



Windy Hills

March 2021

A City of Historic Homes

www.cityofwindyhills.com



From the Mayor's Desk...

Dear Neighbors,

By the time you receive this newsletter, it will "officially" be spring. As we all know, living in Kentucky, the reality may feel more like winter or summer! Hopefully, we will have a spring with mild weather and beautiful blossoming trees and flowers. Spring brings out not only the flowers, but people. We have done well so far, so please continue to follow the guidelines for safety and social distancing.

I am pleased to announce that in partnership with Sojourner Community Church, the City of Windy Hills has **reopened its playground!** Enjoy this wonderful opportunity to play outside. Please respect guidelines for social **PLAYGROUND OPEN!** distancing, masks, and hand-cleaning so everyone can stay safe!

We are all tired and nerves may be frayed. Please let's be respectful and show some extra tolerance during these stressful times. **We have had a LOT of complaints from our residents over the last 6 - 9 months.** Many of them have to do with **noise during quiet hours.** Please consider your sleeping neighbor before you roll garbage cans out at dawn, or have work done on your house or yard before 7 am. If your dog is left outside at night, it may be a great alarm system, but it will also drive your exhausted neighbor over the edge. Let's be good neighbors. Good Neighbor Policy. Would you like it if the neighbors did these things to you?

Signs of Hope

Throughout this issue, you will see photos taken in Windy Hills during 2020. Enjoy these signs of hope offered by our neighbors.



Please be aware:

1. No work is permitted by Metro ordinance before 7 AM or after 9 PM. Metro can cite you if you violate this ordinance.
2. There are **coyotes** in Windy Hills, so you don't want to leave any animals outside overnight plus there are Metro animal ordinances that may cost you some money if you are found to be in violation.
3. You may place your waste cans at the curb as early as the afternoon before the scheduled pick-up.

Enjoy your spring and I hope that we will soon be able to gather and appreciate each other's company **VERY** soon!!!! Your City Council has some fun ideas as soon as we can safely initiate them. Watch your newsletters and e-mail!

Take care,

Helen

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community pride tradition shady lawns great neighbors

Council Meetings

Your Windy Hills City Council meets twice monthly - on a Friday for planning and on the following Monday for action. Because of Covid-19, meetings are currently being held via Zoom. Residents are always welcome and are invited to speak during the formal meeting on Monday. Check the City calendar on the website for dates of upcoming meetings. Call Lisa Kraft at the office (502.895.4778) to get sign-in information for virtual meetings.

Louisville Gas and Electric Pruning Project

Over the fall and winter, LG & E conducted a major project of removing trees and vegetation under the transmission lines that run through Windy Hills. We all hate to lose our beautiful trees and the shade and beauty they provide. LG&E staff worked with homeowners and the city to mitigate the impact. In that process they gave each impacted homeowner a choice of either replacement trees or cash. They also power washed or replaced fencing in some areas. On the public right-of-way along Westport Road they planted new trees and evergreens that will be the responsibility of the city to maintain. Kudos to LG&E staff who went above and beyond to minimize the impact of this process necessary to maintain our power.

Any resident of Windy Hills who wishes to enhance his or her property with a tree may apply for The **Windy Hills Tree Program** sponsored by our Tree Board to get a subsidy toward up to two trees. This is offered to encourage planting more canopy trees. This is how it works:

There are three nurseries involved: **Otte's on Bardstown Road, The Plant Kingdom on Westport Road, and Wallitsch Garden Center on Hikes Lane.** **First you notify the clerk that you are a resident of Windy Hills. You will fill out a form indicating that you will care for the tree. You may pick out a tree (it must be at least 20 feet high at maturity), receive a 20% discount on the price of the tree, have the nursery plant it (to get a year's guarantee), pay for it, and send the paid invoice to the Windy Hills office. The city will reimburse you \$100 for each tree (limit two).**

Property Valuation Assessment

The role of the PVA is to fairly assess the value of all property. This is an important part of the process to determine the taxes collected to fund our cities, school districts, and emergency services. The PVA staff workers do their best to determine accurate median property value for comparable homes, but they don't know every detail of all properties. The condition of a home could mean it falls substantially below or above the median value. It is so important for residents to be informed and involved in this process.

There will be a meeting for residents of Area 3 on March 30th 6:30-7:30 pm on Zoom.
Zoom Link: <http://bit.ly/36FTkjR> Passcode: 584177

The first step of the appeals process in 2021 is available from April 23rd to May 17th.

For more information, go to www.JeffersonPVA.ky.gov, call the PVA office at 502-574-6380.

Caution: Coyotes Live Here Too!

Many residents report seeing coyotes in Windy Hills. Coyotes are not native to the area but have migrated east in the US since the 1980s as the wolf population decreased.

While mostly shy animals that stay away from humans and come out often at night, coyotes have become more comfortable in urban surroundings and at times when people are active. Recent reports include a pack of 3 coyotes of which this is likely one, in the Chelsea, Old Farm area. One family on Rudy Lane reported that their 55 pound dog was attacked by coyotes, but they were able to scare it away.

Parents of young children and owners of cats and small dogs should be especially cautious. If you encounter a coyote, Louisville Animal Control suggests:

- don't panic, run, approach or turn your back
- stand your ground and make loud noises (clap, stomp your feet, yell and wave your arms) Coyote on Chelsea Road at Noon

Take precautions:

- do not leave pet food outside
- do not leave small children unattended while outside
- do not leave pets outside and supervise them while in the yard
- do not allow your dog to chase or play with a coyote
- secure garbage containers
- stay away from pups and dens (breeding season begins around February and coyotes roam more)

This is mating/breeding season for coyotes so they may be more aggressive. If you experience aggression, a potentially sick animal, or are otherwise concerned, report any sighting to Animal Control by calling 502-473-PETS.



Counting Your Miles?

If you are walking Windy Hills for exercise and want to track your miles, the Windy Hills loop is 3.5 miles. See the map at cityofwindyhills.com under the "For Residents" tab. For a shorter walk, the main oval path on The Windy Hills Green is .2 miles, so walk 5 times around and you have done a mile! Enjoy our city this while staying healthy and safe!



Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Yard – by Councilwoman Kate Greer



To attract hummingbirds to the yard, one needs to know some information about the tiny avian creatures. The Ruby Throated hummingbird is the only species you will see in Windy Hills unless another species is migrating from the West and gets lost, as it is the only breed native in the eastern part of the U.S. Hummers cruise at 27 MPH. Their wings beat 53 times a second. They can fly frontwards, backwards, and upside down and can migrate up to 500 miles a day. A female can consume up to 2,000 insects daily and must eat 100% of her body weight in nectar a day. A male scout will arrive to Louisville in mid-April, about the time spring flowers

are opening. (native copper iris, fire pinks, columbine, phlox, and penstemon.) They frequently return to a familiar place if the food source is plentiful. Males try to mate with many females up until June. Once mated, a female must build a nest, which is about the size of a walnut half. The nests are usually about 10-20 feet high in deciduous trees. They especially like sycamore and elm trees. They generally lay about 2 eggs, which will hatch in 14 days. The males do not help with the fledglings but do locate food sources. The babies are fully feathered in 2 ½ weeks and fly at 3 weeks. Then they are on their own. There is a 50% mortality rate among the young. A female may sometimes breed a second time in a season. The birds start migrating south to Mexico and the Caribbean in late July. The life span of a hummingbird is about 2 ½ years for a male and 3 ½ years for a female.

Hummingbirds can get their food three ways: through plants, insects, and feeders. A few nectar-providing shrubs and small trees include native deciduous Azaleas, Buckeyes, Clethra, Carolina Silverbell, Mahonias, Rhododendrons and nonnative Hibiscus, Flowering Quince, Rose of Sharon, and Weigelia. The native Crossvine and Coral Honeysuckle and the Trumpet Vine are also favored, although the Trumpet Vine is highly invasive. Some perennial flowers are Bergamot (Monarda), Cardinal Flower, Columbine, Copper Iris, Day Lilies, Fox Glove (biennial), Jewel Weed, Hollyhocks (biennial), Hyssops, Liatris (Blazing Star), Lungwort, Lupines, Obedient Plant, Penstemon, and Royal Catchfly. Hummingbirds prefer tubular flowers and the color red. Annual flowers include Dianthus, Impatiens, Mexican Sunflower, Nicotiana (flowering tobacco), Petunias, Scarlet and/or Blue Sage, Snapdragons, and Zinnias. Two plants that attract the birds but are considered invasive in Kentucky are Butterfly Bushes (Buddleia) and the Cypress Vine. Hummingbirds love small insects. Aphids, caterpillars, flies, fruit flies, gnats, mosquitos, and small spiders are part of their diet. Spider webs are used in making their nests.

To make your yard even more attractive to these birds, put out a nectar feeder. There are all kinds, but some are easier to clean than others. Make sure the feeder is red. It is much cheaper and bird-healthier to make your own nectar. **Do not add red dye. Mix four parts boiling or very hot water with one part sugar. DO NOT MICROWAVE** as it breaks down the sugar molecules. Once cooled, fill up your feeder. Purchase an ant guard for the top. Should you have a bee or ant problem, put a piece of ripe fruit nearby to lure them away from the feeders. If you still have a bee problem, switch your formula to five parts water and one part sugar. **Get your feeders out in early April before the scouts arrive.** When placing your feeders consider two things: Where you can see them and near flowers, shrubs, and trees for protection and attraction. Hummingbirds are very territorial. You might want to consider more than one feeder. **Clean the feeders every week or so with mild soap.** Rinse with bleach and again with water. **Or clean with 1 part vinegar and 4 parts water.** You may need a bottle brush. The hotter the weather, the more often you will have to clean them. Leave your feeder up through October for late migrators.

Information from: Hummingbirds. Cooperative Extension Service. University of Kentucky
Gardening for the Birds by Thomas G. Barnes

Cycling around Louisville and Windy Hills by Councilwoman Laura Trachtenberg

As an avid outdoor enthusiast, I love to hike and bike. I bicycle all around Louisville: East end, including the new bridge, West end, South end, and downtown. There are some great areas to explore all over our city and scenic Rudy Lane is a favorite route for cyclists from all over the city. I know that the pandemic has seen a huge rise in bicycling, and, for that reason, I want to share what I have learned as I cycle.



When I ride, I always follow the rules, and ALWAYS wear a helmet. The rules for bicyclists are similar for automobiles: **always ride with the traffic flow and consider oneself a vehicle.** Having said that, I always try not to impede traffic. However, if I am on a road like Rudy Lane, where there is only one lane in each direction, and there are cars approaching from both directions, I do “take the lane” (which is legal). Why do this? Because if I try to ride very close to the edge so both cars can pass at the same time, I could be in danger of being hit, or pushed off into the ditch. **Cars should pass a cyclist no closer than three feet,** in order to be safe for the cyclist.

While **riding on the sidewalk** is not permitted for anyone over the age of 13, I understand the need to do this sometimes, and I understand families doing this. **If this is necessary, a cyclist should always yield to pedestrians.**

Also, when bicycling, one always needs to be aware of cars exiting driveways. I had a very close call with some people who were crossing my driveway from the opposite direction that I was looking. When crossing driveways, either on the sidewalk or on the street, a good practice is to try to make eye contact with the driver, so they know you are there, and so they know you are passing.

Yes, I realize that not all bicyclists follow the rules, but the same thing can be said of automobile drivers. The best thing is to be courteous, of both cyclists and drivers. As a 73-year-old cyclist (and driver), I do not think I am one of those “crazy cyclists” who is going to do stupid stuff. So, in closing, I appreciate all vehicles to respect my right to be on the road as I respect all vehicles on the road.





...to Windy Hills!

We are happy to welcome new neighbors! If you are new to Windy Hills, our Community Caring **Committee has a gift for you** – a notebook of information that may be helpful to you. If you haven't received yours, **contact Councilwoman Suzanne Spencer at 502.821.8740** and arrange a contactless porch drop.

There is also a great deal of helpful information on our city website at cityofwindyhills.com. You will find information about waste services, ordinances, back issues of newsletters, snow removal, police services, maps, our tree subsidy program, Council meetings, office hours, and more.

We want to be sure you are getting our newsletters and other important mailings and e-mailings. All residents are encouraged to send your contact information to Lisa Kraft in our city office at info@cityofwindyhills.com or call 502.895.4778 between 10 and 2 on weekdays. Give us your address, preferred e-mail, and preferred phone so we can be in touch.

To sign up for the **emergency ALERT system** online at **www.reachalert.com** or by calling 1-877-307-9313. Either method takes about 5 minutes. If you sign up online, type in Windy Hills when asked what network you wish to join. You may opt out at any time.

Libraries Reopen!

With the city's COVID-19 positivity rate no longer in the Critical Zone, the Louisville Free Public Library is pleased to announce the expansion of in-person services at all locations.

Following Gov. Andy Beshear's guidelines and in consultation with Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness, **the Library will offer in-person "Grab and Go" access to library materials starting Friday, March 26.**

Patrons will be encouraged to browse and pick up library materials and check out using self-check kiosks. Building capacity will be limited to ensure social distancing, and visits will be limited to no more than 90 minutes. Masks and temperature checks are required to enter library facilities, and all patrons (age 5 and older) must properly wear a face covering at all times during their visit. The Library will have masks available for patrons who arrive without them.

Study rooms and meeting spaces are not available for use at this time. However, as it has since August, computer access, printing and free faxing services will be available at all locations.

LFPL's popular curbside pick-up of library materials will also continue. For information on LFPL's curbside service, please visit LFPL.org/curbside, or call (502) 574-1611.

For the St. Matthews Eline library, call (502) 574-1771

We look forward to welcoming you back into the Library starting March 26.



How Can We Help You?

The Windy Hills Office is usually staffed from 10 am – 2 pm by our part-time City Clerk Lisa Kraft who cheerfully responds to residents' inquiries and passes on concerns to Mayor Helen Davis or members of Council who carry particular areas of city work.

Sometimes city officials get requests with which we cannot help you. To quickly get the help you need, here are some tips.

If you experience no power, call LG&E at 502.589.3500 or text OUTAGE to 454358. Text STATUS for updates.

If you experience no water, call the Louisville Water Company at 502.583-6610.

If there is a problem with your waste services, call Ecotech at 502.935.1130. If your issue is not resolved, contact Councilman Bruce Blue at 502.593.4738.

If you have a problem with snow removal or other road issue, contact Councilman Blue at 502.593.4738. **If you are aware of potholes or other needs for road repair, please contact Councilman Blue as soon as possible so that repairs can be included in plans for upcoming road work.** Please note - Rudy Lane and Hubbard's Lane are cared for by Metro Louisville and Brownsboro Road is cared for by Kentucky State Road, so please contact those government entities about those roads.

If you have concerns about a neighbor, please talk with your neighbor about the issue to see if some resolution can be found.

Call the City of Windy Hills at 502.895.4778 or e-mail Lisa Kraft at info@cityofwindyhills.com about:

Taxes

Programs or events sponsored by the City

Windy Hills ordinance issues

Getting on the mailing and e-mail lists for city communications



If you have comments, photos, or suggestions for our newsletters, please contact editor Councilwoman Marcia Myers at newsletter@cityofwindyhills.com



City Officials and Important Links

Mayor:

Helen Davis

PHONE..... (502) 893-8238

EMAIL..... helen.davis@cityofwindyhills.com

City Council:

Bruce Blue (Public Works)

PHONE..... (502) 593-4738

EMAIL..... bruce.blue@cityofwindyhills.com

Kate Greer (W.H. Green/City Maintenance/ Newsletter co-chair/Tree Board Liaison)

PHONE..... (502) 893-2059

EMAIL..... kate.greer@cityofwindyhills.com

Marcia Myers (Newsletter co-chair/Fourth of July parade/picnic)

PHONE..... (502) 417-1687

EMAIL..... marcia.myers@cityofwindyhills.com

Marianne Rademaker (Finance/Mayor Pro tem)

PHONE..... (502) 896-1957

EMAIL..... marianne.rademaker@cityofwindyhills.com

Suzanne Spencer (Community Caring/Health- Fitness, Welcome to Windy Hills)

PHONE..... (502) 821-8740

EMAIL..... suzanne.spencer@cityofwindyhills.com

Laura Trachtenberg (Community Standards Chair/Ordinances)

PHONE..... (502) 897-7056

EMAIL..... laura.trachtenberg@cityofwindyhills.com

City Clerk:

Lisa Kraft..... (502) 895-4778

CITY FAX..... (502) 895-4757

CITY EMAIL..... info@cityofwindyhills.com

CITY WEBSITE..... www.cityofwindyhills.com

Public Works/ Code Enforcement:

Steve Teaford..... (502) 895-4778

EMAIL..... steve.teaford@cityofwindyhills.com

City Council meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 pm at Sojourn Community Church, 2501 Rudy Lane. Observers are welcome at Council Work Sessions at 10 A.M. at City Hall the Friday before the regular meeting.

Other Important Contacts

EMS..... 911

Graymoor/Devondale Police..... 327-2677

Thru Sheriff Dept. Dispatch..... 574-5471

St. Matthews Fire District..... 893-7825
(Business)

District 7 Metro Councilwoman,

Paula McCraney..... 574-1107

Metro Call..... 574-5000

or 311

Animal Control Protection..... 361-1318

Dog or Cat Complaints..... 363-6609

Health Department..... 574-6520

Jefferson County Clerk..... 574-5700

(All branches can be reached at above number)

LG&E..... 589-1444

or text OUTAGE to 454358

MSD Customer Service..... 587-0603

Planning and Design Services..... 574-6230

Recycling Center..... 896-1293

St. Matthews/Eline Library..... 574-1771

Ecotech Waste Services..... 502-935-1130



CITY OF WINDY HILLS

4350 Brownsboro Road, Suite 110

Windy Hills, Kentucky 40207

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Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.

-Aldous Huxley

Clip and Keep 

ECOTECH Waste Pick-up Schedule

Monday – Weekly Yard Waste has resumed (through November)

Tuesday – Tuesday – Recycling and Garbage Collection

Friday – Garbage Collection

Please call **502.935.1130** to schedule a large item or report a problem.

Check www.ecotechky.com for holiday or weather emergency changes.

Ecotech observes New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Pickup is adjusted 1 day late when necessary due to the holiday.

The City of Windy Hills Council voted on February 8, 2021, to renew our waste services contract with Ecotech for two more years (July 2021 – June 2023). Residents can continue to expect the current services for that period.