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Newsletter (PDF version <https://bit.ly/NeighborhoodAdvisory-2020-11-24>)

1. No Newsletter Next Week
2. Keep Safe This Thanksgiving with COVID-19 on the Rise
3. City Announces Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule
4. City Council Holds Workshop on Dec. 3y7tg
5. How About a Neighborhood Thanksgiving Challenge?
6. Nominations for the Orchid Awards Are Now Being Accepted
7. [Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar](#) (click link for online calendar)

Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, we report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.

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

1. No Newsletter Next Week

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment will not produce a newsletter next week. We will be back with you on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

2. Keep Safe This Thanksgiving with COVID-19 on the Rise

The Knox County Health Department has some great suggestions for staying safe this Thanksgiving.

A low-risk gathering is a small dinner with only people who live in your household.

A moderate-risk gathering is a small outdoor dinner with family and friends who live in your community.

Use extra caution when gathering with people other than those who live in your house. Follow the 5 core actions. 1) Stay 6 feet apart 2) Use a cloth face covering 3) Wash hands regularly 4) Clean frequently touched surfaces 5) Stay home when sick.

Encourage physical distancing, especially with guests who are at a high risk. Think of alternatives to gathering in person. Bring food to a relative and drop it off. Visit virtually over Zoom or another video chat platform.

If you are going to gather in person, try to keep the guest list under 10 people, encourage mask wearing--even provide them if you aren't sure if people have them--and provide hand sanitizer. If you plan to eat indoors, spread people out, open the

windows, and consider having one or two people serve the food to limit the number of people touching the serving silverware.

Keep open dialog between your guests. Communicate expectations and concerns about exposure to COVID-19.

Ensure you have a back-up plan if the situation changes while guests are there.

Find ways to enjoy your family safely this year! We want everyone to be healthy for the upcoming holidays in December and the New Year in January.

Happy Healthy Thanksgiving to everyone!

3. City Announces Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

The City of Knoxville offices, including the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27, in observation of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Garbage and recycling pickups will be on the regular schedule Monday, Nov. 23 through Wednesday, Nov. 25. There will be NO household garbage or recycling collection on Thursday, Nov. 26 and Waste Connections' office will be closed.

Waste Connections will run Thursday routes on Friday and Friday routes on Saturday. Please remember to have garbage and recycling containers out for pickup before 7 a.m. on your pickup day.

As a general reminder, Thanksgiving and Christmas are the only days of the year when residential curbside trash and recycling are NOT picked up as scheduled. Downtown garbage and recycling collection will run on a regular schedule during Thanksgiving week.

The City's five recycling centers will be open, but the Goodwill attendant will not be available for household goods donations on Thursday, Nov. 26.

The City's Solid Waste Facility located at 1033 Elm Street will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 26 through Saturday, Nov. 28, and will resume normal operating hours on Monday, Nov. 30.

4. City Council Holds Workshop on Dec. 3

City Council will hold a virtual workshop on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 4 p.m. to review the Knoxville Police Department's budget.

You can stream this meeting at www.ctvknox.org or watch on television on these channels: Xfinity (Comcast) – Channel 12, Charter (Spectrum) – Channel 193, WOW! (Knology) – Channel 6 or AT&T U-verse – Channel 99.

If you would like to speak at the public forum for the workshop, you must register with the City Recorder's Office at 215-2075 or wjohnson@knoxvilletn.gov before 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3. The City Recorder's Office will ask for contact information in order

that they can connect to the Zoom meeting. Participation is possible either through the Zoom application or by phoning-in to the meeting.

5. How About A Neighborhood Thanksgiving Challenge?

Neighborhood Advisory Council member Morgan Wilson shares this idea for giving back to the community this holiday season: it's the Knoxville Neighborhoods Virtual Food Drive for Second Harvest Food Bank.

With more neighbors choosing to stay home for Thanksgiving this year due to COVID-19, **Parkridge Community Organization** has challenged neighbors to donate what, in previous years, they might have otherwise have spent on travel costs, host gifts or groceries to feed a large gathering. **Adair Gardens** has joined the challenge. Who else would like to participate?

If your neighborhood organization is interested, a contact person will need to [sign up](#) your group to Knoxville Neighborhoods Virtual Food Drive. You can set a dollar amount goal or not. Then it's time to get the word out to all your neighbors to help donate. The sooner you sign up and get the word out, the more time you have to raise money.

Neighbors have until Thursday, Dec. 3 to donate.

Giving back in this way could help someone in your family, in your office, or in your neighborhood who needs food assistance, maybe for the first time in their lives.

Click [this link](#) to see which neighborhoods are participating and what has been donated so far.

If your neighborhood group is not able to participate, individuals can [donate](#) to Second Harvest Food Bank by visiting their website.

6. Nominations for the Orchids Awards Are Now Being Accepted

[Keep Knoxville Beautiful](#) is now accepting nominations from the public for its beautification awards. Since 1979, Keep Knoxville Beautiful has presented Orchid Awards to Knoxville and Knox County buildings and outdoor spaces that beautify and elevate the local landscape.

Orchid Awards will be granted in these seven categories:

- New Architecture
- Redesign/Reuse
- Outdoor Space (Parks, Patios, Rooftop Areas, Public Gardens, etc.)
- Community Space (Neighborhoods, Schools, Senior Living Facilities, Apartment Complexes, etc.)
- Public Art (Murals, Sculptures, Signage, etc.)
- Environmental Stewardship (Priorities that incorporate renewable materials, energy efficiency, LEED certification and/order sustainable building practices)
- Creative Reinvention (Properties that have creatively adjusted to social distancing guidelines)

Anyone can nominate a location or outdoor public artwork by completing a simple online [form](#) on Keep Knoxville Beautiful's website.

Nominations are due Wednesday, Dec. 23.

Keep Knoxville Beautiful will announce the winners of the beautification awards at the annual Orchid Awards to be held virtually in February 2021.

7. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar (click link for online calendar)

Call 215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend a City of Knoxville public meeting, please contact Stephanie Brewer Cook at scCook@knoxvilletn.gov or 215-2034 no less than 72 hours before the meeting you wish to attend. For an interpreter, contact Title VI Coordinator Tatia M. Harris at 215-2831.

Other Calendars

Additional online calendars that cover events outside the neighborhood realm include:

- [Arts & Culture Alliance](#) (There's More to Knoxville)
- [Arts & Fine Crafts Center Classes](#) (City of Knoxville)
- [City of Knoxville General Calendar](#)
- [Parks and Rec Community Programming](#)

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: 12 p.m. Fridays.*

*** May be copied and forwarded via neighborhood email 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.*