



City of Lawrence

The Flame | March 2019

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

Langston Hughes

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. More than 40 years later, Americans are still dedicated to creating and maintaining a healthy and sustainable environment. Come join the City of Lawrence in celebrating Earth Day!

The **19th Annual Earth Day Celebration** in South Park will be held from **11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 20**. The day starts with a parade, hosted by KU Environs, kicking off at 11 a.m. and running along Massachusetts Street from Eighth Street to South Park. All activities are free and open to the public. There is no rain date for the event.

The purpose of the Earth Day celebration is to gather community members to connect, discover, and celebrate local organizations and businesses who support a healthy, sustainable environment. At the same time, the celebration engages event goers with fun activities and exhibitions.



For more information
about the Lawrence
Earth Day Parade
and Celebration, visit
lawrenceks.org/earth-day

There will be local food vendors, live music, children's activities, yoga, and environmental info booths. The City of Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department will host South Park Tree ID tours at 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.

In addition, the **Lawrence Transit System** will offer **free rides all day on Saturday, April 20**, providing the experience and benefits of public transportation on all fixed routes.

New Bicycle Safety Videos Available Online



Bicycle safety education has historically only focused on teaching bicycle riders how to navigate the roadways safely. These videos offer a new perspective, one to which more people can relate, from the motor vehicle driver perspective modeled off The Bicycle Friendly Driver curriculum created by the City of Fort Collins, Colorado.

The curriculum aims to educate drivers about how and why bicycle riders travel the roadways in the ways they do — with the objective of developing a shared understanding for all users.

For more
information about
bicycle safety,
or to watch the
eight videos, visit
[lawrenceks.org/
share-the-road](http://lawrenceks.org/share-the-road)



JOIN THE COMMON GROUND PROGRAM!

Common Ground is a community gardening and urban agriculture program created by the City of Lawrence in 2012. This past year, our gardens, farms and orchards included 9 sites that were tended by over 272 local residents, producing over 1500 pounds of produce donated.

Applications are now open for the 2019 growing season.

- **Community Gardens:** Interested in joining one of the established garden sites in Lawrence? Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, but will be first come, first served. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to apply soon! Look online to see which site could best fit your needs.
- **Incubator Farm:** Are you interested in growing for market? Our Incubator Farm just north of Lawrence is the perfect site to try your hand at larger-scale production, with plots ranging from .25 – 1 acre. These sites are available at \$100/acre. Applications are due March 8, but will be considered thereafter based on availability.
- **Volunteer:** Do you want some garden time without making a full-season commitment? Our gardens welcome volunteers and groups interested in pitching in for a few hours. Email us at commonground@lawrenceks.org to learn more!
- **New Garden Sites:** Does your neighborhood need a garden? We're interested in hearing from residents about where new sites could be considered for 2020 and beyond. Email us at commonground@lawrenceks.org to let us know your garden aspirations!



Apply and learn more online at: lawrenceks.org/common-ground
For more information, contact: Helen Schnoes, Sustainability & Food Systems Planner,
hschnoes@douglascountyks.org or 785-551-9436.

New and Improved App Provides Real-Time Bus Information

It's getting a little easier to take the bus in Lawrence. The My Bus Lawrence app was recently upgraded to provide up-to-the-minute transit information and improved features specifically for Lawrence bus riders.

The upgraded My Bus Lawrence app is available for free on iTunes or Google Play. It's simple to download, but for those who already have the previous version of the app on their phones, they will need to un-install and re-install the app for it to work properly.

What's new about this app? For one thing, you will see moving bus icons on a map along with the route number and direction the bus is traveling. You can find out when your bus will arrive by clicking on the icon, or selecting your route and bus stop. You can also choose your favorite stops and see important announcements.

Another tool riders can use to find out when their bus will arrive is to send a text message. Each bus stop has a number displayed on the bus stop sign. Simply send a text to 41411 and enter "Trip", space, then the bus stop number and you will receive a reply with the estimated time of arrival at that bus stop.

For more information about bus routes, schedules and mobile tools, visit lawrencetransit.org, join us on Facebook at facebook.com/lawrencetransit, or call (785) 864-4644.



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