

the ANCHOR AGE



Incorporated 1878

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The Honorable W. Thomas Hewitt
Mayor of Anchorage



April 2015



FROM THE FORESTRY BOARD

The Anchorage Forestry Board thanks everyone who participated in this year's Arbor Day Program. Andrew Berry, Forest Manager at the Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest gave an informative presentation on the Bernheim Forest and Anchorage connection. Together with the Spring Tree Give-Away event on Sunday, March 29th, the Forestry Board will distribute 175 free trees this year to residents for their Anchorage properties.

Caring for Young Trees

Remember to regularly give your newly planted trees a good soaking. The root system of fledgling trees is still undeveloped, so their watering needs are much greater than established plantings. Tree Gators are available at City Hall for \$20 to assist you this summer when the weather gets dry. Tree guards to protect young trees against deer and rabbits are also available for \$3 each.

ANCHORAGE AGAIN NAMED TREE CITY USA[®] COMMUNITY

For the 26th consecutive year, Anchorage has earned this national honor from the Arbor Day Foundation for its commitment to urban forestry. Not only has Anchorage taken the time to meet the four standards of becoming a Tree City USA[®] Community, its residents recognize that trees:

- Filter the air we breathe by removing dust and other particles;
- Moderate climate, conserve water, and provide habitat for wildlife;
- Reduce the heat island effect caused by pavement and buildings;
- Reduce energy use and increase property values.

The Tree City USA[®] program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the ISDA Forest Service.



IT'S TIME FOR A TRIM

LG&E will be in the City of Anchorage this summer for its regular trim cycle and removal of hazardous trees in its electrical easements. The purpose is to be proactive and remove branches before they cause a power outage. All trees along power lines will be assessed and trimmed if needed. The City's forester

will meet with LG&E representatives to evaluate and to maintain, as much as possible, Anchorage's beautiful tree canopy while providing the best and most reliable electric service to homeowners.

Forestry Board Educational Series

by City Forester Andrea Hanlon
8:45 a.m. at Anchorage City Hall

Anchorage residents are invited to attend.

Monday, April 6 – Tree Trimming Part I

How to make a proper pruning cut,
and pruning shade trees

Monday, May 4 – Tree Trimming Part II

Pruning flowering trees; Demonstration

PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPORTANCE INSERT ENCLOSED

Notice of Public Hearing – 2015 Proposed Tax Rate
April 13, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at Anchorage City Hall



DO YOU HAVE AOL EMAIL?

Recently, due to security changes at AOL, group email from the City has been bounced back (returned as not delivered) to our third-party provider. Last week 93 residents with AOL email addresses never received messages sent out by City Hall. If you are on the City's email distribution list and use AOL, the City suggests a couple steps you can take that may possibly eliminate this problem.

First, add the City as a contact. List City of Anchorage Kentucky as the name and use the email address mailer_response@emailcounts.com.

Second, go to your AOL account settings and make sure you do not have a block set for incoming mail.

If you have an alternate email address that the City can use (ie., gmail, yahoo, twc, bellsouth, etc.), please send a message to sandra.kunzler@cityofanchorage.org and Sandi will add that address to the distribution list. The City apologizes for the inconvenience.

If any of our tech-savvy residents know of a different solution, please contact City Hall and we will share the information in next month's newsletter.

CULVERTS AND DRAINAGE



Spring is a good time to remind residents about the importance of keeping their drainage channels clear. It's the responsibility of the property owner to keep driveway culverts open and free-flowing, and to replace collapsed drainage pipes. Culverts and pipes often become clogged with leaves and debris over winter. Unless you've

checked them recently and cleared them of debris, water back-ups can occur and create flooding problems.

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If you were unable to register your child on March 3rd, please stop by the Anchorage School office between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Your child must turn 5 years old by October 1, 2015 to be eligible to enroll. Parents will need to bring the following items to register their child:

- Proof of residency (utility bill – water or electric)
- Child's birth certificate
- Parent's driver's license

If you have questions regarding Kindergarten registration, contact Terri Fisher at terri.fisher@anchorage.kyschools.us.

TORNADO SEASON

Tornados strike suddenly and violently. Advance planning can reduce the dangers of serious injury or loss of life. The Anchorage Emergency Preparedness Committee reminds residents to identify your safe place, and to have emergency and disaster supplies on hand, especially if utilities (including cell phones) are not functioning. In case family members are separated from one another due to school or work, families should develop a plan for reuniting after the disaster.



Emergency Assistance Needed

The Anchorage Emergency Preparedness Committee asks residents to contact City Hall if you have any of the following items or services that you could donate during an emergency.

Equipment:

Portable generators
Pet cages

Services:

Snow removal
Tree and limb removal

Please call Sandi at 245-4654 and the information will be forwarded to the appropriate committee members.

PLAN NOW FOR SPRING PROJECTS

Whether you're considering an addition or modification to the exterior of your home, installing an outbuilding, pool, tennis court, deck or fencing, or demolishing any structure,



a permit may be required before you can proceed with your plans. And, if you are in the Historic District or in a community with a homeowners' association, you will need to secure additional approvals.

Plan ahead! Contact City Hall at 245-4654 for a list of steps necessary to secure all of the required approvals and permits.

Other activities that require a permit:

- ▶ Removing a tree (alive or dead, with a 3" or greater diameter)
- ▶ A trench in the ground that exceeds 12 ft. in length such as drainage work, repair or installation of an irrigation system, burying phone, gas, electrical (including invisible pet fences) or cable lines, septic systems, or the installation of a patio, driveway, or sidewalk.

WHAT IS A SINKHOLE AND WHY DO SINKHOLES FORM?

It seems like every year a large sinkhole opens up somewhere in the world and makes headlines, but these monster sinkholes are not the norm. These strange holes in the ground are all over the place including here in central Kentucky. Some have been around for a long time, and some seem to pop up overnight.

In places like Florida, sinkholes occur because they have more underground rivers than other states. In Kentucky, sinkholes occur in what is known as 'karst terrain'. They



form when soil or bedrock has been removed and only air remains – commonly when the rock below the land surface is limestone, carbonate rock, or salt beds that have been naturally dissolved by ground water circulating through

them. As the rock dissolves, spaces are created. Typically, sinkholes appear suddenly because the surface stays intact until the weight becomes too much.



The topography of Jefferson County was not always what it is now. Ancient rivers, advancing and melting continental glaciers, and surging and retreating forests made the environment what it is today. Louisville limestone forms the moderately rolling uplands, cliffs and ledges in valley sides, with some sinkholes and underground drainage.

In the old days, farmers filled sinkholes in their fields, but that began polluting their water supply. Sinkholes act like a natural drain. When it rains, water flows into them and becomes a natural inlet into the underground streams and the aquifer.

Can you fill in a sinkhole on your property? The safest strategy, both from an engineering and environmental viewpoint, is *not to fill in a sinkhole*. In fact, the City has an ordinance prohibiting the introduction of any foreign matter or the filling, clogging, or interfering with the sinkhole's natural drainage capabilities. If it's in an area where it is a danger to people or a hazard to animals, it's best to simply put a fence around it.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The Jefferson County landfill no longer accepts yard waste in conventional plastic bags. Industrial Disposal reminds residents that only kraft paper bags, compostable plastic bags (must meet D6400 standards), or reusable containers will be accepted. Paper bags can be purchased at Lowe's, Home Depot, Meijers, Wal-Mart, and most other large retailers. Compostable plastic bags are available online through several sources. Industrial Disposal cannot collect yard waste if not in an approved container or bag.



ID also reminds residents of the guidelines for yard waste:

Each household is allowed a **weekly maximum** of:

- 16 bags not to exceed 50 pounds, **or**
- 5 ID containers, **or**
- 8 level trash cans no heavier than 30 pounds.

Tree limbs and sticks must be cut and bundled in 3-foot lengths; limbs cannot be larger than 6-inches in diameter. The hauler will not pick up dirt, stumps, mulch, trees, fencing, construction materials, etc.

Yard waste for the entire City is collected on Thursdays. The above limitations were established so that the large truck is able to adequately service all households that day. Quantity overages, insufficiently bundled items, and non-collectable materials will be left at the curb.



ABANDONED OR ORPHANED WILDLIFE

Wildlife Biologists with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources recommend people leave alone wildlife that appears to be abandoned. People often pick up these animals with the best intentions, but do more to harm the animal than to help it. As a general rule,

most are truly not abandoned when found in the wild. Many species of animals leave their young for extended periods of time each day, only to return and take care of them. Additionally, many bird species can only learn to fly by experimentation which involves falling/flying out of the nest. If a person discovers a young mammal or bird, they should not handle it, and should keep children and pets away from it. Staying away reduces stress on the animal and increases the chance the mother will return and care for it. If you see young wildlife alone, let it be.

2105 ANCHORAGE TAX NOTICES

Anchorage City, Anchorage Ambulance, and Personal Property tax bills for businesses operating in the City, will be mailed to property owners and business at the end of April. Additional information concerning due date and early payment discount is noted on the tax bills and will be published in the next edition of *The Anchor Age*.

