



City of Lawrence

The Flame | May 2021

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

Langston Hughes

Moving tips from the City of Lawrence

Summer months are peak season for moving in Lawrence. While moving can be complicated, the City is sharing some tips and reminders from our Solid Waste and Utility Billing teams of important things to keep in mind during your move.

Go online for Utility service requests

Due to an increase in the number of moves happening, the summer months are peak season for Utility Billing. This is the time of year when the City sees a dramatic increase in transfers, disconnects and new service installations.

To help with the high call volume, the utility billing team recommends utilizing online service requests when possible.

Online assistance is available for managing your account, including starting, stopping and transferring services, as well as restoring service. You can also go online to pay your bill or to set up recurring automatic payments.

You can visit the utility billing web page at lawrenceks.org/utility-billing to learn more about our online capabilities.

Reuse, Recycle and Safe Disposal

While the process of moving can create a lot of waste, a little planning can go a long way toward reducing that amount and keeping reusable goods out of the landfill! Here are a few reuse, recycling and safe disposal options.

Reduce the amount of waste generated with packing supplies by using reusable

or recyclable padding, like towels or newspaper, to pack your boxes instead of purchasing Styrofoam peanuts or plastic wrap. Stop by a grocery store or bookstore and ask for free cardboard boxes to use.

Donate gently used clothing and household goods to local charities, hold a moving sale, or post to online Buy, Sell, Trade groups. Donate non-perishable food to food banks, pantries and shelters.

Recycle old electronics, cardboard boxes, newspapers, plastic bags and any other recyclable materials. Search the online Recyclable Materials Directory at lawrenceks.org/swm for local options.

Properly dispose of paint, automotive products, household cleaners, pesticides and other potentially hazardous chemicals at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Schedule your appointment in advance: lawrenceks.org/swm/hhw.

Schedule a pick-up for bulky items that are no longer usable, such as couches, appliances and automobile tires, by calling 785-832-3032 or filling out the online form: lawrenceks.org/swm/trash.

What do I do with my carts?

The green City trash carts and blue City recycling carts should not go with you when you move. These carts belong to the address to which they were delivered. If you have purchased a brown yard waste cart(s), it can be moved to your new home as that cart belongs to the person/household who purchases it.

Lawrence Transit offers K-12 summer bus pass

Riding the bus is a great way to get around Lawrence, and the K-12 Summer Bus Pass is a fun, easy, and low-cost way for students to get to all of their summer activities.

The K-12 Summer Bus Pass can be purchased at The Merc, Hy-Vee, or any Dillons store in Lawrence. They can also be purchased at City Hall and Parks and Recreation facilities (Indoor Aquatic Center, Holcom, East Lawrence, Community Building and Sports Pavilion.)

The bus pass is good May through August 2021 and costs \$10 for unlimited bus rides.

Lawrence Transit is committed to getting people around safely in Lawrence and has taken many precautions to ensure the safety of their passengers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Masks are required for all passengers and drivers on all Lawrence Transit buses, buses are cleaned and disinfected regularly, and windows are cracked for ventilation.

For more information, call (785) 864-4644 or visit lawrencetransit.org. You can also find us on facebook: @lawrencetransit and on Twitter: @TransitKU.



New bike and pedestrian crossing at 21st & Mass

May is Bicycle Safety Month, and we're excited to celebrate with a new bicycle safety feature in our community: a pedestrian hybrid signal at the intersection of 21st & Massachusetts St! The signal will assist in safer crossing of Massachusetts St. for people walking and biking.

Bicycle Riders: Approaching on 21st St. from the west, you will be in a shared lane with vehicles. Enter into the bike cut-out defined by green pavement on the southwest corner and be mindful of pedestrians in this area. Stop behind the stop bar and press the button to trigger the signal.



the signal. Once the bike signal is green, look to ensure all vehicle traffic has stopped before riding across along the green bike crosswalk. Return to the shared lane once you cross the intersection.

Approaching on 21st St. from the east, you will be in a shared lane with vehicles. Enter into the bike cut out defined by green pavement on the northeast corner and be mindful of pedestrians in this area. Stop behind the stop bar and press the button to trigger the signal. Once the pedestrian signal is white, look to ensure all vehicle traffic has stopped before riding along the green bike crosswalk. Return to the shared lane after crossing.

Vehicles: As you approach the intersection of 21st & Massachusetts, be mindful of pedestrians and bicycle riders using the crosswalk on 21st St. Stop behind the stop bar. If the no right turn signal is active, a pedestrian or bicycle rider is crossing the street and you must wait for the signal to turn off before proceeding. Vehicles on 21st St. can only turn right. Proceeding straight through the intersection and left turns are not allowed.

Save the Date: Electronics Recycling Event on June 5

This summer, the Lawrence-Douglas County Sustainability Office is partnering with Teknix Solutions to organize an e-waste drop-off event.

The E-Waste Event will be on Saturday, June 5, located on the KU campus in Lot 301, near the 23rd & Iowa intersection.

The event will be organized as a drive-through to minimize personal contact. A list of accepted and non-accepted items is available on the website (see below). Alkaline batteries will NOT be accepted. There will be a fee for CRT TVs and monitors, and only cash and check will be accepted on-site.

More information will be shared online as it is available. Direct questions to Kim Criner Ritchie, sustainability & food systems analyst, 785-832-5157 or kcrinerritchie@douglascountyks.org.

Website: douglascountyks.org/depts/sustainability/electronics-recycling.

Volunteers needed for food recovery program

The Lawrence-Douglas County Sustainability Office has teamed up with After the Harvest, a Kansas City-based nonprofit, and Community Organized Gleaners (COGs), a grassroots volunteer group of experienced farmers, to expand food recovery on Douglas County farms.

The goal of the expanded food recovery program is to rescue nutritious fruits and vegetables from farm fields after the marketable harvest and distribute them to Douglas County agencies providing food and shelter assistance to community members.

The USDA Office of Urban Agriculture awarded Douglas County a two-year Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction grant in fall 2020 to work on food resource recovery. Douglas County is one of only 13 communities in the country to receive the grant. Other grant partners in the gleaning project include Moon on the Meadow farm, Just Food, Lawrence Community Shelter, Sunrise Project and KU Center for Environmental Policy.

The multi-partner project is building on locally-based efforts launched last year by

COGs. In 2020, they recovered 2,644 pounds of food from four local farms with the help of 35 volunteers between July and October.

So far this year, volunteers have recovered 40 pounds of spinach from Moon on the Meadow. Food has been delivered to Just Food, Sunrise Project and the Lawrence Community Shelter.

The partners hope to connect with more local farms and recruit more volunteers. Food recovery requires the help of many hands, which is why the Sustainability Office is actively signing up volunteer gleaners and drivers as well as reaching out to farmers for the upcoming growing season. Together, this team can help people in need by recovering edible food from local fields!

If you would like to volunteer as an individual or as a group, please sign up on the Douglas County website: douglascountyks.org/depts/sustainability/food-recovery-partnership

Local producers and farmers who are interested in the program can contact Jamie Hofling, food waste reduction specialist, at jhofling@douglascountyks.org.



Pictured: Amy Glattly, cofounder of Community Organized Gleaners (COGs), gleans spinach from Moon on the Meadow in Douglas County.

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We create a community where all enjoy life and feel at home.