

Watterson Park Word

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF WATTERSON PARK, KENTUCKY

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Your Taxes... Your Responsibility

Did you know that your real property taxes in the City of Watterson Park are among the lowest in the entire state? And at a rate of **8.2¢ per \$100.00** of assessed valuation (recently lowered from 8.3¢), we are the third lowest out of 81 incorporated cities in Jefferson County?*

As a comparison, the 2017 tax rate for West Buechel was 20.0¢; Audubon Park, 28.2¢; Lynnview, 29.7¢; Shively, 33.9¢; and Anchorage, 36.6¢.*

With your taxes, we provide trash, recycle, and yard waste pickup for residential properties; street lights; street and boundary signs; road paving and repairs; tree planting and maintenance; mowing rights-of-way; snow removal; and, new this year, **off-duty police patrol**.

If your taxes are not paid, we can use any method provided by law to collect them, including: (a) placing a lien on your property, which will include the fee for filing and releasing the lien; or (b) selling your debt to a collection agency.

So when you receive that tax bill this fall, if it's not being paid through your home mortgage escrow account, PLEASE mail your payment so we can continue to offer the services our residents and businesses deserve and have become accustomed to.

* Rates are from revenue.ky.gov/News/Publications/Property Tax Rate Books/Property Tax Rate Book - 2017

From the Mayor



I'd like to bring you up-to-date on some of the many projects and issues on which your City Council and Officers have been working since May.

- Coordinated with Kentuckiana Law Enforcement, establishing days and times for off-duty patrol to best serve the needs of our residential and business communities, reviewing monthly shift postings and the monthly Small City Activity Sheet we receive from KLE. An officer from KLE is present at the beginning of each City Council meeting to go over the reports, address concerns, and answer any questions.
- Contracted with Bob Ray Tree Service to remove four dead trees and to raise the crown on sixteen other trees.
- Elected and appointed Phil Johnson to fill the Council seat vacated by Brandon Paul through the remainder of Mr. Paul's unexpired term.
- Supported Louisville Metro Councilwoman Barbara Shanklin's efforts to deny a liquor license application in her district, sending a letter of opposition to the ABC in Frankfort and attending organized protests. The application was denied at the local level and will now go to the state level.
- Worked with Saf-Ti-Co to install boundary signs throughout our City's perimeter; repaired/replaced street/stop signs as needed.
- Renewed our contract with Jefferson County Farm Bureau to hold our legislative meetings at their facility.
- Completed the annual Audit for fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, mailing out copies of the approved audit to all residents of Watterson Park.
- Signed the sanitation contract with Rumpke Sanitation for waste, recycle, and compost collection services for residences through June 30, 2020, and closely monitored the transition of services from Republic Services to Rumpke.
- Delivered welcome baskets to several new residents.

These are only a handful of the many projects completed and issues addressed by your City Council during the past three months. To get a first-hand look at how decisions are made and important matters are handled, or if you have a question or concern you would like to bring to our attention, please attend our monthly legislative meetings on the second Monday of each month at the Jefferson County Farm Bureau on Gardiner View Avenue. In addition, you can visit our official website—**WattersonParkKy.com**—where you will find contact information for the person(s) in charge of each of our City committees.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in your Watterson Park Council and Officers. With your support, we strive to keep our City one of which we can all be proud.

Linda Chesser, Mayor

The trees are about to
show us how lovely it is to
let the dead things go.

~ Maya Angelou

Autumn carries more gold in its pocket
than all the other seasons.

~ Jim Bishop

Winter is an etching, spring a
watercolor, summer an oil painting and
autumn a mosaic of them all.

~ Stanley Horowitz

Autumn binds poetry in its own
withered leaves.

~ Terri Guillemets

Autumn is the season of change.

~ Taoist proverb

Autumn repays the earth the leaves
which summer lent it.

~ Georg Christoph Lichtenberg

Autumn is a second spring when every
leaf is a flower.

~ Albert Camus

And all at once, summer collapsed into
fall...

~ Oscar Wilde

The music of the far-away summer
flutters around the Autumn seeking its
former nest.

~ Rabindranath Tagore

Of all the seasons, autumn offers the
most to man and requires the least of
him.

~ Hal Borland

Every leaf speaks bliss to me, fluttering
from the autumn tree.

~ Emily Brontë

Autumn passes and one remembers
one's reverence.

~ Yoko Ono

And the sun took a step back, the leaves
lulled themselves to sleep, and autumn
was awakened.

~ Raquel Franco

Responsible Dog Ownership



Owning a dog comes with certain obligations. In addition to licensing and vaccinating your pet, you are required to adhere to other regulations set forth under Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government Code of Ordinances, Title IX, Chapter 91. Please do your neighbors—and your pet—a favor by obeying these laws.

RESTRAINT.

(2) For puppies and dogs, RESTRAINT shall mean on the premises of the owner or on premises which the animal's presence has been explicitly allowed, and confined in a secure enclosure, or accompanied by the owner and under his/her direct control. If off the premises of the owner where permission has not been granted, the animal must be restrained by a lead or leash and under the control of a responsible person physically able to control the dog, or except for dangerous dogs, and potentially dangerous dogs, accompanied by a responsible person into an enclosed "off-leash" area designated by the Kentucky Department of Parks or the Metro Department of Parks and in conformance with all regulations and/or requirements imposed as a condition of utilizing such "off-leash" area by such Departments of Parks, or their designees.

(3) In addition to the requirements of subsection (2) above, under this definition, RESTRAINT for dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs shall mean as follows:

(a) That dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs are at all times securely muzzled when off the premises of the owner. The muzzle shall be made in such a manner that will not cause injury to the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration, but shall prevent it from biting any human or other animal.

"If off the premises of the owner where permission has not been granted, the animal must be restrained by a lead or leash and under the control of a reasonable person physically able to control the dog..."

(b) That owners of dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs shall not allow the dog to be outside an enclosure as defined in this chapter unless the dog is confined to a secure cage, or is chained, leashed, and is under the control of a person physically able to restrain the dog.

(c) That a lead or leash for a potentially dangerous or dangerous dog shall not exceed four feet in length.

(4) Other standards and requirements for restraining dogs shall be as set forth in § 91.091.

NUISANCE.

(1) Any act of an animal or its owner that irritates, perturbs or damages rights and privileges common to the public or enjoyment of private property or indirectly injures or threatens the safety of a member of the general public. By way of examples and not of limitation, the commissions on the following acts or actions by an animal or by its owner or possessor shall hereby be declared a nuisance:

(a) Allowing or permitting an animal to habitually bark, whine, howl, mew, crow or cackle in an excessive or continual fashion or make other noise in such a manner so as to result in a serious annoyance or interference with the reasonable

(Continued on page 3)

use and enjoyment of neighboring premises.

(b) Allowing or permitting an animal to damage the property of any person other than its owner or caretaker, including but not limited to getting into or turning garbage containers or damaging gardens, flowers, plants or other real or personal property or leaving fecal material on the property of another person.

(c) Allowing or permitting an animal to molest, chase, snap at, attack or attempt to attack passers-by, vehicles, domestic pets or livestock.

(d) Allowing or permitting an animal to habitually or continually roam or be found on property of other than its owners or caretakers, trespassing school grounds, parks or the property of any person.

(e) Allowing or permitting an animal to be housed or restrained at a distance that, in the discretion of the animal control officer, poses a threat to the general safety, health and welfare of the general public.

(f) Allowing or permitting an animal to be maintained in an unsanitary condition.

(g) Allowing or permitting an animal to habitually charge in an aggressive manner a fence separating from another property when the usual residents are taking pleasure in such property without provoking such animal.

From LouisvilleKy.gov, Department of Animal Services.

For more information on this topic, please visit louisvilleky.gov/government/animal-services/animal-ordinances.



Fall is the ideal time to plant and/or replant trees.

The Value of Trees to a Community

Trees can add value to your home, help cool your home and neighborhood, break the cold winds to lower your heating costs, and provide food for wildlife.

The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. ~ U.S. Department of Agriculture

A mature tree can often have an appraised value of between \$1,000 and \$10,000. ~ Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers

One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people. ~ U.S. Department of Agriculture

Trees properly placed around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30 percent and can save 20–50 percent in energy used for heating. ~ USDA Forest Service

Healthy, mature trees add an average of 10 percent to a property's value. ~ USDA Forest Service

The planting of trees means improved water quality, resulting in less runoff and erosion. This allows more recharging of the ground water supply. Wooded areas help prevent the transport of sediment and chemicals into streams. ~ USDA Forest Service

In laboratory research, visual exposure to settings with trees has produced significant recovery from stress within five minutes, as indicated by changes in blood pressure and muscle tension. ~ Roger S. Ulrich, Texas A&M University

~ from ArborDay.org

Rental Housing Registry

Metro Ordinance: Pursuant to Section VII of Metro Ord. No. 174-2016

All property located in Louisville Metro and occupied or offered for occupancy in exchange for money or any other consideration must be registered with Louisville Metro Government. Failure to register is subject to a fine up to \$100 per day per housing unit. Registration must include the rental unit street address along with current contact information of the owner and managing operator.

New owners must register within thirty days of any ownership transfer. Any change in contact information must be updated on the registry within thirty days of said change.

Registration requires an account with Develop Louisville. Check the links below to establish an account and access the registry, or to get detailed information and instructions on registry requirements.

How to Set Up An Account: <https://dp.louisvillemetro.gov/dpcdr8/Views/AgencyLogin.aspx>

How to Register: https://louisvilleky.gov/sites/default/files/codes_regulations/online_rental_registryjanuary2018.pdf



City of Watterson Park

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Americans will head to the polls on Tuesday, November 6, to elect representatives for federal, state, and local offices. Metro Louisville will hold general elections for mayor, city council, other county positions, and local judgeships on this date. **Also on the ballot will be candidates for mayor and city council of Watterson Park.**

You can find your polling location by visiting jeffersoncountyclerk.org/wheredoivote or by calling the Jefferson County Clerk's Office at **502.574.6100**. Sample ballots will be available online four weeks prior to the election.

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE!

Address any comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter to:
Aggie Keefe, Editor • City of Watterson Park
P.O. Box 35334 • Louisville, KY 40232 • WattersonParkInfo@att.net

Welcome...

to the newest member of our City Council, **Phil Johnson**. Phil was appointed to fill the Council seat vacated by Brandon Paul through the remainder of Mr. Paul's unexpired term. A resident of Watterson Park since 2010, Phil looks forward to serving the Watterson Park community.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Fall Brightside Cleanup Saturday, October 20

The Fall Brightside Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, October 20. We will meet at The Lillian Wild Walking Path on Gardiner Lane at 9 a.m. Shirts, gloves, and bags are provided by Brightside but must be ordered in advance. If you would like to participate, call Tiffany Woodson, Councilwoman/Events Co-Chair, at 502.498.0542.



City of Watterson Park Council and Officers

- Mayor..... Linda Chesser
- Councilwoman.....Helen Arnold
- Councilman Steve Fortwengler
- Councilwoman.....Gina Garrett
- CouncilmanPhil Johnson
- Councilwoman.....Marlene Welsh
- Councilwoman.....Tiffany Woodson
- Clerk.....Aggie Keefe
- Treasurer.....Jerry Wild

Large Trash Pickup Saturday, October 20

Have items at the curb no later than 6 a.m. No tires, paint, batteries, or any items that contain Freon will be picked up. For general sanitation guidelines, please visit our website, **WattersonParkKy.com**, or call Rumpke Customer Service at 800.828.8171.