

April 2016

A City of Historic Homes

www.cityofwindyhills.com

From The Desk Of Mayor Jim

Happy 2016 to all the residents of Windy Hills – the BEST suburban city of the 82 small cities in METRO.

Last year was an excellent year for Windy Hills. Some of our accomplishments were:

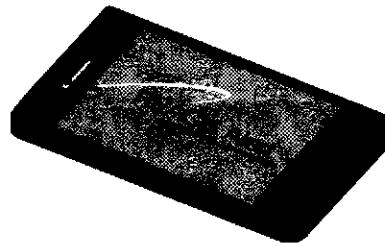
- Property tax discount increased to 40% from 30%.
- The City continues to operate efficiently and effectively with fiscal responsibility - ending fiscal and calendar years with a surplus.
- Increased participation in community events like 4th of July Celebration, Glow on the Green, Ice Cream Social, etc..
- New holiday decorations for The Green and throughout the City.
- Federal Street Sign Reflectivity Program implemented, replacing old stop signs.
- City beautification with additional trees planted on The Green and right-of-ways.
- Introduction of the Reach Alert communication system.
- 31 year resident, **Steve Teaford**, is our Code Enforcement Officer and is doing an excellent and professional job.
- Your hard working and dedicated City Officials represent you with a diversity of city needs and perspectives, but appreciate the need to work together. To that end, we held team building exercises to help accomplish our many successful efforts.
- City Officials have established goals for 2016 and are anxious to successfully implement.
- THANKS TO THE MANY VOLUNTEERS that have contributed to the success and pride we all share in Windy Hills. We are fortunate to have volunteers that support programs like: The Tree Board; Community Caring Team; and our many community events and activities, etc..
- Once again, The Arbor Day Foundation named Windy Hills a Tree City USA city.
- As Treasurer and Board Member of the Jefferson County League of Cities, I am proud to report that this organization also represents Windy Hills and all the many suburban cities in our unique efforts to provide exceptional services to our residents. Leadership and cooperation like the recent effort to bring fast internet service to the entire METRO area is just one example of our work.

NEW ART EXHIBITS

The Kentucky Water Color Society is featuring two new exhibits in the near future. A water-based media exhibit, AquaVenture 2016 will be displayed throughout the month of April. It is an annual regional competitive exhibit. "Spring in the Blue Grass" will be exhibited during the months of May and June. The gallery is in the Brownsboro Center Arcade in the Brownsboro Shopping Center. The viewing times are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11-4 and Saturday from 11-3.

Sign Up For "Reach Alert"!

In Windy Hills you can "Walk The Loop" but we don't want you to be "Out of the Loop". Signing up for Reach Alert, the City's instant communication system, takes only a few minutes and is free. Through Reach Alert, residents are made aware of emergency situations or unsafe conditions, as well as community service notifications if requested. Alerts might be appropriate when a holiday affects the date of trash pickup, when extreme weather conditions threaten your safety or force cancellations, or as



reminders of City events... lighting the Christmas tree, ice cream socials, Fourth of July parade and celebration, and Arbor Day, are just a few. We've already sent one out about a missing pet. Notification options include text, email,

and/or phone. The City does not expect to send out messages daily, weekly, or monthly, but only as situations dictate.

Sign up 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. If you have any issues with internet sign up just call the toll free number for a hassle free experience. Remember, you can always opt out at any time but we don't think you will. Thanks and make sure you get "In The Loop" with Reach Alert.

Tree Board To Hold Windy Hills Arbor Day



The Windy Hills Tree Board has scheduled its Windy Hills Arbor Day on Sunday, April 17, on Windy Hills Green. There will be a pruning demonstration by a certified arborist. Homeowners can utilize this information in pruning their own trees and shrubs. The time will be from 3:00-4:30. Refreshments will be served.

The Board has planted 12 trees on the rights-of-way on Indian Ridge, Kitty Hawk, Bonfire, and Rudy Lane. The Board toured the City and determined that certain areas were in dire need of canopy trees. Letters were sent to homeowners asking if a tree were planted in the right-of-way of their property, would they care for it. The Board will locate other areas that could use canopy trees for future plantings.

2016 Code Enforcement Update

Dear Residents:

In our continuing efforts to keep our city beautiful, and to be fair and consistent to all, please review the following items which will help us accomplish that goal in the upcoming year.

Parking of Motor Vehicles, Boats, Trailers, or Other Occasional Use Vehicles

- Overnight parking is not permitted on any city street or cul-de-sac between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. *Because of recent safety considerations this Ordinance will be strictly enforced in 2016.*
- No motor vehicle (everyday or occasionally) may be parked on any unpaved area.
- Trailers, Boats, Campers and other Occasional Use Vehicles may not be stored in driveways, where they extend beyond the front line of the home.
- Illegal Parking - abandoned, inoperable, or unlicensed vehicles are not allowed in the City, unless stored in a garage.
- Parking in the wrong direction on city streets is not permitted at any time.

Signs

- Realtor signs are only allowed in the yard of the home for sale and must be placed behind the right of way (generally 12 feet back from street or home side of the sidewalk) Directional signs to the property are not allowed on any street. Our city does have City approved signs for this purpose. All signs must be removed day of closing. Please advise your realtor.
 - Commercial advertising signs may not be placed at your property before the work begins and must be removed the day the work is complete.
- Personal event signs (yard sales, auctions) are allowed on a limited basis. They may be placed no more than 24 hours before your event and must be removed immediately at event conclusion. Personal "Children at Play" signs do not conform to Kentucky law and are not permitted in the City.

Garbage; Trash Pick-Up

- *Garbage/Yard waste may not be placed on the*

street prior to noon the day before the assigned date for the disposal.

- Cans and containers must be removed from the street before 7:00 p.m. on the day of collection. Tree trimmings and branches must be tied in bundles not over 4 feet in length. Other yard waste must be stored in cans or biodegradable paper bags. Plastic bags are no longer usable.
- Items too heavy or cans filled beyond the capacity of our contractor to lift on the truck will not be taken. Please be mindful of unusually heavy items, which may require special pick up arrangements. Please call 1-866-237-7019, ask for account #169216991, if you have questionable items. (These items may require an extra charge.)

Building; Remodel; Home Maintenance

- Windy Hills complies with Building Code Permit requirements of Louisville Metro Government. If you are doing construction on your own, or by contractor, if a permit is required, please post in plain sight on your property, for inspection. Permits should be obtained before construction begins. (Questions call Metro Governments/Construction Review, 502-574-3321).
- Dumpsters and storage pods should be placed to the rear of property where possible and may not be on site longer than 30 days without special Metro permit.
- Unused building materials, building waste, and appliances should be stored in the rear of property and must be removed promptly when construction is complete. (Used or waste building materials will not be picked up by our contractor.)
- Grass may not be allowed to grow higher than 7 inches.
- For the beauty of our city and your neighbors, we ask that you be mindful to timely and proper maintenance of bushes, shrubs, and trees on your property.

Thank you for your attention and understanding of these important matters to keep our city beautiful for all!

— Windy Hills City Council

Street Sign & Street Light Posts

As the weather warms we will be surveying the condition of our street sign and street light posts to determine if they need repainting or other work. A cursory inspection reveals that all signs that are taped on a post may not be taken down and if they are, the mastic/cement on the tape does not come off with the tape. This does leave some poles unsightly even when the original finish has not been damaged.

We realize residents would like to get emergency issues, lost pets, etc. out as soon as possible and this is the reason we have subscribed to the "Reach Alert Instant Mass Communication System" that is available to all residents. It is necessary to register and our goal is 100% participation. All of this was explained in our December 2015 newsletter. To register call Reach Alert at (877) 307-9313 or call City Hall at (502) 895-4778 for questions or assistance.

This is the quickest way to get your issue or problem out to as many people as possible. In the final analysis what we are asking is that you NOT post notices on our street sign and street light posts but use Reach Alert instead.

Troop 317 Flower & Mulch Sale

Help scouts pay their own way to scouting events and summer camp!

Orders taken now through April 16.

Mulch pick up or deliveries (for order => 20 bags) weekly, beginning Saturday, March 19.

Flower pick up on Saturday, April 23 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Christ Methodist Church. Order online at:

<https://fs10.formsite.com/Troop317/form3/index.html>
or call, 502-893-2201 x317 and leave a message. *Thank you!*

Windy Hills Garden Club Plant Sale

The Windy Hills Garden Club will have its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 28.

The event will be held at 2514 Windy Way. The hours are 8:00 until Noon. The Club meets on the third Monday of each month (excluding December) at 7:00 p.m. at the Commonwealth Bank on Hubbards Lane. If you are interested in joining, contact **Marianne Rademaker** at 896-1957.



Windy Hills Green

Some of you may know the history of this property but it became an issue starting in 1997 which is 19 years ago. There have been many new residents since then and we thought it might be good to review the history.

The two properties, 4748 and 4750 Brownsboro Road at the corner of Rudy Lane that constitute the Windy Hills Green were originally part of the J. Paul Keith Property. In the late 1940's or early 1950's Judge Keith sold eight large lots, seven fronting on Rudy Lane and one fronting on Brownsboro Road.

The house at 4750 Brownsboro Road was known as the Westerman Property and it is believed this lot was split and 4748 to the west of 4750 was sold to the Osborne family. There were then two houses facing Brownsboro. The homes on these suburban properties at that time were large, one-story on large lots which were typical of the era. The Westerman house had an in-ground pool and a tennis court and this was a lovely area for 40-50 years.

In 1997 both properties were sold to a developer who wanted to erect 20 free standing condos on the approximately 4 acres of land. An ad hoc organization was formed to oppose this development based on traffic congestion and the density of the proposed development. The ad hoc group mobilized the surrounding area and there were public meetings at which 300 or more people attended.

Law suits were filed by both sides with the City supporting the opposition to the development. The opposition relied on the original deed restrictions which called for one house on each 1 3/4 acre lot. The deed restrictions prevailed through the courts process and the properties could not be developed.

The development group had invested a large sum of money in purchasing the property. In trying to break the deed restriction and being unsuccessful, the property could not be developed as planned. The homes on the property were sometimes rented but eventually became vacant and fell into disrepair. Because of these problems the developer razed both houses.

The developer offered the property to the City for \$1.5 million which the City could not justify. Subsequently the City was then offered the property for \$400,000 by the Morgantown Bank and Trust, Morgantown, Kentucky. The City bought the property and then struggled with what to do with it. It was a lengthy process with residents' meetings and surveys after which the Council decided on a passive park. A landscape architect developed two plans one of which was chosen. An arborist was hired and trees and bushes have and continue to be planted according to the plan.

An anonymous donor offered a \$5,000 matching gifts grant and through the program the City raised about \$20,000 which is being used for benches, trees and bushes. A total of 48 trees have been planted on the Green - 28 of which were sponsored by individuals/organizations and dedicated to various causes all of which are identified with plaques. Twenty trees are still available for sponsorship. There were sponsors for the six benches that are installed, all of which are identified with plaques.

The Green is a beautiful vista for which the City receives many compliments. It appears to be a large open space because most of the trees that have been planted are relatively small. We have suspended new plantings until the new trees develop some size so the full effect of what has been planted is more apparent.

Plant Trees That Provide Food For Birds



Birds that don't migrate south for the winter, i.e. woodpeckers, robins, mockingbirds, cat birds, chickadees, titmice, and finches, need a boost from berries. Some trees and shrubs that you might consider planting are listed below:

- Hollies: Both evergreen and deciduous varieties. One deciduous holly is Winterberry. Be sure to plant one male among the females to get berries. Evergreen hollies such as American, Foster, and Inkberry (the latter is more of a tall shrub) not only provide food but also offer protection from the elements.
- Native viburnums are excellent berry providers. Consider Possumhaw. Its berries change from chartreuse to dark blue. Blackhaw, Cranberry Bush, and Nanny Berry are also good varieties.
- If you don't mind thorns, consider planting a Hawthorn or Glossy Hawthorn. At maturity they reach 20-30 feet and have good fall color. The thorns will provide secure nesting sites; the berries good winter food.

Zika Virus

The Zika virus has recently been confirmed in the United States. Should we be concerned? Can we do anything to protect ourselves? What we know according to the CDC:

- Zika virus is known to be spread through the bite of the Aedes species of mosquito. Although this species is found in the U.S., currently all cases associated with infection occurred while traveling outside the U.S.
- Zika virus is currently found in Africa, Southeast Asia, Pacific Islands and Brazil.
- Recently, 94 cases have been reported in the U.S. with the majority in Florida, Texas and New York.
- Zika symptoms are fever, rash, joint pain and red eyes and usually last up to a week.
- There have been reports of Zika virus transmission through sexual contact.
- Zika virus can be transmitted from mother to fetus. In other countries, there has been an increasing number of babies born with microcephaly (birth defects of the brain). However, the exact link between Zika virus and microcephaly has not yet been proven.

What we can do to prevent the Zika virus:

- Cover skin with long sleeves and pants when mosquitoes will be biting.
- The CDC recommends using EPA approved insect repellents that provide longer-lasting protection such as those with the active ingredient DEET. Some DEET containing products include: OFF! Deep Woods Sportsmen; Cutter Advanced Outdoorsman; Cutter Insect Repellent; Repel 100.
- Oil of lemon eucalyptus is another active ingredient found in some products approved by the EPA.
- Always follow precautions when using repellents. If used as directed, EPA registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breast feeding women.

- Victoria Bond, PharmD, RPh



CITY OF WINDY HILLS
 4350 Brownsboro Road, Suite 110
 Windy Hills, Kentucky 40207

City Officials & Council Members

Mayor:

Jim Ising
 PHONE.....897-3689
 EMAIL.....jimising3@aol.com

City Council:

Helen Davis (Finance/Ordinance)
 PHONE..... 893-8238
 EMAIL..... helen.davis@kctcs.edu
Kate Greer (Newsletter; Social Events; Tree Board)
 PHONE.....893-2059
 EMAIL.....katekgreer@gmail.com
Louis A. Phillips (Public Works)
 CELL.....468-4629
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Marianne Rademaker
(Police Liaison/Real Estate Signs)
 PHONE.....896-1957
 EMAIL..... marianne.rademaker@gmail.com
Mike Skelton (W.H. Green/City Beautification)
 PHONE 895-6000
 EMAIL.....jmichaelskelton@aol.com
Suzanne Spencer (Health & Fitness; Community Caring; Welcome To Windy Hills)
 PHONE 721-8740
 EMAIL..... smsdesigner@bellsouth.net

City Clerk:

Sandy Moore.....895-4778
 CITY FAX.....895-4757

Public Works/ Code Enforcement:

Steve Teaford.....895-4778

City Attorney:

James Hodge.....587-3064
 FAX584-3091

City Email: info@cityofwindyhills.com
 City Website: www.cityofwindyhills.com

City Council meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 pm at Calvin Presbyterian Church, 2501 Rudy Lane.

Emergency – Fire – Police

EMS..... 911
Graymoor/Devondale Police327-2677
Thru Sheriff Dept. Dispatch 574-5471
St. Matthews Fire District .. 893-7825
(Business)

District 7 Metro Councilwoman,
Angela Leet 574-1107
Metro Call.....574-5000
 or311

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
(To report street light outages)

MSD Customer Service.....587-0603
Planning and Design Services574-6230
Recycling Center896-1293
St. Matthews/Eline Library.....574-1771
Waste Management.....1-866-237-7019
Give this account # 169216991

Windy Hills Tree Subsidy Program Expanded

Are you aware of the opportunity for you to have financial help from the City? Homeowners are eligible to purchase up to 2 trees (not shrubs) under the program. There are now three nurseries involved: the Plant Kingdom, Frank Otte's on Bardstown Road, and Wallitsch Nursery.



Here's how it works: the homeowner selects a tree(s) at the nursery. The nursery will give him/her a 20% discount on the tree(s). The nursery must plant the tree(s) in order to get a year's guarantee. The homeowner pays the nursery directly, signs an agreement to take care of the tree and submits this agreement and a copy of the invoice to the City. The nursery must email the invoice marked paid in full to the City of Windy Hills. The City then writes the homeowner a \$100 rebate check per tree.

Dog Waste Problem Persists

The City is still faced with the problem of irresponsible dog owners who refuse to pick up after their pets. Some actually pick up the droppings in a bag but leave the bag on the ground. A suggestion is to take several bags with you. Those actually used can be placed in one of the extra bags to be taken back to your home or deposited in one of the 3 trash cans that the City has installed throughout Windy Hills. Please be a good citizen. These droppings are hazardous to your health and unsightly.