

To subscribe to this newsletter via email, fill out form at <http://eepurl.com/b2Rk9T>. You will then receive an automated email. Reply to this email to secure your free subscription.

1. How to Start a Neighborhood Organization
2. Oakwood Lincoln Park Plans Labor Day Fiesta
3. Inskip to Celebrate Launch of Community Garden
4. KEEM on Track to Weatherize 1200+ Homes
5. Two Public Meetings Thursday
6. This Saturday: The Family Safety and Preparedness Fair
7. National Night Out Set for Tuesday, October 4
8. Clarification for Challenge Grant Applicants
9. City Ends Saturday Hotline
10. MPC to Publish Agenda Details One Week Earlier
11. [Neighborhood and Government Calendar](#) (clickable to online calendar)

Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods to report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-4382. News deadline: 5 p.m. Mondays.

[Like us on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods): <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods>

1. How to Start a Neighborhood Organization

The City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhoods is offering a workshop on how to start a neighborhood organization.

The class will be held from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, September 8, 2016, at the United Way, 1301 Hannah Avenue. There is no charge, but please register in advance by contacting David Massey at 215-3232 or dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov.

2. Oakwood Lincoln Park Plans Labor Day Fiesta

Some neighborhood organizations meet on the first Monday of each month... except they either skip Labor Day or reschedule.

Not the **Oakwood Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association** (OLPNA). Not this year.

"As a neighborhood association, we have been doing our best to include and welcome our Spanish-speaking neighbors," explains Molly Conaway, an active OLPNA member. "During our 'Cinco de Mayo' event to celebrate Latin American culture, we learned that the Latino community actually celebrates independence (from Spain) during the month of September."

So on Monday, Sept. 5, starting at 7 p.m., the neighborhood will welcome its Spanish-speaking neighbors, who will help OLPNA celebrate with decorations, food, history, stories, and a Spanish lesson. The group meets at the neighborhood clubhouse, 916

Shamrock Avenue. This is the small stone building behind Christenberry Elementary School and Christenberry Community Center.

3. Inskip to Celebrate Launch of Community Garden

Inskip Community Association this weekend will celebrate the start of a community garden planned in partnership with Inskip Elementary School and the University of Tennessee.

The celebration will be held from 5-8 p.m. this Saturday, Aug. 27, on the grounds of Inskip Elementary, 4701 High School Road. This event was rescheduled from last Saturday due to weather.

Activities will include games, live entertainment, food trucks, and more. This project received support from the Neighborhoods Small Grants Program administered by the Office of Neighborhoods.

Inskip Elementary, a community school through UT's [University-Assisted Community Schools](#), has been working in combination with the neighborhood association to model their garden after the one at Pond Gap Elementary.

To learn more, make suggestions, and/or volunteer, contact Charice Starr at 659-0753 or charice.starr@gmail.com.

4. KEEM on Track to Weatherize 1200+ Homes

KEEM is one year old, and its partners are throwing a birthday party at 2 p.m. this coming Thursday, August 25, at Ashley Nicole Dream Playground, 620 Winona Street, across from Caswell Park.

KEEM --- Knoxville Extreme Energy Makeover --- is a \$15-million, TVA-funded program to weatherize at least 1,200 homes in the city by the end of September 2017. Thursday's birthday celebration will feature some of the families who have benefitted from the program. Mayor Madeline Rogero will also speak.

So far, 612 homes have been weatherized, and 137 projects are in progress. KUB bills for these homes have dropped by an average of 33 percent. CAC Housing, the agency directly in charge of qualifying applicants and employing contractors to perform the energy retrofits, estimates that another 650-700 homes will be completed by the end of the second and last year of the program.

Visit <http://www.keemteam.com/> to learn about the income eligibility requirements and other aspects of the program. Or call a KEEM energy advisor at 244-3080.

The KEEM partners are TVA, CAC, KUB, and the Alliance to Save Energy, as well as the City.

5. Two Public Meetings Thursday

Fountain City Lake and a proposed new parking ordinance will be the topics at two separate public meetings this coming Thursday evening, Aug. 25.

City staff and representatives of its contractor, LDA Engineering, will discuss the design of a wetland area to be created at the northern end of Fountain City Lake, eliminating a stagnant zone of water that produced too much algae. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Lions Club building at 5345 N. Broadway in Fountain City Park.

Also at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, staff of the [Metropolitan Planning Commission](#) and various city departments will conduct a public meeting to receive public comment on proposed revisions to the city's parking ordinance. The meeting will be held in the small assembly room of the City County Building, 400 Main Street.

See <http://www.knoxmpc.org/zoning/proposed-zoning-ordinance-changes/> for a final draft version of the proposed ordinance. Just scroll down to the "Active Ordinance Amendments" section and click on City Parking Ordinance.

6. This Saturday: The Family Safety and Preparedness Fair

The Family Safety and Preparedness Fair will be held this Saturday, August 27, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at World's Fair Park. Admission is free.

This fair will included over 60 booths, displays, classes and demonstrations that can educate you and your family about food storage, pet safety, emergency plans, producing your own off-the-grid energy, and much more. Vendors will include the Knoxville Fire and Police Departments, Rural Metro, American Red Cross of East Tennessee, Knox 911, CAC, HAM Radio operators, and other experts in emergency preparedness and disaster response.

Look for the Office of Neighborhoods booth, where you can join the Neighborhood Emergency Contacts Network, learn about the Emergency Preparedness Speaker Series, and pick up a copy of the Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Plan.

This fair will also include food vendors, a children's area, and free goodies given out by many of the booths. Visit <http://prepfair.org/> for details.

7. National Night Out Set for Tuesday, October 4

It is now just six weeks until National Night Out on Tuesday, October 4.

To observe National Night Out, neighborhood groups host potluck suppers, picnics, and other events to celebrate the strength of community and send a message to would-be thieves and con artists that neighbors keep an eye out for them and watch out for one another.

Register your event with the KPD Safety Education Unit by notifying Neighborhood Watch Coordinator John Morgan at jmorgan@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-1519. This will

ensure that KPD schedules officers to attend your event. Be sure to give the name and phone number of your contact person and organization, the time your event will begin and end, and the exact location.

In addition, please provide the same information to the Office of Neighborhoods so that we can include details in this newsletter. Notify Debbie Sharp at 215-4382 or dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov.

8. Clarification for Challenge Grant Applicants

As noted a few weeks ago, the City of Knoxville's Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting applications for its 2016-17 Challenge Grant Program.

Applications can be submitted by community organizations, including neighborhood organizations. If awarded a grant, your group can receive funds directly if you are a 501(c)3, 501(c)4 and 501(c)6 tax-exempt organization.

However --- **and here is the clarification** --- your neighborhood group can still apply even if you do not have this tax-exempt status. But you do have to partner with a fiscal sponsor who has a tax-exempt letter from the IRS.

The Challenge Grants program offers grants for nonprofit projects associated with public parks or recreation facilities within the City limits. Recipients of a challenge grant will be reimbursed 50 percent of the cost of a single project, up to \$2,500.

In the past, the grants have been used for projects such as playground equipment, water fountains, benches and landscaping. The Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department has been awarding Challenge Grants to nonprofit groups for more than 25 years.

The deadline for applications is Friday, Sept. 16, 2016. Applicants will be notified and announced by late October 2016. All project work must be completed by Friday, April 28, 2017. [See the grant guidelines and applications](#). Questions may be directed to 311 or 865-215-4311.

9. City Ends Saturday Hotline

The pilot inspections hotline that was created to field reports of permitting violations on Saturdays will come to an end after more than six months of testing community need for the service.

Surprisingly few calls were received regarding construction permit violations, the intended focus of the hotline. The service was launched on a test basis early this year ([Neighborhood Advisory, Jan. 19, 2016](#)).

"We've had such a low intake of calls on Saturdays that we can't justify paying staff to be on the clock for the weekend hotline," said Peter Ahrens, Director of Plans Review and Inspections. "This is a case when it's a good thing—there simply aren't as many construction violations occurring on Saturdays as one might have suspected."

The City will continue to accept complaints regarding permitting violations during regular weekday business hours. For residential construction projects, citizens can check a list of items that require permitting by visiting www.knoxvilletn.gov/plansreview or by calling 311 during regular business hours.

10. MPC to Publish Agenda Details One Week Earlier

The Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) is planning to make its preliminary agenda available three weeks in advance of each monthly meeting.

For several years, MPC has given three weeks' advance notice of requests for plan amendments, rezonings, development plan approvals, and uses permitted on review slated for the next month's agenda. This list alerts a neighborhood group that an item is coming up, but no details are available.

Last week, however, MPC announced that it had published what it hopes will be the last "requests list" --- available at http://agenda.knoxmpc.org/pa_rz_notice.pdf.

Starting with the October meeting, the requests list will be eliminated. In its place, the preliminary agenda will be published three weeks in advance, instead of two weeks.

This preliminary agenda includes not only the applicant name and item, but also links to the application and a map showing project location. The even-more-detailed "agenda package" will still be published six days before the monthly meeting, including staff recommendations and other items, such as letters received for or against a certain proposal.

[See the full notice on the MPC website](#). For more on this change, contact Dan Kelly at 215-3440 or dan.kelly@knoxmpc.org.

There are several ways that neighborhood leaders can keep up with MPC information important for their neighborhoods:

*** You can join MPC's twitter account and Facebook page, and you can be added to the email list for notifications and news. See the icons at the bottom of www.knoxmpc.org.

*** Video recordings of MPC meetings are available in the [MPC Video Archive](#).

*** In cooperation with [KGIS](#), MPC produces a map each month showing the geographic location of upcoming agenda items. Just click on the [MPC Case Mapping Viewer](#) and zoom to your neighborhood. If there are MPC case numbers in your area, click on the case number to bring up the details of that agenda item.

11. Neighborhood and Government Calendar (clickable to online calendar)

Call 215-4382 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to attend a City of Knoxville public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For an English interpreter, contact David Massey at 215-3232 or dmassey@knoxvilletn.gov.

Other Calendars

Here are several other online calendars that cover events outside of the neighborhood realm:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There's More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [Birdhouse Community Center](#)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)
- [Knoxville Mercury](#) (weekly community paper)
- [Visit Knoxville](#) (Official Convention & Visitors Bureau for Knoxville and Knox County)

About This Newsletter

*** This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.*

*** Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.*

*** Deadline for news & calendar items: 5 p.m. Mondays*

*** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood e-mail lists and newsletters.*

*** See past issues at our Website: <http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/neighborhoods>*

*** Don't have Internet access? Call 215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*