

# Rockwood

Homes Association  
Summer 2024



## Notes from the RW Board

The Rockwood board meets the third Monday of each month. At the most recent meetings, business has centered on reviewing monthly financial information, the need for short-term and long-term maintenance projects and the status of pool memberships and facilities. Bids will be taken over the summer for tree trimming around the RW perimeter stone enclosures, as well as in the park. Additional seating for the park area is also under consideration.

Annual summary financial information and minutes of the 2024 *annual meeting* are now available in the Private Section of the Rockwood website.

**Please** contact a current board member or come to a board meeting for more information.

The current board is:

President – Larry Duntz	Vice President – Blake Hoffman
Treasurer – Bert Denny	Secretary – Isabel Paltan
Communications – <i>Open</i>	Social Activities - <i>Open</i>
At Large – Darryl Awe	At Large – Lee Wadsworth

### Open positions –

*Social Activities* – Coordinate annual events such as Easter Egg hunt, 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, pool kickoff

*Communications* – Monitor Gmail account; website & newsletters (usually done by a couple of people)

*Grounds/landscaping* – For anyone with an interest in gardens/entrances/park grounds

With summer activities and maintenance projects, now would be a great time to attend a board meeting to check out what is going on in the neighborhood, and perhaps consider adding your efforts to help keep this area a great place to live.

We especially need members with young families to help keep Rockwood family and kid friendly. No board experience is necessary; participation does not require much time (a couple of hours a month), with several positions open.

ROCKWOOD'S ANNUAL  
**4TH OF JULY**  
**BIKE PARADE!!**  
(STROLLERS & WAGONS TOO!)

JOIN IN THE FUN AND BIKE,  
PUSH, OR WALK ALONG!  
OR  
WAVE THOSE FLAGS AND  
CHEER THEM ON FROM YOUR  
FRONT YARD!

RRF PARKING LOT  
9:30AM | JULY 4TH

ROUTE: WEST ON PLAZA,  
SOUTH ON RUTLAND,  
EAST ON ROCKWOOD

COME WITH YOUR DECORATED BIKE, TRIKE, OR WAGON!  
TREATS AND PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN AFTER THE PARADE  
WICHITA FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL LEAD (SCHEDULE PERMITTING)

## Have a safe & happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday!

Remember fireworks can be shot off in Wichita June 27-July 5; aerial fireworks July 3-July 5. 10:00 a.m. – midnight. WPD & WFD will be patrolling. Please be considerate of your neighbors and furry friends.

## On the Calendar...

*Fall Clean-up Day – October – watch for signs*

*Annual Meeting – January 2025 – watch for January newsletter for date/time*

*Monthly Board meetings – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month*

*RRF Patio Room at 7:00 pm. You are encouraged to attend board meetings which are all open to Rockwood homeowners.*

**How to Stay in the Know in the Neighborhood** – To receive Rockwood emails with newsletters, neighborhood updates & security notifications:

**Email [rockwoodhomeownerassociation@gmail.com](mailto:rockwoodhomeownerassociation@gmail.com) to get added to the Gmail list & Checkout the Rockwood website [www.rockwoodneighborhood.org](http://www.rockwoodneighborhood.org)**

## Rockwood Pool 2024!!!!

The pool at Rockwood is having a wonderful summer. The temps have been high, but the water feels great!



With Joe Hutchinson as general manager and Ashley Duntz operational manager, the pool is off to a strong summer season.

**The volleyball court** has been busy! The Tournament of Champions volleyball tournament is July 20<sup>th</sup>.

**The swimming team** has had a very successful season so far - winning 5 out of 7 meets and a lot of fast swimming.

**Swimming lessons** have been full, **but we have space in our last session:** from July 1-July 12 from 11:00-11:40 Monday-Thursday.

**Come swim with us on the 4th!** We will have games and races for kids of all ages and live music from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Raffle in the patio room – please let Joe know if you have items or services you would like to donate. The pool has revised hours, opening at 11:00 a.m., but closing at 6:00 to allow staff and members to enjoy holiday festivities.

Memberships are available at several levels (upon payment of annual Rockwood assessments).

Remember that school hours start August 12<sup>th</sup> with the pool closing Monday through Thursday.

New to the neighborhood? Come on down for a full tour of the pool and park or contact Joe at [rockwoodpoolwichita@gmail.com](mailto:rockwoodpoolwichita@gmail.com) with any questions.

**And don't forget the pickleball court and the new playground equipment in the park!** The park is open to all Rockwood when the pool is closed.

Please help keep it clean, picked up and equipment in good condition, reporting any needed maintenance. Pet owners, please be considerate when your dogs have the run of the park. Not all people, including kids, may be comfortable in greeting your dog who may just want to be friendly.

For volleyball court access after the pool is closed, please contact Larry Duntz.

Our RRF helps families connect, provides a safer place for children to make neighborhood friends and burn energy, and continues to make Rockwood a great place to live.

## Go Play!!!

## Be Street Safe!

**Walking Your Dog?**

**Getting in a Late/Early Run?**

**Kids headed to the Park?**



It's great that our families can walk/bike through the neighborhood, but that means we have a lot of people walking on streets that do not have sidewalks. The speed limit is 30 MPH, but that is too fast for young families. Please slow it down and watch for people in the street.

*We want to emphasize the area from 7515 East Rockwood and 7523 Plaza Lane is legally designated as a "Children Play" area, with a 20 MPH speed limit from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. **Slow down!***

**Bottom line... It is up to each person driving a car or walking/bicycling to Be alert, SLOW DOWN, look, listen, wear reflective clothing, and teach your kids to look, listen and use their eyes before their feet – especially when leaving the RRF parking lot.**

### Be Seen!

- ◆ Wear bright colors
- ◆ Wear reflective clothing at night
- ◆ Use the sidewalk
- ◆ If no sidewalk – walk left side of the street facing traffic – bike right side of the street

### Be Safe!

- ◆ Be Alert – Watch for cars – they may not see you
- ◆ Watch the street - not the phone
- ◆ Pull the plug on the earphones

### Drivers, Parents & Teenagers!



- ◆ Watch for kids who may not be watching for you
- ◆ Slow down!! – 20 MPH speed limit around RRF
- ◆ Stay Alert - reduce distractions
- ◆ Parents – remind your kids to be Street Smart!

### Kids!

### Be Street Safe!

★ Be a Rockwood Walk Star! ★

### SLOW



CHILDREN  
AT PLAY

### Be Smart!

Stop! Look Both Ways! Listen! Look Again!  
☑ On the street ☑ In the parking lot ☑ Leaving the parking lot

Use your eyes & your ears -  
Before you use your feet!

**Report any suspicious activity to the police, call 911 – you know your neighbors, what is “normal” activity for your neighborhood – Err on the side of caution!**

**if you SEE something SAY something**

**If you find yourself a victim of any crime of larceny or burglary, please file a report by calling 911 for an emergency or the Wichita Police Case Desk at 316.268.4221 or visit any police substation.**

We thank WPD for its assistance helping to ensure the safety of our residents.

## **Political Signage – It’s That Time of Year**

With the general election in November, it’s the perfect time to review the types of signage and allowed placement, drafted not only to protect citizens’ First Amendment rights but also address personal safety, visual clutter, etc.



While RW can and will, monitor and control what signage is placed on the public easements and common ground around and a part of Rockwood, we ask that Rockwood residents respect and abide to the covenants.

### *Rockwood Covenants -*

J. No signs, advertisements, billboards or advertising structures of any kind may be erected or maintained on any of the Building Sites herein restricted without the consent in writing of the Board of Directors of the Association, provided, however, that permission is hereby granted for the erection and maintenance of political signs (during a reasonable time period before and after the election) ...

The Rockwood Board uses for its guidance on "reasonable time period" City of Wichita Code 24.04.045 -

*City of Wichita Statute 24.04* details what is allowed where and what actions can be taken. The statute prohibits “Temporary” signs on city easements and public right-of ways, which includes Rockwood entrances and medians. Signage placed on private property must have the permission of the homeowner and may be displayed 45 days prior and two days after an election.

If you have specific concerns, please take a closer look at the statute for actions you can take. This year, as in any other election cycle, please be aware to keep any kind of political signage within your property lines.

## **Rockwood Trees Need TLC, too!**



Rockwood’s shady, tree-lined streets are some of the best attributes for our neighborhood, adding to the quality of life and the value of our properties. Diseases, lack of regular trimming/ deadwooding can damage or

destroy trees and property if not properly addressed. Insects can infect and damage whole neighborhoods of trees.

*Trim and Spray to keep them healthy.* After you pull into your driveway, look toward the street – and up – up into your trees in your front yard next to the street. Do you see a lot of dead wood up in the tree and over the street? Technically the trees belong to the city – but any damage caused by falling limbs, as well as the overall health of the tree, etc. – are the responsibility of the homeowner.

*Please call the city to get those trimmed. Use the Wichita Report App – reporting is easy.*

If you have not already, please consider getting your trees sprayed for scales on a regular basis. An infestation can not only seriously damage your trees, but also those of your neighbors.

Please help protect the investment in your homes and contact your arborist of choice to schedule annual spraying, to arrange for proper trimming and to check the trees for any necessary maintenance.

## **The Rockwood Directory is Online!!!**

If you would like to have access to the directory, please see the **About Rockwood** page on the Rockwood webpage <https://rockwoodneighborhood.org/> or email

[rockwoodhomeownersassociation@gmail.com](mailto:rockwoodhomeownersassociation@gmail.com) to get started. To set up access takes only a few minutes. Homeowners set and control their own password.

Please note information will be included in the directory unless we receive communication from you via mail or email to restrict use of some or all information or opt-out.

This directory information is For Private Use Only, provided as a courtesy for Rockwood homeowners and is not to be provided in any format to anyone outside of Rockwood, for any purpose.

Even if you opt-out of the directory process, please provide your e-mail address to stay informed and up to date on neighborhood news through Rockwood gmail.

**Need to Report a Pothole? A streetlight out? Trees in Your Front Easement Needs Trimmed? Damaged signs or illegal dumping? Report it! <https://wichita.gov/1013/Report-an-issue>**



## TrashTalk

**The dumpster in the RRF parking lot is available for your use if space is available in the dumpster.**



DO NOT place items on top of or on the ground around the dumpster. **Those items are a safety hazard!**

Time to clean up our act – the container at the RRF is a great perk but, even emptied five times a week, is still often overfull and a hazard. We must do a better job of using this dumpster or risk losing it altogether. The problem is consistent, a weekly problem and the end result is the same – a dumpster that is a hazard to the RW those who monitor the trash in the dumpster and Waste Connections staff/equipment.

Please pack your trash to use the least amount of space:

- Break down your boxes
- Break/cut your limbs or boards to less than 6 feet long
- Place items all the way in the dumpster (does not go over the top or hang out the sides!!!)
- Do not leave anything on the ground

**PLEASE, if it is full, bring your trash back once the dumpster has been emptied.** We realize it is an inconvenience for you, but it is both a safety hazard and incurs an overage fee if the dumpster is already overfull (and risks not being emptied at all).

### Waste Connections Gives Rockwood Discounted Rates

Whether you are new to the neighborhood, or have just not taken advantage of the Waste Connections Rockwood Discount, contact Waste Connections at 316.838.4920 or contact [customerservice5025@wasteconnections.com](mailto:customerservice5025@wasteconnections.com). to mention that you are a Rockwood New Customer to receive the special pricing and credit.

### And, As the Leaves Fall...

And for when fall finally arrives... All those yard projects that you told yourself you would do when it got cooler....it's time. Dependent on the city's water use status, please take some time to repair, replace and refresh - overseed, replace dead bushes, rake leaves, etc.

**Please note:** Do not rake leaves into the drainage/sewer system - actually against city code. Please mulch or bag. Waste Connections allows five bags per pickup

## WICHITA POLICE DEPARTMENT *Security Advisory*

### AUTO BURGLARY TIPS

- **NEVER LEAVE VALUABLE ITEMS VISIBLE FROM OUTSIDE** (money (even just coins), purses, wallets, bags/backpacks, electronic equipment – computers/tablets/GPS units, cell phones, checkbooks, briefcases, sunglasses, mail/documents, guns, etc.)
- **ALWAYS LOCK YOUR VEHICLE**
- **PARK IN A WELL-LIT AREA**, visible from a window
- **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE RUNNING WHEN UNATTENDED**
- **BE ACTIVE IN A NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH**

### AUTO VANDALISM TIPS

- **PARK IN A GARAGE OR, AT LEAST, IN THE DRIVEWAY**, if a garage is not available
- **ENSURE YOUR GARAGE DOOR IS CLOSED**
- **UTILIZE GOOD LIGHTING TO ILLUMINATE AROUND VEHICLES**
- **BE ACTIVE IN A NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH**

### Items of Note

City Council District 1 Council Member, Brandon Johnson, [BJJohnson@wichita.gov](mailto:BJJohnson@wichita.gov), 316.303.8017, *District 1 meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month at the Atwater Recreation Center, 2755 East 19th Street North, at 9:30 a.m.*

Rockwood contracts with HOA Management Services <http://www.homeownermgmt.com/> to oversee our neighborhood's daily operations, including accounting, correspondence, maintenance and covenant enforcement.

Our Community Manager is Mike Casey. Please contact him with questions regarding landscaping or structural improvements, covenants, assessments, or pool management at 316.351.7650 ext. 204 or at [MCasey@homeownermgmt.com](mailto:MCasey@homeownermgmt.com).

**A full set of the covenants is available on Rockwood's website.** If you have direct questions/concerns about these or other covenants, please speak with a board member or come to a meeting.

The bottom line is we are neighbors first, but the board has a responsibility to work to uphold the documents that govern and protect Rockwood in the long-term.

**Need to Report a Pothole? A streetlight out? Trees in Your Front Easement Needs Trimmed? Damaged signs or illegal dumping? Report it! <https://wichita.gov/1013/Report-an-issue>**

