

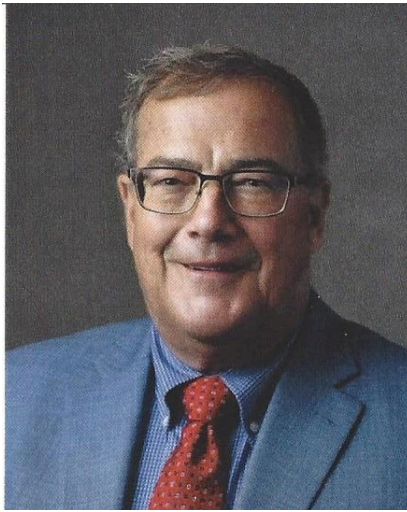


# Windy Hills

March 2025

A City of Historic Homes

[www.cityofwindyhills.com](http://www.cityofwindyhills.com)



Good riddance, February! You brought us frigid temperatures, broken water lines, and tons of snow and ice, enough to destroy the snow removal budget. We had put \$40,000 in the budget for snow removal, thinking that would be sufficient since we had not spent more than \$25,000 in the previous two years. We are currently approaching \$70,000 in expenses. Nonetheless, this was money well spent. We only had two streetlights knocked askew by wayward cars, no injuries, and our roads were clear enough to allow residents to get to their jobs and doctor appointments. Hopefully, March will treat us better.

Our Metro Councilwoman, Paula McCraney, has invited us to host Shakespeare on the Green again this year. Of the dates and times offered, we have chosen Wednesday, May 14th, at 6:30 p.m. Please mark your calendars. We will offer free Haywood's Ice Cream for all who attend. Plan to come early and bring your lawn chairs and blankets.

Finally, I hate to mention the following, but I feel obligated to do so, even though it may create a firestorm. If I had not made this information known, I would effectively be making the decision not to pursue what some may feel is an opportunity. The resident who owns the property next to the Green is thinking of selling the property and, as her family has lived in Windy Hills for decades, may be willing to sell it to the city. In the Windy Hills survey, numerous residents expressed a desire to have a gathering place and a community center for meetings, educational events, etc. The property could also provide more parking for the Green, which would be vital if we started having more social events there. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and will determine once and for all whether Green remains a passive park or a more active green space. Numerous things would need to be considered and addressed – deed restrictions, zoning, finances, etc. – and none have been pursued. Please share your thoughts on whether the City Council and I should explore this opportunity. If there is a significant interest, we will research the pros and cons and schedule a series of town hall meetings for public discussion. Again, this is probably one of those once-in-a-lifetime opportunities, but so were Seward's Folly (Alaska purchase) and the maiden voyage aboard the Titanic, each with different outcomes. Please send me an email at [mayor@cityofwindyhills.com](mailto:mayor@cityofwindyhills.com) with your thoughts. Please, no phone calls or voicemails since they would be difficult to track and tally. Also, please be kind to the messenger if possible (smile).

As always, thank you for allowing me to be your mayor!

John L. Roberts, MD  
Mayor, Windy Hills

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*Photo by Bryan Carter*



## Meet Your Neighbors

### The Wise Family



The Wise family has called Windy Hills home for over eight years, settling in November 2016. Before making Windy Hills their home, they lived in their two-bedroom starter house in St. Matthews. With a growing family, they found Windy Hills the perfect place to plant their roots.

Ashley stays home to care for their three children, while Zachary runs Wise HVAC, a family-owned business he operates alongside his father and brothers. Their days are filled with the joys and challenges of raising little ones, balancing work, and enjoying the special moments in between.

When it comes to family time, they make the most of every season. In the summer, you'll find them at their "home away from home"—Patoka Lake—soaking up time together on the water. When the temperatures drop, they focus on house projects and cheering on their two oldest daughters as they compete in sports. One of the things they love most about living in Windy Hills is its natural beauty. The lush greenery and tree-lined streets make the neighborhood feel like a hidden retreat, especially when everything is in full bloom. The walkability of Windy Hills is something they truly appreciate, making it easy to stroll to favorite spots like Sojourn for Bible study, Shady

Lane Café or Noosh Nosh for lunch, and even the post office at Brownsboro Hardware. Walking has become part of their routine, whether it's heading to ballet class at the Louisville Academy of Fine Art with their middle daughter or simply enjoying a friendly wave from neighbors while doing "the loop." For the Wise family, Windy Hills isn't just a place to live—it's a community they're grateful to be part of, filled with friendly faces, beautiful surroundings, and cherished traditions.



# Oak Wilt Disease



A devastating oak tree disease has been confirmed in Jefferson County. Last summer, Purdue University lab tests confirmed a case of oak wilt disease in the Fern Creek area. Additionally, there was at least one other suspected case in Windy Hills, though this was not confirmed by lab testing. While oak wilt is known to be present in Southern Indiana, its presence in Jefferson County raises concerns for local tree health. Residents should stay informed and take precautions to protect their oak trees.

Oak wilt disease is fatal to red and black Oak trees, including Red, Black, Pin, and Shingle Oaks. Oaks in the White and Bur Oak species are much less susceptible to Oak wilt.

Trees are infected in early summer. The first symptoms of oak wilt occur in the upper portions of trees. Leaves on infected trees develop bronze or dull tan tissue that begins at the leaf tips and progresses toward the leaf base, which can remain green. A dark margin may border the separation between bronze and green tissue.

Infected trees may start losing leaves any time after symptoms first appear. By late summer, they may be bare of leaves. As the disease progresses, rapid wilt and tree death occur by late summer. There is no cure for infected trees.

Oak wilt is caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis Fagacearum*. Once inside the tree, the fungus permeates the vascular system and plugs the tree's water-conducting vessels. The disruption of the flow of water and nutrients causes the tree to wilt, drop leaves, and die. Sap-feeding beetles and root grafts spread the fungus. Beetles feed on diseased trees and spread it to healthy trees. The disease can also be spread by moving oak wood infested with the beetles.

Root grafts can spread the disease when a diseased tree's roots connect to a healthy tree's roots. Trees as much as fifty feet apart can share root systems, but trees from different oak species generally do not.

The only way to ensure your tree has oak wilt is to have a certified Arborist inspect the tree and take samples for lab testing. Samples can include leaves and branch sections sent to an extension service lab. Technicians will look for active fungal mats and streaking that indicate a clogged vascular system. There may be costs associated with sample collection and testing.

There is no cure for oak wilt disease. Infected trees should be removed promptly, and the stumps should be ground out. Wood from infected trees should not be transported to other areas for firewood use.

Healthy trees can be protected, and the disease impact can be minimized by:

- Prevent wounds. Fresh wounds attract the beetles that may carry the fungus.
- Prune oak trees in the winter when insect activity is minimal.
- Keep your tree as stress-free as possible by regularly watering when we don't get soaking rain each week. Install mulch around the tree's base to prevent mowers and weed eaters from damaging the tree trunk or the root system.
- Fertilize your tree with a good-quality root stimulant. This will provide extra nutrients to help the tree fight disease and insects.



## Oak Wilt Disease (continued)

- Prevent and/or disrupt root grafting. A Certified Arborist can provide this service.
- Fungicides can be injected into the tree annually as a preventive measure. However, once the tree starts to show signs of disease, this is not a viable option.

It is important to note that many other things may cause symptoms similar to Oak wilt disease, such as lightning strikes, soil compaction, grade changes, drought, root decay, and other insects. If you suspect your tree might have a problem, please call a professional certified Arborist for an inspection.

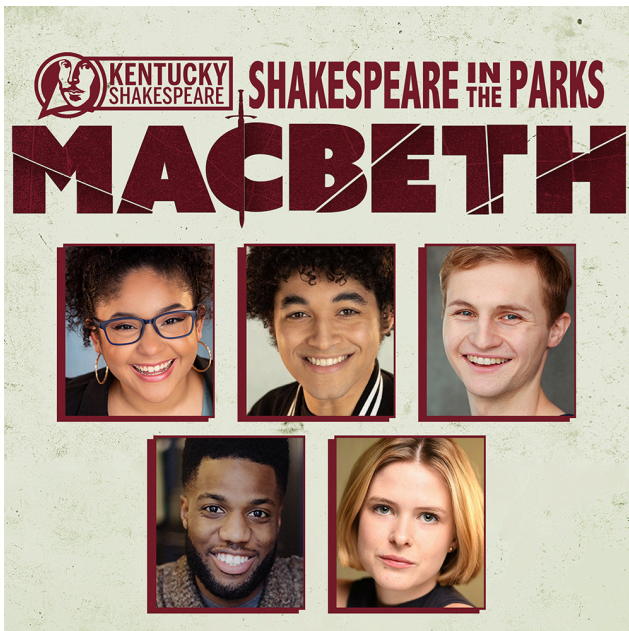
Written by:

Caroline Westfall ISA Certified Arborist

(This information was gathered from the Purdue University Extension publication #BP-28-W)



## Shakespeare on The Green



Thanks to District 7 Councilwoman Paula McCraney for sponsoring Shakespeare In The Parks on The Green Wednesday, May 14, at 6:30 pm.

We will offer free Haywood's Ice Cream for all who attend, so come early, bring a lawn chair or blanket, and enjoy this free event! Watch for more details.

A city-wide message will be sent that morning if the event must move because of inclement weather.

For more information on what is happening in District 7, connect with Councilwoman McCraney on Facebook and Twitter @PaulaMcCraneyD7 or visit her page at LouisvilleKy.gov to sign up for her weekly newsletter.

## Continuing Road Construction



Yes, it's still happening. We can't avoid it. Scan the QR card for more information about the current and upcoming road construction in our area and to learn more about:

- Reconstruction of the I-264/US 42 (Brownsboro Road) interchange
- Improvements to I-264 between Westport Road and I-71 interchanges
- Widening of I-264 to provide three basic through lanes in each direction and auxiliary lanes between interchanges
- Two-lane ramps will be added from I-264 eastbound to I-71 northbound and I-264 westbound off-ramp to Westport Road
- A two-lane on-ramp will be added at U.S. 42 to I-264 westbound



# Windy Hills Recognized as a 2024 Tree City USA



**TREE CITY USA®**

An Arbor Day Foundation Program

The Arbor Day Foundation has named Windy Hills a 2024 Tree City USA, honoring our community's dedication to planting, growing, and maintaining trees for the benefit of residents and the environment. This recognition reflects our commitment to sustainability, urban forestry, and enhancing the beauty and livability of our city.

With more than one million supporters and partners, the Arbor Day Foundation has helped plant over 500 million trees worldwide since 1972. The Tree City USA program, which has been recognizing cities and towns for over 40 years, highlights communities that prioritize urban forestry to

improve air quality, public health, and resilience to climate challenges.

"We all have a role to play in shaping our future, and tree champions like Windy Hills are leading the way," said Michelle Saulnier, Vice President of Programs at the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees are critical infrastructure, building resiliency, and fostering good health in our nation's cities. We're proud to welcome Windy Hills into our growing network of communities dedicated to creating a positive impact through trees."

Trees offer significant benefits, including reducing the urban heat island effect, improving stormwater management, increasing property values, and boosting mental and physical well-being. By prioritizing tree stewardship, Windy Hills not only enhances its natural beauty but also invests in a healthier, more sustainable future for its residents.

To qualify as a Tree City USA, a city must meet four core standards:

- Maintain a tree board or department
- Have a community tree ordinance
- Spend at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry
- Host an annual Arbor Day celebration

This recognition places Windy Hills among more than 3,500 communities nationwide working to create and maintain green spaces. The Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service, continues to support these efforts.

As we celebrate this achievement, we encourage residents to take an active role in preserving and expanding our urban tree canopy. Whether through community projects, planting initiatives, or simply caring for the trees around us, we can all contribute to making Windy Hills an even greener and more vibrant place to live.

For more information on the Tree City USA program and how to get involved, visit [arborday.org](http://arborday.org).

## City Council Meeting Schedule

City Council meetings are held monthly at 7:00 pm at Sojourn Church East, 2501 Rudy Lane.

These meetings are open to the public.

Any interested person is invited to attend.

<b>April 14, 2025</b>	<b>October 13, 2025</b>
<b>May 12, 2025</b>	<b>November 10, 2025</b>
<b>June 9, 2025</b>	<b>December 8, 2025</b>
<b>July 14, 2025</b>	<b>January 12, 2026</b>
<b>August 11, 2025</b>	<b>February 9, 2026</b>
<b>September 8, 2025</b>	<b>March 9, 2026</b>

Observers are also welcome at Council Work Sessions, which are held at 10:00 a.m. on the Friday before the City Council meeting at City Hall.



messages are dispatched as needed.

Stay informed by registering for the free Windy Hills Reach Alert messaging. It only takes one minute to register, and



**Tree Board Meeting**  
**March 19, 7:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall,**  
**Conference Room**





# Councilwoman Rademaker Retires from City Council

After 18 years as a Windy Hills Councilwoman, Marianne Rademaker decided it was time to retire from her second career. She was also a Jefferson County Public School Teacher for 30 years. While teaching, Marianne was active on the Jefferson County Teachers Association and was a KEA board member. This experience taught her how to run a meeting, get along with other people, and the art of compromise. These qualities made it easy for former Mayor Helen Davis to appoint her as Mayor ProTem of Windy Hills and chairperson of the ARPA committee, which used the money to build our new path on the Green.

Marianne served under four different mayors. During her terms on the Council, Windy Hills installed new sidewalks and signature entrances, purchased the Green, and created more Windy Hills social events. Marianne had three principles that steered her decisions: fiscal responsibility (keeping taxes low), treating every Windy Hills resident equally, and enforcing City ordinances.

Marianne and her husband, Charlie, moved to Windy Hills in 2001. Sadly, her husband passed away in 2011. Marianne has two sons and seven grandchildren. She

loves to sing as part of her church choir and participated in the Second Act Singers, who entertained in nursing homes. She is an expert in home improvement, making all her window treatments, refinishing furniture, and painting her house.

Marianne enjoyed serving on the Council and interacting with the Mayors, Council Members, and Windy Hills residents. Her contributions have helped to make Windy Hills such a wonderful, friendly, compassionate community. Marianne was honored to serve us, and Windy Hills has been fortunate to have such a dedicated, passionate servant leader for eighteen years. She will be missed!



## Explore Louisville's Best Hiking Trails, and Outdoor Adventures

Looking to hit the trails in Louisville? Whether you're a seasoned hiker, a casual walker, or just looking for a scenic spot to enjoy nature, Louisville has plenty of options. With 62 trails to explore, there's something for everyone—from easy strolls to more adventurous routes.

Looking for a family-friendly hike? There are 43 easy trails perfect for all ages. Want a little history with your workout? Some trails feature historic sites that add an extra layer of interest to your outdoor adventure. Prefer to immerse yourself in nature? The wooded paths and riverfront views surrounding Louisville make for a refreshing escape.

No matter your skill level or outdoor activity of choice—hiking, biking, or trail running—there's a trail waiting for you. For detailed trail maps, reviews, and photos from fellow outdoor enthusiasts, check out AllTrails.com, where you can find the best routes to fit your next adventure.





# Spring Cleaning: Refresh Your Home & Recycle Responsibly



As the days grow longer and the chill of winter fades, spring brings the perfect opportunity to refresh your home. Spring cleaning isn't just about dusting and scrubbing—it's a chance to declutter, reorganize, and create a more peaceful living space. A clean and tidy home can boost your mood, improve productivity, and even reduce stress.

A great place to start is by decluttering. Many people hold onto items they no longer need, thinking they might use them "someday." A good rule of thumb is to ask yourself: Have I used this in the last year? If not, it may be time to let it go. Clothing, books, kitchen gadgets, and household items that are still in good

condition can be donated to local charities or thrift stores, where they can find a second life with someone who truly needs them.

Spring is also an ideal time to tackle hidden dust and grime that accumulate over the winter months. Wipe down baseboards, clean out air vents, and don't forget often-overlooked areas like ceiling fan blades and light fixtures. Washing windows inside and out can brighten up your home by letting in more natural light, instantly making your space feel fresher.

Beyond traditional cleaning, it's important to dispose of unwanted items responsibly. Old electronics, batteries, and household chemicals should never be tossed in the regular trash. Many local recycling centers offer drop-off days for hazardous waste or special collections for outdated technology. Shredding and recycling old paperwork can help prevent identity theft while clearing up space in your home office.

Spring cleaning isn't just about what you remove from your home—it's also about creating a space that feels fresh and inviting. Adding a few green plants, rearranging furniture, or simply opening the windows to let in fresh air can make a big difference in how your home feels. A deep clean now will set the tone for the rest of the year, making it easier to maintain a tidy and organized space.

So, as the season of renewal begins, take some time to reset your home and embrace the fresh start that spring brings. Happy cleaning!

## Land Development Code Reform

### Zoning Matters: Conversation with a City Planner (2025)

The LDC Reform is an equity-focused approach to revise the LDC consistently with Plan 2040 to allow for an increase in housing choices and opportunities in new and existing neighborhoods, to create procedures and regulations that are easier to use, and to increase the quality of life by reducing the concentration of environmental hazards near housing.

City Planners from Louisville's Metro's Office of Planning will be available to answer questions about zoning (What Is zoning? Why does it matter?) and discuss the ongoing LDC Reform, project including Middle Housing. We want to hear about your neighborhood and discuss what the reform means for you.

LIBRARY BRANCH	DATE
Shively	Tuesday, March 4
Crescent Hill	Tuesday, March 18
Parkland	Tuesday, April 1
Northeast Regional	Tuesday, April 15
Fairdale	Tuesday, May 6
Main Library	Tuesday, May 20
Shawnee	Tuesday, June 3

*All meetings will take place from 3-7:00 p.m.  
See website for additional meeting dates.*

To learn more about the reform please scan the QR code to visit the website:





**City of Windy Hills**  
4350 Brownsboro Road  
Suite 110  
Louisville, KY 40207

**Emergency - Fire, Police, EMS**  
**Dial 911**

**Mayor John Roberts**  
502.548.4412  
mayor@cityofwindyhills.com

**Councilwoman Helen Davis**  
502.893.8238  
helen.davis@cityofwindyhills.com

**Councilwoman Kate Greer**  
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kate.greer@cityofwindyhills.com

**Councilman Paul Morris**  
502.705.6049  
paul.morris@cityofwindyhills.com

**Councilwoman Suzanne Spencer**  
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**Councilman Steve Teaford**  
502.523.0153  
steve.teaford@cityofwindyhills.com

**Councilwoman Julie Theiler**  
502.836.1722  
julie.theiler@cityofwindyhills.com

**City Clerk/Treasurer**  
**Christine Haner**  
502.895.4778  
info@cityofwindyhills.com

**Public Works/Code Enforcement**  
code.enforcement@  
cityofwindyhills.com

**City Hall**  
502.895.4778  
info@cityofwindyhills.com  
www.cityofwindyhills.com

**District 7 Councilwoman**  
**Paula McCraney**  
502.574.1107

**Metropolitan Sewer District**  
502.540.6000

**Trash/Recycle**  
**Rumpke**  
800.828.8171 Ext. 8757  
www.rumpke.com

**Police Department**  
(non-emergency)  
502.425.5862

**Louisville Gas & Electric**  
502.589.1444

**Louisville Water Company**  
502.583.6610

**Recycling Drop-Off**  
(Hubbards Lane)  
502.574.5810

**Reach Alert**  
877.307.9313  
www.reachalert.com