



The Neighborly Notice – Vol. 15, No. 10 – Tuesday, March 15, 2022

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Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2022-03-15>

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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. ONE Recognizes Neighborhoods for Healthy Knoxville Participation

In 2021, the City of Knoxville piloted Healthy Knoxville, a program bringing neighbors together to implementing sustainable changes in the community and help residents live healthier lives. The goal of the program is to increase healthy outcomes for neighbors by planning and implementing activities in the following four categories: A. Physical Activities / Utilizing Outdoor Spaces; B. Nutrition / Healthy Food Access; C. Tobacco and/or Vaping Cessation; and D. Mental Health and Wellness.

West Hills Community Association planned and implemented activities that included bike rides, Pickleball, Marathon in a Month, Movie Night, Cooking Club, Fifth Friday, a

Book Club, a Theatrical Activity and Yoga. No smoking signs were posted in the park for the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout. They also competed in the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment's Annual Wiffleball Tournament.

Westwood Homeowners Association planned and implemented activities that included Pop-Up Park workout, Yoga in the Park, Walking School Bus, Neighborhood Progressive Dinner, Community Garden, and a Clean-Up that included picking up cigarette butts. Their activities led them to create a workout book for the park, get neighbors together, and create safe spaces to exercise and build bonds.

After this successful pilot, Healthy Knoxville is now a regular program of the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment. Any neighborhoods wishing to participate can do so by notifying us at 865-215-3232.

Join us in recognizing these Healthy Knoxville neighborhoods at The Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, April 2, at the Knoxville Convention Center. [Registration](#) for the conference is open until Monday, March 28 at 12 noon. For more information, contact Courtney Durrett at cdurrett@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-3456.

2. Volunteers Needed for Riparian Restoration Project Along Goose Creek

[Trees Knoxville](#) will be planting trees around Goose Creek in Mary Vestal Park on Saturday, March 26, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon as part of a riparian buffer repair. This project is made possible by a grant from the Tennessee River Basin Network's Tennessee Shade Your Stream grant.

Volunteers who register by Wednesday, March 16, will receive a free t-shirt for participating in the event!

To register for the event or get more information, please visit [Trees Knoxville's website](#).

This work is being done in partnership with **Vestal Community Organization**.

3. City Seeks Input on Proposed Papermill Drive Improvements

The City of Knoxville will present recommendations from the Papermill Drive Corridor Study final concept plan and gather input from residents regarding the corridor at a public meeting on Wednesday, March 23, at 5:30 p.m. at the Public Works Building, 3131 Morris Ave.

The \$100,000 study utilized 80 percent federal funds with a 20 percent City match, administered through the [Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization](#) (TPO). The Department of Engineering partnered with CDM Smith, a construction engineering company, to look at ways to improve safety and traffic flow for all modes of transportation on Papermill Drive between Kingston Pike and Weisgarber Road.

The Papermill Drive Corridor Study proposes improvements that will benefit all roadway users and includes a continual center turn lane, with a sidewalk on the south side of Papermill and a shared-use path on the north side that pedestrians and bicyclists could use safely.

Making the improvements is estimated to cost \$13.23 million. The City would seek federal funding with a local match to be able to proceed with the recommended multi-use street safety improvements.

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 for this public meeting, contact Diversity and Inclusion Officer Tatia M. Harris at tharris@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2831. For disability accommodations, contact City ADA Coordinator Stephanie Brewer Cook at scCook@knoxvilletn.gov or 865-215-2034 at least 72 hours before the meeting.

4. Learn More about the All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Working with the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Emergency Alert System, NWR is an "All Hazards" radio network, making it your single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information. In conjunction with federal, state, and local emergency managers and other public officials, NWR also broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards – including natural (such as earthquakes or avalanches), environmental (chemical releases or oil spills), and public safety (AMBER alerts or 911 telephone outages).

Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service," NWR is provided as a public service by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), part of the Department of Commerce. NWR includes more than 1,000 transmitters, covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. NWR requires a special radio receiver or scanner capable of picking up the signal.

For more information about acquiring this special radio receiver or scanner, please visit the [National Weather Service's website](#).

5. How Do I Prune A Crepe Myrtle?

Pruning is not a one-size-fits-all for all plants. Here is a timely reminder from arborist Charles Batey, Chair of the City's Tree Board.

Did you know that now is the time to prune your Crepe Myrtles? There is a way that is so much healthier for the plant, yet many people do not know this.

When should you prune? Late winter or right now.

What should you prune?

- Suckers coming up from the base.
- All side branches growing from the main trunks up to a height of at least 4 feet.
- All higher branches growing inward towards the center of the tree.
- All crossing, rubbing, and dead branches.
- Branches growing at awkward angles that detract from the tree's appearance.

Always cut back to a larger branch of the trunk. Do not leave stubs. Removing old flowers or seed heads on the end of branches is optional. Leaving them does not reduce blooming.

Do not cut back the tall branches to a lower height. This is often called topping. It turns beautiful trees into stumps and prevents the formation of the mottled bark on mature trunks. And the skinny shoots that sprout up from the cut ends are not always strong enough to hold the flowers in summer.

If you need more assistance with your crepe myrtles, call the University of Tennessee Agriculture Extension or Department of Plant Science to inquire if any students are willing to help. In addition, Knoxville has thriving landscape as well as tree pruning businesses. You could call any of them for assistance.

[6. 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](#)

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.*