



The Seneca Gardens NEWSLETTER

Proud Member of the Jefferson County League of Cities

October, 2025



A Few Words From Mayor Kaufman

Hi, my name is Bob Kaufman. On behalf of our commissioners and our close-knit community, I'm happy to welcome you to the City of Seneca Gardens, one of Louisville's proud home rule cities. Whether you're a new resident, or simply visiting, we're thrilled to have you as part of our community.

Our city may be small, but it's rich in character, hospitality, and civic pride. We're known for our safe neighborhoods, beautiful surrounding parks, and strong sense of community. As a home-rule city we take great pride in maintaining our local character while working closely with Louisville Metro to provide the best services and support to our residents.

As Mayor, my door is always open. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out. I encourage you to get involved - whether that's attending one of our monthly meetings (held the third Monday of every month at 6:30 at Keneseth Israel on Taylorsville Road), volunteering, or simply introducing yourselves to your neighbors.

Again, welcome to Seneca Gardens. We're glad you're here and hope you feel at home.

Warm Regards,
Bob Kaufman
Senecagardensmayor@gmail.com



Mark Your Calendars for These Upcoming Events

HALLOWEEN
TRICK OR TREATING



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31ST, 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Santa is Coming to Seneca Gardens!

Santa will be ready for pictures with you and your kids at the corner of Meadow Road and Trevilian Way on Sunday, December 14th from 12-2 pm.

We'll also be collecting donations for The Family Ark, an organization that promotes positive change in the lives of children and families in our community. Suggested donations include toys, books, diapers, and women's hygiene products.

Every contribution makes a difference and is truly appreciated!

Contacts For Seneca Gardens

Mayor: Bob Kaufman
(502)235-6807
senecagardensmayor@gmail.com

Commissioner: Susan Kessinger
(502)235-5858
senecagardenssusan@gmail.com

Commissioner: Steve McGuire
(615)319-1487
senecagardenssteve@gmail.com

Commissioner: Jason Perkey
(502)802-6353
senecagardensjason@gmail.com

Commissioner: Caroline Smith
(502)432-8677
senecagardenscaroline@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jason Sanders
jason.sanders092@gmail.com

City Clerk: Margaret Jones
sgclerkjones@gmail.com

Arborist: Mike Hayman
(502)649-2958
mhayman@iglou.com

Architect: Gil Stein
gsteinarch@aol.com

City Engineer: Ted Niemann
senecagardensengineer@gmail.com

City Attorney: Keith Larson

Strathmoor Police Department
(502)432-8900

Annual Gardens Gathering - Sunday, October 19th from 4-7 pm

Join us for an evening of food, music, and community! Dinner catered by Morris Deli and sweet treats from Ehrler's Ice Cream. Live music by Bill Clark & the Route15 Band. Enjoy a complimentary dinner and a chance to connect with your neighbors! This year we will have a horse and wagonette ride available for family's to enjoy from Tall Tails Carriage Rides. Kids are more than welcome

to wear their costumes if they are in the Halloween Spirit!

Want to help out?

We're looking for a few volunteers to make the event a success. High school students can also earn service hours. Contact: Susan Kessinger | 502-235-5858

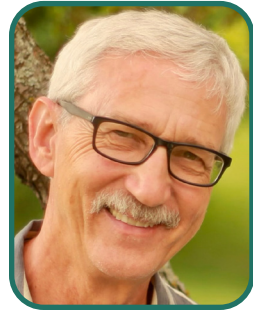
Sign up for REACH Alert

Don't forget to sign-up for REACH Alert by going to reachalert.com and creating an account. This will keep you up-to-date on important notifications.



Be sure to like our "City of Seneca Gardens" Facebook page and keep up with what's going on.

An update from our City Arborist, Mike Hayman



Mike Hayman
City Arborist

Cheap arborists have sought work in Seneca Gardens for my entire forty year career as Seneca Gardens arborist. Tree work is dangerous and expensive, giving opportunity for companies to cut corners and undercut reputable tree care companies.



Sub-standard care can lead to catastrophic loss.

Good arborists are less likely to make mistakes and have insurance to back them up if they do.

The best way to get safe work at a fair price is to seek more than one cost proposal from reputable companies and be willing to wait for winter rates if the job can be postponed.

Ask that a ISA certified arborist be on the work site. A reminder, Seneca Gardens encourages prevention by subsidizing removal of hazard limbs and trees that hang over rights of way.

These are the dangers of cheap work:

- No liability or workman's comp insurance.
- Skimping on safety equipment. If you see arborists without helmets, that is a giveaway that they are playing with fire and you risk being sued when they hurt themselves.
- Minimally trained workers. You will not save money if they drop a branch on your house.
- Badly trained workers make improper cuts that do not heal.
- Branch and trunk removals should not be dropped. Branches should be tied and brought down safely. Dropped trunks can break underground utilities.
- Unscrupulous companies will offer work for cash, avoiding taxes.

As an example, two guys with chainsaws made a cheap proposal to one of my neighbors. They dropped a major branch on a beautiful magnolia which will lead to its early demise. Then they abandoned the job leaving all of the debris of two large trees in my neighbor's front yard.

Yard, Leaves, and Snow Removal Registry to Facilitate Removal

Want to keep your yard clear from leaves this fall? Want to keep your driveway and sidewalks clear from snow this winter? But you don't just have the time or the energy to make it happen?

As a service to our residents, the City of Seneca Gardens has decided to maintain a list of individuals who will shovel snow from walks and driveways, remove leaves in the fall, or provide lawn services. The City is providing this list only as a convenience or a service to its residents.

The "business" arrangement is then made between the resident and the person that he or she chooses to employ.

High school students, this may also be a means of earning required service hours!

If you would like to use these services, please email Steve McGuire at senecagardenssteve@gmail.com, and he will provide the list of service providers upon request. For privacy reasons, only last name initials will be included on the list.

Please Permit Me...

The City of Seneca Gardens enjoys a reputation as a desirable location to live. This is due primarily to the efforts our residents put into keeping their houses and yards in good condition. As we move into another fall and winter, a few reminders to check the website to see what improvements might require a permit.

Dumpsters for interior clean-out, landscaping or whatever needs to be discarded require a permit. Because the commissioners understand that these efforts help keep the neighborhood high in desirability, Seneca Gardens offers dumpster permits at No Cost – primarily to get information on the dumpster provider in an effort to protect our roads.



Ted Niemann, P.E.
City Engineer

Other Good Neighbor efforts like placing trash, recycling, and yard waste at the curb late in the day before pick up helps your house present itself well, in addition to keeping the street view pleasant. Returning the trash cans by the evening of pickup also helps maintain a positive street view.

If you have a project that you have in mind and are confused about the Seneca Gardens permits, reach out to your City Engineer, and I can work through it with you.

Ted Niemann
City Engineer
502-376-0781.

Food Truck Fridays Serve Up Fun and Flavor in Seneca Gardens!

The City of Seneca Gardens was buzzing with excitement this summer during our two Food Truck Fridays! Families, friends, and neighbors enjoyed these lively evenings filled with delicious food, refreshing drinks, and feel-good tunes. In June, we enjoyed delicious grilled cheese from Lil Cheezers, sweet treats from Spotz Gelato, an assortment of beverages from Falls City Beer, and music by Jay Goldstein.



In August, we had Crave Street Kitchen, serving up their signature tacos that did not disappoint. For our sweet treats, we had our very own local, Big Mike's Shaved Ice, which kept everyone cool with colorful, refreshing flavors. Gravely

Brewing Company, providing local brews and the festive atmosphere, was amplified by the sounds of Route 15 The Trio Band, whose live music rounded out the night.

It was wonderful to see our community come together with kids running around with shaved ice in hand, neighbors catching up over delicious meals, and



the entire crowd enjoying the lively music. Seeing the community come together made it clear why Food Truck Fridays have become a highlight for everyone in Seneca Gardens!



An Interim Update from Senator Cassie Chambers Armstrong

Happy Fall! We are now just a few months from the next legislative session, which will begin in January 2026. I am honored to represent you in the General Assembly, and I'm grateful for the chance to share some of what I've been working on since our last session—as well as some of my priorities for next year.

During the past few months, I've been busy getting legislation ready to file when the General Assembly gavels back in. One priority of mine is to eliminate the sales tax on diapers. One out of every three Kentucky families struggles to afford diapers, and there are no dedicated assistance programs to help with this expense. This summer, I held a bipartisan summit to talk about diaper need in Kentucky and build a coalition of supporters to champion this issue next session. More than one out of every five Kentucky kids lives in poverty, and we have to find ways to support our struggling families.

To that end, I was grateful for the chance last week to present my legislation related to utility shutoffs during extreme weather to the Natural Resources Committee. This bill would prohibit utility companies from disconnecting a person's power for nonpayment during periods of extreme cold, extreme heat, or natural disasters (such as flooding and tornadoes). Interim committee hearings are a chance for members of both chambers to learn about a piece of legislation, and I'm hopeful that we will be able to build on this momentum during the next session. No one should die because their power is turned off during dangerous weather.

I anticipate filing a number of additional bills during the next legislative session. Many of these are squarely aimed at addressing child poverty, ranging from bills that create child tax credits for families living in poverty to legislation increasing access to early childhood education. I will also champion legislation that seeks to limit toxic chemicals in the environment, protects workers' rights, and supports our public schools.

But the most important thing to me when I'm deciding what legislation to work on is what matters to you. I'm your voice in Frankfort, and it's my job to try to make progress on the issues that matter to our community. I'll be sending out a survey closer to session to get more formal feedback, but—for the time being—I hope you'll be in touch and let me know what issues you'd like me to learn more about. My email is cassie.armstrong@kylegislature.gov. You can also sign up for my newsletter on my LRC webpage.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Cassie Chambers Armstrong
State Senator, District 19



Yard Signs, Free Speech...and a Friendly Reminder

Not just in Seneca Gardens, but across the USA, the First Amendment protects our right to express ourselves— Political opinions, quirky yard signs, bold flags—love them or not—they’re part of the freedoms we all share. We may not always agree, but that’s exactly the point.

One important note: the public easement—the strip between the sidewalk and the street—is off-limits for signage.

Thanks for helping keep our neighborhood both expressive and orderly.

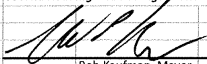

Caroline Smith



The Seneca Gardens 2025-2026 Budget

Bob Kaufman

I'm happy to share this year's budget with you. It's designed to keep our community running smoothly, while focusing on the things that make our city such a great place to live.

ORDINANCE NO. 1 Series 2023 CITY OF SENECA GARDENS	
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SENECA GARDENS, KENTUCKY RELATING TO THE USE OF SOURCES OF REVENUE FOR THE GENERAL OPERATION PURPOSE OF THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2025 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026	
Sources of Revenue	
1. Property Tax Receipts	\$ (280,550)
2. Interest Income	(23,050)
3. Tax Insurance Premiums	(57,000)
4. Cable Franchise Fees	(4,000)
5. Building Permit Fees	(4,500)
6. Police Grants	(3,500)
7. KY Municipal Aide Road Fund Income	(15,000)
Total Estimated Revenue	\$ (387,600)
Expenditures	
1. Utilities/Waste Management	\$ 81,600
2. Public Safety	123,548
3. Road Improvements & Maintenance	55,252
4. Communication	25,500
5. Environment	11,000
6. Administration	90,700
Total Expenditure	\$ 387,600
First Reading - May 19, 2025 Second Reading and Passage, June 16, 2025	
 Bob Kaufman, Mayor CITY OF SENECA GARDENS DATE: 6/16/25	Attest:  CITY CLERK CITY OF SENECA GARDENS DATE: 6/16/25
Approved as to Form	
Keith Lawson, City Attorney	