



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

Langston Hughes

City of Lawrence

The Flame | May 2022

Annual moving season starts this May!

The month of May signals the beginning of moving season 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 requests

Due to an increase in the number of moves, the summer months are extremely busy for our Utility Billing team. 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 all facets of 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 keeping reusable goods out of the landfill! Here are a few reuse, recycling and safe disposal options from our Solid Waste team.

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.

Dispose of paint, automotive products, household cleaners, pesticides and

other potentially hazardous chemicals properly at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. You must schedule your appointment in advance online at: lawrenceks.org/swm/hhw.

Schedule a pick-up for bulky items that are no longer usable, such as couches, appliances and automobile tires. Call our Solid Waste team at 785-832-3032 or fill out the online form to schedule: 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, it can be moved to your new home as that cart belongs to the person/household who purchases it.

Speaking of recycling...

At this year's E-Waste Recycling Event hosted by Lawrence-Douglas County Sustainability, more than 900 vehicles passed through our collection line and contributed to the more than 72,480 pounds of electronics to be recycled.

Recycling e-waste is an important step in our goal of protecting and restoring our ecosystem in order to make it healthier for future generations. We appreciate every person and household who utilized this free event to responsibly dispose of their no-longer-needed electronics.



Get to know Megan Dodge, our new Director of Human Resources

In January 2022, City Manager Craig Owens announced the hiring of Megan Dodge as the City's new Director of Human Resources.

Megan has thirteen years of experience in public service, most recently as the operations deputy secretary for the State of Kansas Department for Children and Families. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Public Administration as well as a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Kansas.

Here is a little more information to help you get to know Megan better.

Hometown: Overland Park, Kansas

Places you have lived: Overland Park; Lawrence; Kansas City, MO; Chicago, IL; San Antonio, TX

Family: I have three children: a girl (7 years), boy (9 years) and a 6-month-old baby boy

Education: Bachelor degree in Spanish and Public Administration and a Master of Public Administration (MPA), both from the University of Kansas

Favorite sports team(s): My kids' sports teams! And KU basketball, of course.

The last book you read: World of Wonders by Aimee Nezhukumatathil

The last thing you listened to: Rufus Wainwright

The last thing you watched: Spencer, the new movie about Princess Di

Favorite holiday: Christmas



Favorite Lawrence restaurant: Culinaria

Favorite spring activity: Doing anything outdoors, like visiting the Baker Wetlands or the levee trail

Bucket-list vacation destination: Ireland, to see my grandmother's hometown

Your favorite way to spend a day off: Taking a long walk, baking/cooking, spending time with a friend and hanging out on Mass Street

What you're most excited for as Director of Human Resources: Supporting all the important work that City employees do for the Lawrence community, and working with the City team to make sure this is an awesome place to work!

Celebrating Emergency Medical Services

In celebration of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week, which is May 15-21, we are showing our appreciation of our EMS team members at the City of Lawrence.

Our EMS team members work in the Lawrence-Douglas County Fire-Medical Department (LDCFM). In total, LDCFM has the following pre-hospital providers:

- 57 Paramedics
- 81 Advanced EMTs
- 15 Basic EMTs

Of the 14,560 incidents that LDCFM responded to in 2021, 9,380 of them were medical calls. The five most common EMS calls responded to in 2021 were:

1. Sick person
2. Fall
3. Breathing problem
4. Unconscious person
5. Chest pain



A program that our EMS team is excited to bring to our community is the PulsePoint respond app. PulsePoint empowers anyone in our community to provide life-saving assistance to victims of sudden cardiac arrest by notifying subscribers that someone requiring CPR is nearby. If the app user is able, they can respond to the notification, go to the person in need, and actually give CPR while advanced medical care (our EMS team) is on the way.

You can download the free PulsePoint app by going to your smartphone's app store.

PulsePoint

For everyone in our community, regardless of whether you have PulsePoint, here are some additional safety tips from our EMS team:

- Pull to the right when emergency vehicles are approaching with lights and sirens.
- In the event of cardiac arrest: Start chest compressions, call 9-1-1 and locate the nearest AED.

Check out our Community Engagement Hub

Do you want to be more involved in the decisions affecting your community? We invite you to explore our online Community Engagement Hub to learn more about the projects the City is currently working on!

The City of Lawrence is committed to listening, sharing and engaging with our community so we can drive action and build trust in City government. We're inviting all community members to collaborate and innovate with us, and the online hub is an easy way to begin

familiarizing yourself with our ongoing projects.

The Community Engagement Hub includes links to learn more about the community engagement projects currently underway at the City of Lawrence. It is consistently updated as new projects become available.

In addition to learning more about each project, you can see how you're able to participate with us. We encourage you to explore online at: lawrenceks.org/community-engagement

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