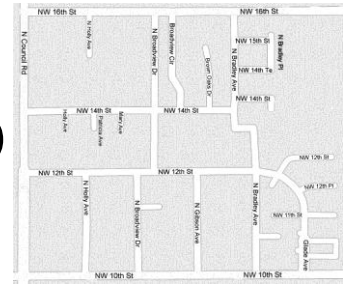


COUNCIL OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



We still need **Block Captains** and **Neighborhood Patrol Volunteers!** If you are interested, please contact our President or Vice President.



A Visit with Ray, OSU Cooperative Extension Service

At our April 12th meeting, Ray (no last name provided) from OSU Cooperative Extension Service

addressed a number of questions/problems we all face with our lawns in this area. He also handed out two informational pamphlets — one on landscape maintenance schedule (HLA-6408), the other on lawn management in Oklahoma (HLA6420). One can also go to <http://osufacts.okstate.edu> for these and other fact sheets.

Ray had a lot of facts and tips to share; it is impossible to review them all here. Here is a random sampling, though:

Apply fall pre-emergent the first week in August. The first week in February where there is a 50° day, use Roundup and a liquid pre-emergent on your bermuda grass. This will kill anything that is green still growing in the yard and help suppress new weed growth. There are three kinds of basic weeds: broadleaf, grassy, and sedges. Broadleaf is like dandelions where the leaves have veins. Grassy is like crabgrass. Sedges are three-sided grasses. Each kind requires a special post-emergent chemical. Read the directions carefully as to when to apply and whether it will damage ornamentals. Grass height — start at one inch, then gradually move up to two to three inches by August or the fall. This helps conserve water and provide more weed control. If you plant fescue, do so in mid Sept/October. This will allow the roots to take hold. Don't plant it in March. Ideal fescue height is three inches. How to tell the difference between a mole and a pocket gopher: moles travel through the soil and put their runs parallel to structures. Gopher mounds just pop up wherever. There is finally a poison that works on moles, if you are not into using a harpoon trap: Talpirid or Tomcat poison worms, but they need to be put into an active run and gloves must be used so there is no human smell associated with them. Killing the grubs the moles feed on simply moves them next door. Pocket gophers can be gotten rid of via poison grain, smoke bombs, traps. Short-tailed cricket — they are not a home

invader and are not very damaging, they just do mounds in the spring and September-November. You can use lemon dish soap and water on them. Sandburs: They are a grassy weed, so use the appropriate chemical. Treat before it gets too hot. The burrs can be latent for years, so it can be hard to get rid of them. Ray recommends cypress mulch for flower beds, not the rubber stuff made from tires. Plants he likes that he feels are underutilized: hardy hibiscus, ornamental grasses, crape myrtles. Don't forget the Extension Service at 930 N. Portland handles testing of soil. Contact them at 713-1125 between 8 and 4:30 M-F for more information.

Garage Sale Permit info

Here is the web link to OKC's site:

http://www.okc.gov/services/garage_sale/index.html

Each household can have two garage sales a year with proper permits. Previously, garage sales had to be spaced at least six months apart, but you may now hold them on consecutive weekends.

Garage sale permits are \$7 and can be purchased through the following ways: Purchase a permit through the city's web link or call the License Division at 297-2606 for a "paperless permit." Instead of a paper form, you get a permit number over the phone to post at your sale. You can also get a permit by mail. Request an application at least two weeks before your sale. They'll mail you an application to fill out. Return it with a check or money order for \$7.

Garage sale signs and other service signs are not allowed on utility poles, traffic sign poles, medians or any public right-of-way. You can put one sign in front of your house. The sign itself can't be larger than 12 square feet.

You can sell any personal property, but not motor vehicles. You cannot sell new merchandise, consignment items, or resale items.

A single permit is good for three consecutive days. The sale must be held at the address listed on it, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The maximum fine for conducting a sale without a license is \$200 plus costs.

The City of Oklahoma City License Division
420 W Main, Suite 130
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
Phone: 405-297-2606
Office hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon-Fri.

Litter Blitz a success!

Our April 14 litter blitz was moved to April 21st, after the OU Big Event volunteers were unable to come on the 14th due to bad weather. Because of the change, fewer OU students were able to participate and so we got less done, but those who did worked very hard to shovel up dirt, grass, and weeds along the gutters, pick up trash, clear limbs, etc.

Thank you to everyone who turned out to help — including those folks who provided a wonderful array of cookies and brownies for everyone to enjoy!



Photo provided by Kathey Rauh



And now, a few words from our President!

Just wanted to say thank you to everyone that helped out on Litter Blitz Day! It was a success. Hoping next year to go bigger and better!

If you have not checked out our Facebook or website pages lately, please do. Wyn-Erin has taken over that area and she has done an awesome job! Thank you, Wyn-Erin, for all your hard work.

Our neighborhood is improving and will continue to improve with your diligence in keeping an eye out for each other. I have had quite a few people calling and asking me to call code enforcement or the police for them. Please remember that if you see something that needs attention you will need to make that call. You can do this anonymously but it is YOUR responsibility. Always try to work it out with the other individual first! The more documentation on file, the better chance we have at getting something done!

Oh — we still need about six more volunteers in order to launch our Neighborhood Patrol. KOCO Channel 5 recently aired a special news segment called Oklahoma City's Most Dangerous Zip Codes. Ours — 73127 — was ranked second-most dangerous, I'm sure in part, due to the ongoing problems at some of the apartment complexes south of 10th. They also featured a neighborhood that had a patrol and showcased how successful the program was as a deterrent to crime. So please, volunteer! We have a wonderful neighborhood and we need to make sure we keep it that way.

Have a safe and wonderful summer, and see you at the June meeting.

And if you can, please participate in our neighborhood garage sale by having one yourself, or by donating items to CONA to sell.

Dianna Ewing, President

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If you live, work, or do business in our neighborhood, place your ad here!

A business-card size ad only costs 10.00 an issue.

We do four issues a year: March, June, September, and December.

Deadlines are the 15th of the preceding month.

Contact either of the newsletter coordinators Kathy or Kathey.



Mr. Dermott Electric

Lic. #: OK63891

Chris McDermott

Office: 405-603-4665
Cell: 405-496-4020
Fax: 405-603-8075

E-Mail: chris@mcdermottelectric.com

NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE!

Saturday, June 16

Donate items to CONA
or hold your own sale.

Let's make this an annual event!