> or call 832-3030.

### **Big Event @ KU Looking for Projects**

The Big Event at KU is a campus organization seeking local community service projects, including outdoor and indoor work, at Lawrence homes, schools, community organizations, and public spaces. Most supplies will be provided for volunteers. The Big Event occurs on April 16 - sign up at <a href="https://www.thebigeventku.com">www.thebigeventku.com</a>. Sign up today!





#### Can You Hear Us Now?

In an effort to provide access for all residents to engage with their city government, the city installed a T-Coil (telecoil) hearing loop in the City Commission Room. A telecoil is a small copper coil that is an option on most hearing aids and is built into cochlear implant processors. The telecoil is activated by a t-switch on the hearing aid or cochlear implant. For those with hearing loss, we offer this option and encourage feedback about the system - just ask us next time you're at a City Commission meeting!

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