



Oak Meyer Gardens Homes Association Neighbor *to* Neighbor

JUNE 2006

A MEMBER OF THE HOMES ASSOCIATION OF THE COUNTRY CLUB DISTRICT

OMG Board 2006

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Throw a Successful Summer Block Party



Summer is a great time to get reacquainted with your neighbors. As we emerge from a winter spent largely indoors and start spending more time outside doing yard work, we see much more of the people living up and down our blocks. Why not take a break from that

yard work and plan a block party to get everyone together for a little fun?

The Oak Meyer Gardens Homes Association will donate \$100 toward members' block parties to help purchase food and entertainment. Just bring a copy of your permit to

OMG board president Bill Blanck.

The Kansas City, Missouri city web site offers this information for obtaining a block party permit: The block party permit authorizes the applicant to barricade a specified portion of the named residential street, using city-approved barricades, denying access to through traffic for the purpose of allowing the residents who reside within the barricaded area to conduct a neighborhood block party. There is no fee for a block party permit.

- One month prior to your block party, you must mail your completed application.

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Save the Date for More Summer Fun!

The Oak Meyer Gardens Homes Association Summer Social is scheduled for **Sunday, July 23** in Holmes Park from 1 to 5 p.m.

The OMG Homes Association will provide free food from Backyard Burgers, as well as free

dessert from a visiting ice cream truck.

The board is busily working on other fun things for the family, such as a visit from the KCMO Fire Department. Watch your mail for more detailed information later this summer.



Trash, Recycling and Bulky Items Clip & Save Resource List

Trash is picked up in our neighborhood weekly, each Thursday morning unless a city holiday has occurred during the week, in which case our trash pickup is usually the next day. If you have more than two bags of trash, purchase tags for the extra bags at Westlake Hardware or Price Chopper.

Remember when our city recycling program was first implemented and recycling bins were only to be set out every other week? In many households, there were probably internal monologues that went something like this: "Hmmm I can't remember if it is this week or next that they pick up recycling. . . maybe I'll see if my neighbors have their blue bins outside. . ."

Cross that off the list of things you have to remember! Now, thanks to the success of the city recycling program, we can set out our recycling bins every week. You will want to remember some other local "rules of trash," however:

1. When do I set out my old fridge, broken desk chair, or torn-up carpet? Oak Meyer Gardens is in an area of the city which offers monthly bulky item pickup. Our day is scheduled for the 22nd of each month, or within three days thereafter. The city asks that residents set out the items for pickup no earlier than the evening before bulky item pickup is scheduled.

2. These items can go in your recycling bin:

- Aluminum cans and other metal cans
- Plastic bottles with a neck (look for the #1 & #2 symbols), such as water and soda bottles, milk jugs and detergent bottles
- Office paper, junk mail, newspapers, phone books, catalogues and magazines.
- Cardboard (thick corrugated and thin cereal box-type)

3. These items don't go in the bin:

- Glass
- Plastic bags
- Styrofoam
- Motor oil bottles and other automotive product bottles
- Egg cartons
- Paper towels, tissues or napkins, plates or cups
- Waxed containers, like milk cartons or juice boxes
- Gift wrap
- Shredded paper
- Plastic tubs, like yogurt tubs

4. Too much for the bin? Set extra recyclables in cardboard boxes, paper bags or plastic tubs next to the bin.

5. Glass recyclables: Drop these off glass at the site closest to our neighborhood: UMKC parking lot, 4745 Forest (one block east of 48th Street and Troost Avenue). Hours are Wed., Thurs. and Fri. from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

OMG Dumpster Day!



Your spring cleaning chores just got a little bit easier with help from your homes association.

Mark the date of **Saturday, June 17** cleaning out the garage, attic, basement, or the yard. That's when up to four dumpsters will be available for Oak Meyer Garden residents who wish to dispose of yard waste or bulky items. Tires will not be accepted in the dumpster. Hazardous household waste such as paint, motor oil, or batteries may not be placed in the dumpster, but OMG board members will be collecting it and dropping it off at the city environmental campus. Please bring hazardous waste in a sealed container. No propane containers or medical waste please.

The dumpster will be available from 8 a.m. through 3 p.m. June 17.

Hazardous waste drop off will be available until 3 p.m. Please be prepared to sign your name and address when dropping off waste.

Both the dumpster and waste drop off will be located behind St. Peters School at 6400 Charlotte.

About Oak Meyer Gardens Homes Association (OMG)

The Oak Meyer Gardens (OMG) neighborhood is comprised of 485 homes located within an area bound by 63rd Street to the north, 69th Street to the south, Holmes on the east, and Oak on the west. OMG is a member of the Homes Associations of the Country Club District (HACCD), an alliance of 40 homeowners associations in Kansas City, as well as some on the Kansas side of the metro area. The OMG Homes Association is represented by a volunteer board made up of Oak Meyer residents voted in each year at the annual neighborhood meeting. Professionals at the HACCD assist the Homes Association with its administrative requirements. The HACCD also handles complaints that neighbors may have about codes, noise, pets, or other potential violations.

OMG to Give \$100 to Your Block Party

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- Applications can be found at <http://www.kcmo.org/pubworks/blockparty.pdf>
- An applicant must be either a neighborhood resident or the neighborhood homes association.
- Submit original document(s) only. Do not fax or submit photocopies.

According to the city, an application submitted for review less than five days prior to the event will be denied. Just remember that **all** of the residents who live in the blocked-off area must sign the application stating whether they are in favor of the proposed neighborhood block party. Sixty percent of them must be in favor of the idea if it is to go forward. For more information, call the city at (816) 513-2646

What Do You Want to See in Your Neighborhood Newsletter?

What subjects would you like to see covered in your homes association newsletter? Would coupons or offers from neighborhood merchants be of interest? How about ads from Oak Meyer Gardens neighbors offering lawn mowing or other services? Send your ideas to karrinhumann@gmail.com

Islands and Corner Markers are Neighborhood Assets

Oak Meyer Gardens is home to 28 decorative corner markers and garden islands. You have probably noticed these as you walk the neighborhood. Some are sculptural pineapples, cherubs, or planters, all of which are hallmarks of J.C. Nichols-designed neighborhoods. The Homes Association is responsi-

ble for contracting with a landscaping service that plants and maintains these areas throughout the growing months. If you happen to have a planter in your yard, please consider helping out by watering it regularly so that the entire neighborhood can continue to enjoy these unique assets.

The neighborhood corner markers located at the intersection of Rockhill Road and Holmes are getting a makeover soon. The OMG Homes Association has contracted to have a professional company power wash and clean the white paint off both monuments in order to restore them to their original brick color.

OMG is Home to Both Dog-walkers and Gardeners

Oak Meyer Gardens is a walk able neighborhood home to many urban dog lovers. It's nice that they enjoy walking at all hours, as it makes for a safer area. We're also lucky to



have some talented gardeners for neighbors. They beautify our entire neighborhood. Sometimes, however, there arises a unique conflict between

dog walkers and gardeners. If you walk your dog, you have probably noticed that he enjoys sniffing the landscaped corner bushes throughout Oak Meyer Gardens. These plantings seem to have become the neighborhood "bulletin board" for dogs. Researchers into canine behavior have found that dogs can gather a lot of information about other dogs from such areas, and are usually compelled to leave a "message" of their own. Unfortunately, urine is harmful to these

plantings, so it is important to try to keep pets from relieving themselves on the landscaped common areas and neighbor's landscaped yards. As any loving dog owner knows, sometimes it is difficult to control where a dog "goes," but it's worth a try for the sake of our neighborhood gardeners and the neighborhood landscaping we share.



Check for neighborhood news updates at the Oak Meyer Gardens web site:
<http://www.haccd.org/moassoc/home.asp?assoc=Oak%20Meyer%20Gardens>

Oak Meyer Gardens 2005 Overview

Oak Meyer Gardens Annual Meeting:

The annual Oak Meyer Gardens Neighborhood Association meeting was held at the newly-opened University Academy November 13, 2005. Neighborhood residents who had been curious about the new school were eager to tour the school and ask questions of its principal and other staff. After the tour the official business of the meeting began with 54 residents and 11 visitors in attendance. The group voted to approve the 2006 association budget and nominated new board members. Your new board is listed (insert location of board in newsletter.)

Christmas Tree Pickup

The OMG Homes Association scheduled a free Christmas Tree pickup in 2005. Sixty eight neighbors took advantage of this service, which turned the trees into mulch for our neighborhood's island and corner markers.

Porch Lights Keep OMG Safer

It seems like a small thing, but by leaving your porch lights on, you really do help deter crime in the neighborhood. Back and side yard security lights are a good idea as well, but make sure they are adjusted so they don't point into a neighbor's yard or window. To thank and encourage everyone to leave their porch lights on, Euston's Waldo Hardware offers this coupon for free light bulbs to OMG residents who bring it to the Waldo location.



OAK MEYER GARDENS RESIDENTS

Bring this coupon to our 75th Street location and receive a free four-pack of standard 60-, 75-, or 100-watt light bulbs.

Euston's is located in Waldo at 126 W. 75th Street, Kansas City, Missouri