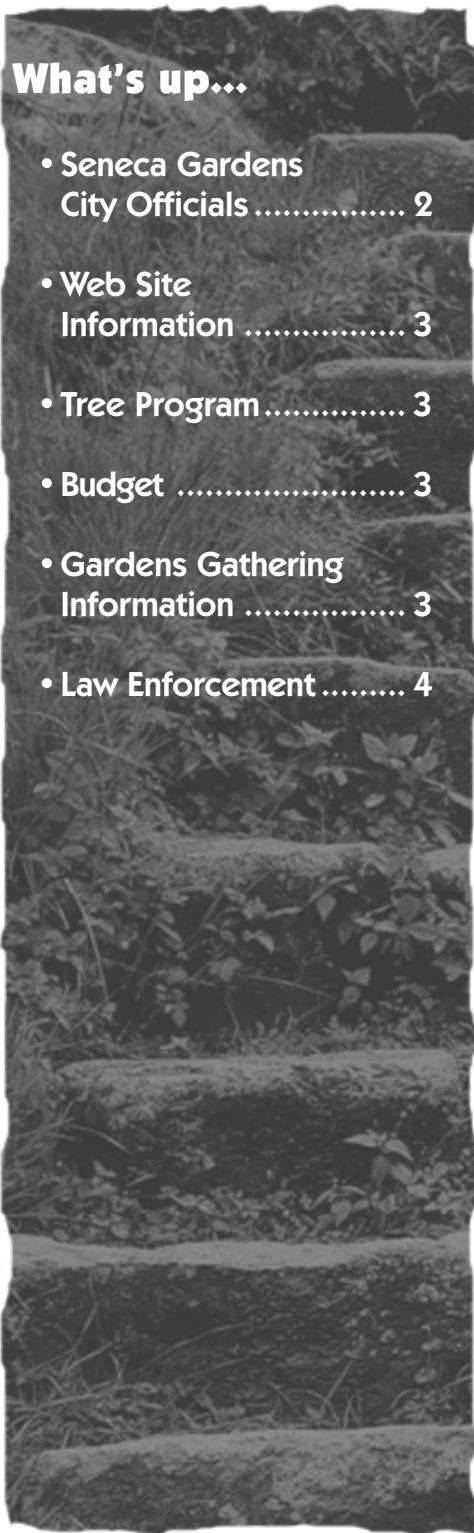


GARDEN NEWS

City of Seneca Gardens

Summer 2007



What's up...

- Seneca Gardens City Officials 2
- Web Site Information 3
- Tree Program 3
- Budget 3
- Gardens Gathering Information 3
- Law Enforcement 4

Mayor's Comments and Observations

Greetings to all the good citizens of Seneca Gardens. I know we can all remember the rise in crime in Seneca Gardens and surrounding neighborhoods during the 2006 holiday season. To help prevent future criminal activities, the Board of Commissioners contracted South TransCentral, LLC, a security and traffic control service organization. J. C. Wantland, the owner of South TransCentral [STC] is an employed Jefferson County Sherriff and a resident of Seneca Gardens.

STC has graciously agreed to provide individual consultation on vehicle, home and self security. Be sure to read J.C.'s article in this and future newsletter publications.

In order to maximize the benefits STC brings to Seneca Gardens, the Board authorized them to enforce Seneca Gardens' and Jefferson County's traffic and vehicle regulations.

STC will initially serve "courtesy notices" to remind Seneca Garden residents, their guests and visitors of violations that normally warrant citations. The courtesy notices will, of course, not apply to required enforcement of Jefferson County traffic laws. If the courtesy notices continue to be disregarded, uniform Jefferson County tickets will be issued.

Ordinance Change: The Board is considering a revision to the Building Ordinance. The change deals with the variance procedures. Current variance wording requires that the resident requesting to make a change provide affected neighbors with a project explanation and an approval/disproval signature form. Currently, the completed signature form is returned directly to the requesting neighbor.

The Board is considering asking the affected neighbors to sign an individual approval/disapproval signature form and mail to The Seneca Gardens P.O. Box. Board will obtain affected neighbors responses from the P.O. Box and include in Board's variance's approval/disapproval process. As always, if this or any ordinance is changed, residents will be appropriately notified.

Please send your comments to mayor@senecagardens.com.

Insurance Premium Municipal Tax: Our insurance premium municipal tax collection continues to have a shortfall.

Seneca Gardens is currently collecting somewhere between \$18,000 and \$22,000. We should be collecting somewhere between \$45,000 and \$55,000.

Please do your part! Call your agent[s] and tell them you want these changes on all personal insurance policies. **If designated correctly by your insurance agent, this is "free money" to Seneca Gardens, and in no way increases your personal bill.**





Mayor's Comments cont'd from pg. 1

First, change the mailing address to, Seneca Gardens, KY 40205 [Post Office says that the correct zip code is what assures delivery. Changing Louisville to Seneca Gardens will not affect delivery of any kind].

Second, to make double sure the tax processors recognize Seneca Gardens as the tax recipient, ask agent to change your property location to Seneca Gardens, KY 40205.

This is a request that should be very familiar to your insurance agent and represents a significant sum of money that is legally due the City of Seneca Gardens.

Please make note that the 5% tax on insurance premiums applies to the following insurance policies.

- Auto
- Homeowners
- Health
- Life
- Casualty [Umbrella etc.]
- Inland Marine [Boat etc.]

A Department of Insurance spokesperson stated "The Insurance Companies only have to show they paid the municipal taxes. They do not have to provide itemized listing of the tax payers". Therefore, at this time, Seneca Gardens has no way of tracking these tax revenues.

Please make a mental note; any time you change insurance carriers or agents, the Seneca Gardens 40205 address/property request must be made.

Complaints: There have been several complaints regarding the construction of "Pull Offs" which have been added to driveways and/or yards. County ordinances, as well as Seneca Gardens ordinances, prohibit pull offs unless a permit is received from the County and Seneca Gardens.

150.080 Permit For "Pull Offs"

(A) No person shall construct or permit any paved or gravel "pull offs" parking areas or carved or circular driveway to be constructed or maintained in the front yard of any residential lot within the City without first obtaining a permit therefor from the City Commission.

[B] [See "City Of Seneca Gardens Code of Ordinances"] [B Gives suggested parameters for approval/disapproval]

Since complaints have been made and the City finds no records of authorized "pull offs" a survey to determine number of residents not in compliance will be completed.

Numerous complaints have been received regarding intoxicated individuals leaving parties and driving vehicles. For the safety of all families in Seneca Gardens, this can not be tolerated.

All residents of Seneca Gardens should advise their guest STC will enforce all traffic regulations and restrictions.

Please keep in mind the Board feels that all Seneca Gardens residents, their guests and visitors enjoy the unique architecture of our homes, our green space accomplishments and most importantly our tranquility. The City's ordinances are designed to help us maintain what we all enjoy now and, just as importantly, in the future.

David Brown
Mayor

Seneca Gardens City Officials

Mayor
David Brown
2547 Dell Rd. 452-2069

Commissioners
Casey Clements
2404 Seneca Valley Rd. 456-4252
Melissa Howell
2550 Seneca Dr. 451-7416
Greg Singlust
2405 Valletta Rd. 454-7472
Joe Steffen
2545 Dell Rd. 458-1119

Arborist
Mike Hayman
2548 Seneca Dr. 459-1130*

Treasurer
Carolyn Hood
2556 Seneca Dr. 459-6151

Attorney
Schuyler Olt
..... 262-2802*

Architect
Tim Winters
..... 893-2665

Engineer
Bill Mosier
2611 Meadow Rd. 485-1660*

City Clerk
Barbara Wieting
2524 Broadmeade Rd. 458-9869

Security
J. C. Wantland
..... 459-2908
Life Threatening Emergency..... 911
Louisville Police
Douglas Blvd. 574-7636

* Phone number was printed incorrectly in recent directory.

For the benefit of emergency response vehicles, all house numbers should be at least 3 inches and easily visible from the street.

Seneca Gardens Tree Program

In 1987, a downburst destroyed 100 mature over story trees in Seneca Gardens.

A year later, Seneca Gardens began a subsidized replanting program.

Since the replanting program began, we have planted about 1000 trees in Seneca Gardens. When the storm hit twenty years ago, most of our shade trees were pin oaks and red maples, but now we have hundreds of varieties. In essence, Seneca Gardens is now an arboretum.

The city pays two thirds of the cost for new trees to a limit of \$200 per homeowner per year.

Trees must be planted in the front yard, or side yard if the house is on a corner lot.

Seneca Gardens also subsidizes the removal of hazardous limbs or trees which hang over our public right-of-way. If a tree is in the space between the sidewalk and the street, the city will pay 30% of the removal of hazardous branches or trees.

Michael Hayman
Seneca Gardens Arborist



City of Seneca Gardens Budget

July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008

Income

Property Tax Receipts	\$145,000
Interest Income	\$300
Municipal Aid Road Income	\$11,000
Tax Insurance Premiums	\$18,000
Cable Franchise Fee	\$4,800
Miscellaneous	\$750
Transfer from Reserves	\$11,100
Total Income	\$190,950

Expenditures

Garbage/Recycling/Yard Waste	\$72,000
Municipal Fire Protection	\$35,000
Municipal Police Protection	
Tree Program	\$6,500
Insurance	\$5,450
Repair and Maintenance	\$12,000
Street Lighting Service	\$7,200
Compensation of City Officials	\$3,000
Audit Legal and Professional Fees	\$12,000
Associations and Organizations	\$2,000
Office Expenses	\$1,550
Property Valuation Assessment	\$3,500
Newsletter and Directory	\$2,500
Gardens Gathering	\$3,000
Website Maintenance	\$750
Miscellaneous	\$2,500
Special Projects	\$7,000
Legal Fees	\$3,000
Security Services	\$12,000
Total Expenditures	\$190,950

Adopted the 21st day of May, 2007.

David A. Brown, Mayor

Do you want to stay on top of the latest events and news in and around your neighborhood?
Visit:



www.cityofsenecagardens.com
Sign up for our listserv by emailing:
info@cityofsenecagardens.com
Write "subscribe" in the subject line.

Mark your calendar!
Look for more details in the fall newsletter.

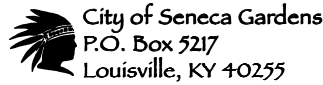
Sunday, October 14



Where neighbors come together.

2pm - 6pm • 2501 Denham Road

Law Enforcement



PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LOUISVILLE, KY
PERMIT NO 1498

I would like to first thank the Mayor and Commissioners of Seneca Gardens for giving me the opportunity to give back to the city that I love so well. My name is J. C. Wantland and not only am I your contracted Law Enforcement Prefect for the city of Seneca Gardens and a Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff, but I'm a 12 year resident as well. My mission is not to see how many citations I can write, cars I can tow or courtesy notices I can issue. My main goal is to keep our little city safe, clean and efficient. You can see me at any given day or time patrolling our city either in my cruiser or on foot. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to flag me down to talk or contact me via phone or e-mail (see below). I am more than eager to listen to what you have to say.

I like to think that I am impartial, unbiased and fair. Residents and non-residents get the same professional treatment. There are several items I would like to touch on in order for our city to remain safe and enjoyable.

According to state law and city ordinance, parking in fire lanes and blocking sidewalks, driving lanes and intersections is prohibited. Please remind any contractors you may hire that this applies to them as well and they need to park appropriately. We would also ask you and you guests to park vehicles with all wheels on the roadway and not in the grass. The speed limit in Seneca Gardens is 25 miles per hour. Stop signs are exactly that. Stop signs. A California roll is a type of sushi, not a legal stop at a stop sign. These laws are there and enforced to protect us and our children. School is out for the summer and bikes, scooters and children are everywhere. Be watchful and attentive to them.

To some of us, pets are like our

second children, if not our first. There are county ordinances in place regarding the control and safety of them as well. The leash law requires all dogs and cats not within a fenced yard, enclosure or home to be on a leash. Even though Duke is 12 years old, would never hurt a fly and loves kids means he still has to be on a leash for those early morning walks or jogs. Also remember that cleaning up your pets' mess while out and about is not only the polite thing to do but it's also a county ordinance that is citable. Our city also has a strict no solicitation ordinance which prohibits any sales, surveys, opinion polls, charitable collections or religious distributions going door to door. Should you have this problem, please contact me immediately so I can approach these individuals and explain our ordinance to them.

We are still covered by Louisville Metro Police and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for protection and you should still call 911 for any emergencies and to report serious crimes or incidents. I have been contracted to supplement their efforts with a more direct knowledge of the area, community and residents. My greatest resource with my efforts for Seneca Gardens is you, the resident. Your wary eye sees that strange vehicle, that suspicious person or something that you know just isn't right. Go with your gut feeling and call me with

what you see or think.

This time of year is perfect for criminals to do their worst. It's the little things that we do that thwart their plans. Locking doors and windows is paramount. This includes your garage door. An open garage door is an open invitation to someone to come in and help themselves. We've had several incidents of residents in their front yards or on their front porches and thieves coming in an open back or side door. Spare house keys are best left with a trustworthy neighbor and not on a door sill, in a "secret" plastic rock or under the matt. With many of us leaving for vacation this summer, remember to advise your neighbors, friends and letter carriers regarding mail, papers and deliveries. Please feel free to drop me an e-mail or call me so I can make sure that your residence is specifically checked during my patrols.

Remember that I'm here for your safety and that of your children, friends and neighbors. I am duty bound and sworn to uphold the laws of this great Commonwealth, Jefferson County and Seneca Gardens. I am asking for all of the assistance, attention, understanding and compliance that you can offer to make Seneca Gardens a little slice of heaven for all of us!

J. C. Wantland
southtrancentral@aol.com
459-2908