



# HANDS ON KIRKWOOD

A missionALL community project. Making a difference.



## October 3, 2020

[www.HandsOnKirkwood.org](http://www.HandsOnKirkwood.org)

(HOK) is a one-day mission blitz of our local community. A special day when every member of our community is encouraged and empowered to go serve. **Hands on Kirkwood** gives us that opportunity. It is a simple way – just sign-up to serve neighbors in need. Sign up as a group or individual. HOK was founded in 2007 and is made up and supported by churches, community organizations, businesses, individuals and service groups.

**Due to COVID-19, this year's HOK will look a little different. Most projects are postponed until next year including our winter clothing store, electronic recycling and paper shredding. However, we ARE doing OUTDOOR home projects, our food and baby items collection drive, free winter car check and notary availability for mail-in and absentee ballots.**

### How can I help? So glad you asked ...

- Visit [HandsOnKirkwood.org](http://HandsOnKirkwood.org) to see all of the volunteer opportunities and sign up to help! Need an excuse to get out of the house? Sign up as a family or your pod to help on OUTSIDE ONLY yard projects OR help us clean up the historic Father Dickson Cemetery.
- We will need volunteers to help drop yellow bags on Kirkwood doors the last part of September for a food and personal care items drive. And volunteers to help pick up on Saturday, October 3. The collected items will go to KirkCare (local food pantry), Meramec Brown Bag Café and Nurses for Newborns. Please take time to fill a bag. You can also drop your donation off at Kirkwood Baptist Church in the yellow containers October 1-3.
- Don't want to get out, but still want to help others? Visit [www.HandsOnKirkwood.org](http://www.HandsOnKirkwood.org) and get something for others in need from our Amazon store.
- Donate \$14 (one for each year of HOK!) directly on your Kirkwood utility bill.
- Like us on Facebook for many other opportunities to serve and get served!

**For more info on Hands On Kirkwood events go to [www.HandsOnKirkwood.org](http://www.HandsOnKirkwood.org).**

### What to do if you need help?

#### **FREE OUTDOOR Home and Yard Projects**

Volunteers will serve Kirkwood residents who are in need of help outside of their home who may not be able to do it on their own. There are a variety of ways we can help including yard work or small OUTDOOR home repairs. If you, or maybe your elderly or single parent neighbor need some help, give us a call at 314-965-2349 EXT 111, weekdays, 9am to 4pm. We are limited in how many projects we can do, so best to call sooner than later.

#### **FREE Winterize Car Check - 9:30am - 12pm Kirkwood Baptist Church, 211 N Woodlawn**

FREE of charge, volunteers will inspect cars and provide visitors with recommended items to follow up with your local mechanic. In addition, windshield wiper fluid will be topped off and tires and batteries will be checked.

#### **FREE Notary for Mail-in and Absentee Ballots - 9:30am - 12pm Kirkwood Baptist Church, 211 N Woodlawn**

FREE of charge, volunteers will notarize your mail-in or absentee ballot. You must wear a mask, have proper ID and bring your own pen.

# TREE TALK



September 2020

KIRKWOOD URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

## TREE TALK

We like to think of trees as tall, stately, benevolent giants, quietly providing shelter, shade, and oxygen, season by season, decade by decade. Their very sturdiness makes them seem invulnerable. Drought, disease, severe weather, and pests can prove to be very dangerous to these important assets.

A fungal disease that has been appearing in Kirkwood is the Sycamore Anthracnose. This fungal disease infects sycamore trees and is usually not fatal, but disfigures and weakens the tree, leaving it susceptible to other diseases or pests. It is common in the cool, wet weather of Spring and causes new leaves to turn brown and drop off. The tree may develop cankers resulting in twig dieback and death of larger branches. Clusters of dead twigs will result in abnormal, sometimes twisted branching. Raking up and properly disposing of fallen leaves and twigs can help prevent spread of the fungus. Pruning will also help, but disinfect the pruning shears with a 10% bleach solution to prevent spread. The Missouri Botanical Garden website has more information on symptoms and treatment.

Pruning is an important tool for managing the health of trees. The City utilizes an eight year cycle to trim trees in the public right-of-way. Trees are pruned for shape, health of the tree, clearance, and to remove dead or unhealthy limbs. Trees that have been pruned are healthier and are less affected by severe storms, dropping fewer limbs in high winds, which means safer roadways/sidewalks and fewer power outages.

If you see a dead tree in the right-of-way or what appears to be a dead or hazardous limb, you can report it to the city's Urban Forester Cory Meyer by contacting him at 314-984-5907 or [meyercc@kirkwoodmo.org](mailto:meyercc@kirkwoodmo.org).

Interested in learning more about the city's Tree Ordinance or the Urban Forestry Commission? Check out the Urban Forestry

Commission webpage by opening your camera and pointing it at the QR Code on the left to be taken directly to their page at [kirkwoodmo.org](http://kirkwoodmo.org).



Despite covid-19, the organizers of Kirkwood's **50 Trees** street tree planting campaign are forging ahead, continuing efforts to enhance our historic streets with new trees.

The toll on City trees from storms, emerald ash borers, and development is significant. To mitigate the impacts of tree loss, citizen-volunteers aim to plant 50 more trees on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020. Nominations for planting sites are being taken for locations within about 15' of the street. Sites must be free of utility conflicts. Contact us at [KeepKirkwoodGreen@gmail.com](mailto:KeepKirkwoodGreen@gmail.com) with your nominations now!

Because the number of available trees is limited, nominated sites will be chosen on a first-come first-served basis, considering the siting requirements and willingness of nearby homeowners to assist in watering. The trees will be provided and planted free of charge.

You can find more information about Keep Kirkwood Green and how you can help the 50 Trees Program please visit: [www.keepkirkwoodgreen.wordpress.com](http://www.keepkirkwoodgreen.wordpress.com)

New volunteers are welcome to join our "socially-distanced" planting! Our reward at the end of planting day will be reaching a goal of 800 new trees planted along Kirkwood streets since 2010!