



City of Lawrence

The Flame | July 2022

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

Langston Hughes

Holiday schedules for trash, recycling and yard waste collection

In alignment with the City's Strategic Plan, and to focus on our commitment to engaged and empowered teams, the City announced changes to the holiday solid waste collection schedules in December 2021.

The changes apply to the current City-observed holidays as well as any additional holidays observed by the City in the future. The current City-observed holidays are New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

The following applies to residential solid waste collections on holiday weeks:

- No yard waste collections throughout the holiday week
- No bulk item pick-ups throughout the holiday week
- No roll-off services on the holiday or Saturday of the holiday week
- No cart swaps, deliveries, or maintenance on the holiday or Saturday of the holiday week

The following collection schedule applies to the weeks of Independence Day (July 3-9), Labor Day (Sept. 4-10), Christmas Day (Dec. 25-31) and New Year's Day 2023 (Jan. 1-7, 2023):

- Regular Monday customers will have collections on Tuesday
- Regular Tuesday customers will have collections on Wednesday

- Regular Wednesday customers will have collections on Thursday
- Regular Thursday customers will have collections on Friday
- Regular Friday customers will have collections on Saturday

The collection schedule for the week of Thanksgiving (Nov. 20-26):

- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday customers will have collections on regularly scheduled days
- Regular Thursday customers will have collections on Friday
- Regular Friday customers will have collections on Saturday

Our team at the City of Lawrence realizes these changes are a lot to keep track of, which is why all residential customers are encouraged to sign up for service reminders to ensure they never miss a collection day. You can select what type of reminder to get, including push notifications to your mobile device, emails, phone calls or text messages.

To sign up for service reminders, visit lawrenceks.org/swm/service-reminder or download the Lawrence Waste & Recycling app from the App Store for Apple Devices or the Google Play Store for Android Devices.

More information is on our website at lawrenceks.org/swm.



Moving this July? Remember our top tips!

1. Go online for utility requests: lawrenceks.org/utility-billing
2. Reuse, recycle and safely dispose of unwanted goods
3. Go online to schedule a pickup for bulk items: lawrenceks.org/swm/trash
4. Leave the green trash and blue recycling carts when you move. They stay at the address to which they were delivered. If you have purchased a brown yard waste cart, it can be moved with you to your new home.

Volunteer for local food recovery efforts

Want to get your helping hands a little dirty? As a volunteer with the Lawrence & Douglas County food gleaning program, you can support food waste reduction and recovery of edible food while feeding people in need.

Volunteers are invited to sign up throughout the growing season to help glean fields (harvest unsold produce from local farms) and deliver food to local food pantries. Individuals and groups are welcome. When you sign up online, you'll receive email notifications when gleanings are scheduled: <https://bit.ly/DouglasCoGlean>.

Last year, the food recovery program gleaned 17,656 pounds of produce from 10 local farms and gardens with 322 hours of volunteer help. All rescued produce was donated to local food

pantries such as Just Food. Donated produce included leafy greens, garlic scapes (the flowering part of the garlic plant), chestnuts, apples, lots of squash, and more. The program also recovered and donated starter vegetable plants and herbs from local farms.

To grow the program, the Lawrence-Douglas County Sustainability Office continues to connect with local farms interested in gleaning. If you are a farmer or gardener interested in making arrangements for gleaning, contact our Food Waste Reduction Specialist, Jamie Hofling, via email at jhofling@douglascountyks.org.

If you or your group would like to be notified about upcoming volunteer gleaning opportunities, sign up today at <https://bit.ly/DouglasCoGlean>!



Help us keep our water clean!

We need your help to keep Lawrence stormwater clean. When rain hits already saturated ground, it doesn't get soaked up; it can travel across bare earth, driveways, sidewalks and streets into the nearest storm drain, picking up common pollutants along the way.

The untreated water then goes through pipes that discharge into our local waterways. This can change the physical, biological and chemical composition of the water, resulting in an unhealthy environment for aquatic organisms, wildlife and humans.

Most residents and businesses may not realize their everyday practices can pollute our local streams, creeks and rivers. Below are some easy tips to follow for both the home and workplace to help us keep our stormwater clean:

- Use pesticides/fertilizers sparingly
- Repair car leaks immediately
- Dispose of household hazardous waste, like paint, auto fluids and batteries, before they accumulate
- Clean up after your pet
- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on an unpaved surface
- Sweep up (instead of hosing) yard debris and compost it, or set it out for City yard waste collection
- For water-based paints, clean paint brushes in a sink indoors
- Sweep and properly dispose of construction debris

Overall, the common pollutants in Lawrence's storm sewer systems include vehicle pollutants (oil, gas and antifreeze), home and business pollutants (fertilizers, detergents, paint, pesticides and pet/yard waste) and construction pollutants (soil sediment, trash and debris).

Please be aware of these pollutants and be sure to dispose of them properly. If you are concerned about a potential stormwater pollution problem, you can call and report it to Municipal Services & Operations at 785-832-7800.

More information is on the City website at lawrenceks.org/mso/stormwater.

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