



# THE OUTLOOK

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE CITY OF SPRING HILL, KANSAS

APRIL 2015 ISSUE

WATER IS ON EVERYONE'S MIND: FROM SPRING SHOWERS TO UTILITY BILL QUESTIONS  
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TIME FOR GREAT IDEAS TO BLOSSOM: Neighborhood Walk & Talks will give you the chance to tell City officials your ideas to make our community prosper. Dates and times will be announced later this month.

signs that  
**spring**  
is here!

TIME FOR SPRUCING UP EVERYTHING: INCLUDING OUR WATER TOWER  
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CITY-HOSTED FUN AT DAFFODIL DAYS  
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POOL PASSES ARE ALREADY ON SALE!  
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ROAD WORK HAS RETURNED  
PAGE 3



# CODE DECODER

with Spring Hill code enforcement / animal control officer Jeff Finch

Hello. My name is Jeff Finch, and I will be replacing Officer Ralph Fischer as the Code Enforcement/Animal Control Officer for the City of Spring Hill.

I would like to be the first to thank Ralph Fischer for his years of dedication and service to our fine community. Ralph has set the standard high for this position, and it will be my honor to continue his fine work and maybe add a few of my own ideas.

One of those ideas is this little communication, where I would like to talk about some of the codes/animal issues that might be pertinent at the time of the newsletter. So, here we go.

This is the time of year that our small animal population is beginning its mating season. That means an increased amount of animals crossing our roads. Be extra alert - but especially around the dusk and dawn time period.

Thank you, and be safe.

**Jeff**



We thank former Code Enforcement/Animal Control Officer Ralph Fischer for his many years of service to our community and wish him a happy retirement!

## April 2015 city calendar

**01**

large item trash day: Miami County

**02**

Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

**06**

Public Safety Advisory Board meeting, 7 p.m.

Customer service open house 5 to 8 p.m.

**09**



**09**

City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

**20**

Green Board meeting, 7 p.m.

**22**

large item trash day: Johnson County

**23**

City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

**OPEN GYM**

Tuesdays: 6 to 9 p.m.  
Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Civic Center Gymnasium



**25 Daffodil Days, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Visit the City of Spring Hill's booth at Daffodil Days to offer up your ideas on how to make our community better! We'll be asking residents to take a peek at some future plans for the West Lake Park, Aquatic Center, City website, and more and give us their ideas. Aquatic Center passes will also be on sale, so be sure to stop by to pick up a pass and great giveaways!

ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE AT THE SPRING HILL CIVIC CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

news  
note  
FROM  
CITY  
HALL

WATER TOWER PROJECT

Repairs on Spring Hill’s water tower are scheduled to begin this month. While the tower receives vital upgrades and a fresh coat of paint, it will be taken out of service.

While disruption to water service is not expected, the City is implementing a 90-day Stage 2 Water Warning and partial mandatory water restriction to make sure the system has enough pressure and supply in the event of an emergency.

We’re asking our customers to attempt to limit or eliminate nonessential water use during this time. Locations having odd-numbered addresses are asked to water lawns on odd days, while even-numbered addresses will water on even days.

The project is expected to take up to 90 days. If you have any questions, please call Spring Hill Public Works at 592-3317.

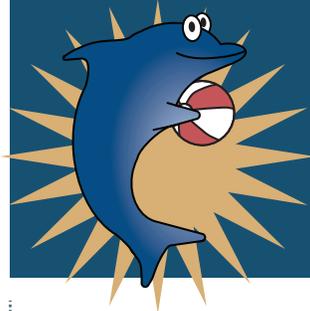
SECOND CUSTOMER SERVICE OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED

Over the last several months, some of our water customers have been affected by highly unusual water usage readings. We hosted a customer service open house in mid-March to help affected customers learn more about this situation, and a second event has been scheduled for April 9.

Customers can stop by the Civic Center Reception Room from 5 to 8 p.m. to speak with staff directly working on the issue and learn more about what we are doing to find a solution. You can also set up a time to visit with utility billing to discuss your bill in detail.

If you have noticed that your water bill seems extraordinarily high or low, please make an attempt to stop by and learn more!

POOL PASSES ON SALE NOW!



Stop by City Hall today to take advantage of our 10 percent discount, available through April 30! Details are available at [www.springhillks.gov](http://www.springhillks.gov).

CHANGES TO OUR DELIQUENCY NOTICE POLICY

Customers have often called City Hall worried that their utilities will be shut off because they received a delinquency notice. In most of these cases, these customers are not in danger of being shut off. To address this problem, the City will be changing the way we handle delinquency notices.

Delinquency notices will no longer be mailed to those customers who are delinquent on their **current** utility bills. Instead, delinquency notices will only be mailed to those in danger of being shut off in that current month.

Payments are due by the 15th of each month. Those accounts delinquent by 30 days will receive a delinquent notice, and service will be interrupted if payment or a payment arrangement is not made prior to the 20th of that month.

For more information, please contact our utility billing department at (913) 592-3636.

SEWER USAGE REAVERAGING TO STAY CONSISTENT

Due to recent untimely circumstances that have affected some Spring Hill Water District customers, the City will be using customers’ 2014 sewer usage averages instead of reaveraging your sewer usage for 2015. This will only affect customers who are in the Spring Hill Water District. For more information, call City Hall at (913) 592-3664.

ROAD WORK PROJECTS

Our streets department is ready to kick off a summer full of projects! Work on Webster Street continues as crews patch cracks on one of our city’s busiest streets.

Repairs to streets in Maple Ridge will be made in April. Homeowners in this area will see roads closed in small areas during this time.

As always, please be careful in work zones and look out for our employees!

For more information on the road repairs, call the Spring Hill Public Works office at (913) 592-3317.

NEW CITY PHONE NUMBERS

CITY HALL: 592-3664  
MUNICIPAL COURT: 592-3624  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: 592-3657

UTILITY BILLING: 592-3626  
PUBLIC WORKS: 592-3317  
POLICE DEPARTMENT: 592-2700

COUNCIL

CORNER

**FEBRUARY 26 MEETING**

**CONGRATULATIONS, ARTS COUNCIL!**

A major stride toward enhancing the arts in Spring Hill was taken when the City Council adopted 5-0 an ordinance abolishing the Spring Hill Arts Council! The Arts Council recently received its 501C3 designation and is ready to be its own entity separate from City government. The Mayor congratulated the Arts Council on this terrific achievement.

**BLACKHAWK APARTMENTS READY TO GO**

The final development plan for Blackhawk Apartments was unanimously approved by the City Council. Work can now begin on 228 one- and two-bedroom apartments in seven buildings planned to be built at the southwest corner of Franklin and 226th streets.

**FIVE WHOLE DAYS OF FIREWORKS**

The Council authorized dates for the discharge of fireworks in 2015. You can shoot off fireworks in the city limits July 1 through 5 and 11 p.m. December 31 through 12:30 a.m. January 1, 2015.



Increasing Spring Hill's housing diversity, especially the city's rental offerings, was one major initiative identified in our 2014 community visioning process, Project Connect.

**MARCH 12 MEETING**

**NEW STRATEGIES TO TACKLE POVERTY**

Pastor Janice Hawley gave a presentation on Miami County Circles, a new countywide effort that began in February as a result of several forums on childhood poverty. Pastor Hawley said the program is designed to help people move out of poverty, and the group is currently seeking volunteers.

**BIG GOALS FOR SPRING HILL'S FUTURE**

The Council has spent the last few months coming up with a list of goals and objectives, and they're ready to start prioritizing the results of these meetings. These goals and their potential timelines will be discussed at a worksession at 6 p.m. April 23. A list of the Council's goals is available online.

**MARCH 26 MEETING**

**A SAFER WAY TO GET TO SCHOOL**

An agreement was approved by the Council with Johnson County that will allow the City to install a sidewalk and crosswalk connecting Spring Hill High School and Estates of Wolf Creek at Ridgeview Road.

**A LONG-TERM PLAN FOR 223RD STREET**

Representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation and HNTB presented the 2015 223rd Street Area Transportation Plan to the Council and staff. The plan shows how increased traffic along the busy area between Columbia and Victory roads could be addressed through road realignments and traffic lights through 2040.

Spring Hill City Council meetings are held the second and fourth Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Spring Hill Civic Center. To sign up to receive meeting agendas, visit [www.springhillks.gov](http://www.springhillks.gov).