



Homes Associations of Kansas City
4200 Somerset Drive, Suite 216
Prairie Village, KS 66208

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Neighborhood Block Captains

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*Let your block captain know if your
contact info changes to receive
regular email updates.*

Board Members

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Greenway Fields

HOMES ASSOCIATION NEWS • KANSAS CITY, MO 64113 • 2Q 2013



Cir. 1940s Greenway Fields Home—6434 Wornall Rd

President's Letter

Thank you to the more than 65 residents who turned out for the Greenway Fields Homes Association Annual Meeting in February. Breakfast from the Brookside Bar & Grill was yummy as always. Many issues were discussed among them the key items which follow.

In 2012 we took on a major replanting effort. Because of the extreme drought last summer the watering cost pushed the total beyond our initial budget; however, the extra expense was offset with some remaining funds from security and snowplowing, keeping our budget in balance.

The Greenway Fields CID directors reviewed previous expenses and items that we would like to complete in the coming years and proposed a new budget for 2013/2014 fiscal year. This new budget does have an increase in the GFNCID assessment that will be assessed by Jackson County on your December 2013 taxes. The new amount will be \$136 per household. Since the CID was created 4 years ago there has been only one increase of 50¢.

This increase in funds will pay for automation of the required annual CID processes, watering of existing plantings to prevent future replacement, a planned upgrade to the landscaping at the Meyer Columns, replacement of the wood mulch at Strawn Park with rubber mulch, plus funding for tree replacement.

One other important change in funding will be an annual reserve of \$2,000 into the *Major Maintenance Reserve Fund*. This will allow the GFHA to cover any unexpected expenses for repairs and replacement at any of our parks or islands in the future.

All residents that were present at the meeting were very receptive to the changes. Enjoy the spring season which showcases the beauty of our neighborhood.

Clem

Upcoming Events

★
Google Fiber Picnic
Sat, Apr 6, 1–3 PM
Strawn Park

Come enjoy Oklahoma Joe's BBQ & games. Get your questions answered or sign up for fiber.
R.S.V.P. clem.helmstetter@greenwayfields.org

★
Arbor Day & Tree Census
Sat, Apr 27, 10 AM
Strawn Park
See inside for more info...

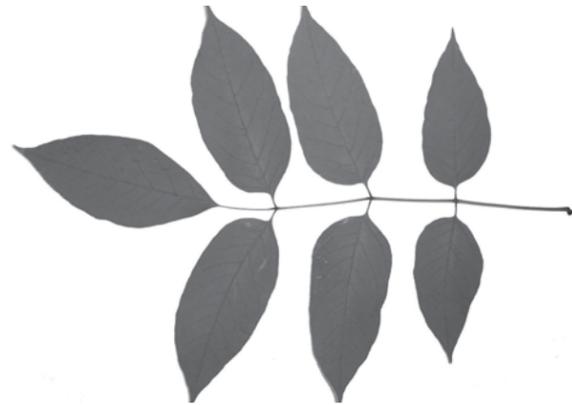
★
Brookside Art Annual
Fri–Sun, May 3–5
63rd and Brookside between
Main St. and Wornall
<http://www.brooksidekc.org>

★
Neighborhood Yard Sale
Sat, May 18
This is the same date as many other neighboring HOAs. Clear out your closets, basements and attics and turn your unused items into extra cash

★
G.F. Neighborhood Picnic
Sun, Jun 9, 5–7 PM
Strawn Park
Come visit with old friends and meet new neighbors! Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Beverages and utensils provided.
R.S.V.P. board@greenwayfields.org

Join our facebook group 

www.greenwayfields.org



Pinnately compound leaves arranged opposite one another



Some species of Ash have diamond patterned bark

Protecting Your Ash Tree from Certain Death

Approximately 20% of our GFHA trees are Ash with an equal number of those being in easements (between the sidewalk and street) and in private yards. It is highly likely that the Emerald Ash Borer will invade Brookside; it may already be here. This diabolical pest spells certain death to any Ash it attacks. It is imperative that we mount a counterattack. Removing a mature, diseased tree can be costly, making prevention a much better alternative. We have negotiated an average rate of \$9 per diameter inch (10–24”) for a treatment that is effective for two years. Time is of the essence as the treatment needs to be applied before the start of June to be most effective. GFHA has been approved for PIAC (Public

Improvements Advisory Committee) funding for repopulating our trees. This would apply to easements/streetscapes but, not to trees on private property. Contact certified arborist Bret Cleveland at (816) 214-8327 or beth.noble@greenwayfields.org for more information.

The adjacent pictures will help to identify if you have an Ash tree. They are unique in that the leaves are more almond in shape and will have many leaves on each branch. The trunk has a diamond shaped pattern and is brown-gray in color. The trees reach a great height at maturity with a dual major branching from the trunk. We're sure you'll agree these trees are a great asset to the entire Greenway Fields Community

Research Your Home's History

In 1940, a number of agencies came together with the purpose of photographically documenting every building in Jackson County. It is unclear exactly why this project was organized, but it may have had to do with tax assessment, insurance and the WPA (Works Progress Administration). Collaborating agencies included Jackson County, the City of Kansas City, the WPA and others. What remains today is a rich archive of Kansas City architecture. Photographs are slightly larger than a postage stamp. These small positive images can be clearly seen with the unaided eye.

Archives are kept in folders categorized by district-blocks with a number assigned to each block and building, respectively. For example, the photo on the cover is number 17-119 (block 17, building/home 119). Photographers would generally, but not always start at the Northeast corner of a block and work their way around. Project administrators created their own indexing system by district/block/parcel number not related to anything. Since buildings are not cataloged by address or even parcel number, finding your house

can be slightly challenging. Using maps from the period—there were/are specific tax assessment maps for each the Kansas City districts—the Greenway Fields home on the cover was found quickly. You may have heard of the Sandborn Fire Insurance Maps. These are similar, but not related to that effort.

The historic images began their life at the County Tax Assessor's Office where they remained for decades. Eventually, enough time had passed that the value of the documentation could no longer be relied upon for its originally intended purpose. In the 1970s, the Landmarks Commission (now called the Historic Preservation Office in City Hall) took possession of the archive. Today, you can find them in the Missouri Valley Special Collections of the Central Library in Kansas City. The downtown library hopes to soon put them on the library's web site. High resolution scans are available for a nominal fee of \$10. If you'd like to conduct your own research visit the library in person or send an email to history@kclibrary.org or by phone at (816) 701-3427. They have helpful staff ready to assist you.

Join the Greenway Fields Facebook Group

Be sure and check out our Facebook page. Search Facebook for Greenway Fields Homes Association to join. It's a great place to share news with your neighbors about your favorites, such as local schools and churches, fund drives, etc. This page becomes more effective as our number of active members grows.

Arbor Day & Tree Census

Your GFHA Tree Committee will be conducting the census on April 27th in celebration of Arbor Day. We will start from Strawn Park at 10 AM. The census will be conducted by volunteers and will provide an exact count of the tree numbers and species. Championship trees that are notable in value will also be identified. This will be an opportunity to contribute and learn about the tree diversity in our neighborhood. Please contact beth.noble@greenwayfields.org. All volunteers are welcome. Activities for children and families will be available.

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Block Captains

Block Captains forward select, valuable information regarding neighborhood security, city schedules and alerts, upcoming events and more. If you aren't receiving email updates from your Block Captain they may not have your most current contact info. Use the list on the back of this newsletter to let your Block Captain know how to reach you.

We encourage you to share your contact info with your Block Captain. Our neighborhood is stronger when we are connected and can stay informed.