



The Neighborly Notice – Vol. 15, No. 46 – Tuesday, December 13, 2022

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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2022-12-13>

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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.

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1. Annual 5 Points Up Holiday Festivities Are Coming Up

On Thursday, Dec. 15, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., 5 Points Up will host their annual Winter Wonderland festivities at Tabernacle Baptist Church, 2200 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., and Walter Hardy Park, 2137 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

5 Points Up is inviting any and all community members to come out for a night of food, fun and fellowship! Winners of the Tree Decorating Contest will be notified as well.

For more information on this event, drop by CAC East on Asheville Highway, or contact Derek Tate at 865-604-0757.

2. Get Excited for Some Kickball!

The Office of Neighborhood Empowerment is excited to announce its first Neighborhood Kickball Tournament, which will take place on Saturday, April 22, 2023.

The structure and rules will be similar to our Wiffleball Tournament. Get your team together and email Courtney Durrett at cdurrett@knoxvilletn.gov for more details.

3. Better Building Board Seeks Board Members

Are you an advocate in your neighborhood helping to prevent and remediate blight? Are you familiar with the process of blight remediation in Knoxville?

The City is seeking residents to serve on the [Better Building Board](#) (BBB), the body that hears appeals of the Public Officer's orders on demolition, boarding houses, etc. They also make determinations on blight acquisition and demolition by neglect for historic properties.

The Public Officer rules on cases when property owners do not comply with City code requirements. Often times, property owners are able to initiate a plan to correct the problem. For those who need more time, need more help with a plan, or are asking for modifications to the plan, they may need to appeal. The Better Building Board (BBB) hears these appeals.

You can get more information about the board [here](#). The BBB has three-year terms, begins Feb. 1, 2023, and meets on last Thursday of the month at 3:30 p.m.

If you are interested in being considered for appointment by Mayor Kincannon to the BBB, please send a short bio that includes your professional and community involvement and home address by Thursday, Dec. 22, to Jennifer Searle, jsearle@knoxvilletn.gov.

4. Board of Zoning Appeals Meets Next Tuesday

The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) meets on Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 4 p.m. in the Small Assembly room, City County Building, 400 Main Street.

Properties on the agenda are as follows:

- 7727 Kingston Pike
- 3940 Seahorn Ave

- 1915 Forest Ave
- 4103 Chapman Hwy
- 701 Cherry Street
- 100 University Ave
- 400 Neyland Dr

If any of these properties are in your neighborhood and you wish to speak to the board about them, feel free to attend the meeting.

There is a Zoom option available upon request. If you need to request the Zoom link, please email, Jennifer Scobee at jscobee@knoxvilletn.gov by 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

The next BZA meeting will be on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services.

To request language translation services, contact the City's Human Resources Department at titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-3100. For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator Stephanie Brewer Cook at scook@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

5. Volunteer Forester Classes Are Right Around the Corner!

The Level II Volunteer Forester Class will be held throughout the month of January. This four-week class includes everything you could possibly want to know about trees. It is not mandatory that you take the Level I Class before you take the Level II Class, but it might be helpful.

Session 1: Tree Biology and Tree Measurement
Jan 4, 6-8 p.m.

Session 2: Soil Relations and Water Management
Jan. 11, 5-7 p.m.

Session 3: Recognizing Tree Hazards, Risks, and Tree Law
Jan. 18, 6-8 p.m.

Session 4: Tree Identification
Jan. 25, 6-8 p.m.

To register and for more details, please complete this [Google form](#).

6. Nominations for the 2023 Orchids Awards Are Open

[Keep Knoxville Beautiful](#) (KKB) is now accepting nominations from the public for its beautification awards, the Orchids.

Orchid Awards will be granted in the following seven categories:

- New Architecture
- Redesign/Reuse
- Outdoor Space (Parks, Patios, Rooftop Areas, Public Gardens, etc.)
- Community Projects (Neighborhoods, Schools, Senior Living Facilities, Apartment Complexes, etc.)
- Public Art (Murals, Sculptures, Signage, etc.)
- ReGreen (Enhanced landscapes such as streetscapes, asphalt-reduction, treescapes, waterscapes, etc.)
- Green Organization

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

Private residences are not considered for this award. Properties that received an Orchid Award since 2012 are ineligible, except in cases of major renovations. A list of previous winners can be found on KKB's website. Nominations are due by Friday, Dec. 23.

KKB will announce the winners of the beautification awards at the annual Orchids Awards on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023 at the Mill and Mine.

Since 1979, KKB has presented Orchid Awards to Knoxville and Knox County buildings and outdoor spaces that beautify and elevate the local landscape.

For more information, contact KKB at info@keepknoxvillebeautiful.org.

7. Kickstand Knoxville Hosts Bike-Riding Event

Kickstand Knoxville will host a slow-paced, four-mile bike riding event for all ages called Chill Holiday Ride on Saturday, Dec. 17. The ride will begin at 4 p.m. at Macedonia UMC, 4630 Holston Dr.

Bike decorating and free safety checks will start at 3 p.m., and participants are invited to stick around after the ride for free snacks and warm drinks!

Kickstand is also looking for volunteers from the community to help out with this event as well as learn how to restore bikes. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the organization at kickstandknoxville@gmail.com.

8. What is a BioBlitz?

A BioBlitz is a biological inventory of an area with the goal of getting a comprehensive count of the plants, animals, fungi, and other organisms that live in a particular space.

Why is that important to neighborhoods? Some critters, plants, bacteria, etc. are beneficial, and some are invasive and harmful. Creating the inventory can give specialists an understanding of an area's health and can lead to healthy remediation where needed.

Between Friday, April 28 through Monday, May 1, folks all over the world will get the opportunity to participate in the [City Nature Challenge](#). Neighbors can help scientists record the biological makeup of our area. There will be events that you can attend in Knoxville or you can go on a nature hike and create your own BioBlitz.

Here's how it works:

- Upload [iNaturalist](#) app to your phone
- Take photos of a plant, critter, bird, etc.
- Submit the images to the website for review.

It is that simple.

You can do this any time of the year, but if you do it during the City Nature Challenge, Knoxville will get credit.

The City of Knoxville is certified as a Wildlife Habitat and by doing this event, it will help with our points for re-certification.

Be on the lookout for more information on this event in future editions of the *Neighborhoodly Notice*.

[9. Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar](#) (click link for online calendar)

Call 865-215-3232 to include your neighborhood event or meeting in [this Google calendar](#).

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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](#)

The City of Knoxville requires a permit to operate a short-term rental property. Details and a list of short-term rental permits are located on the City's website [here](#).

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 865-215-4382 if you need a copy of a particular document.*