



Metro Codes

E—News For Neighborhoods

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

Inside This Issue

2

Premises Identification

*When Seconds count,
Can Emergency Responders Find
Your Address?*

2

Accessory Structures Explained

3

Mayor Initiates Livability Study

4

Mayor Launches "Cities of Service" Campaign

5

Walk Nashville

*Wellness Program To Promote
Community Health*

6

H1N1 Flu Virus

Metro Health Offers Helpful Advice
and Practical Tips on Combating the
H1N1 Flu

7

13th Annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament



Article on page 2

Premises Identification

*When Seconds Count,
Can Emergency Responders Find Your Address*

All buildings and structures within Davidson County are required to have approved address numbers posted and visible from the street, according to the Metro Property Standards Code.

Specifically, the Metropolitan Code of Laws requires:

- Residential numbers shall be a minimum of 3" in size.
- Residences may have their numbers attached to the mailbox, if the mailbox is next to the street.
- Multi-family and commercial numbers shall be a minimum of 6" in size.
- All numbers are to be posted on a contrasting background and be plainly 'visible and legible' from the street.

In addition to being required by code to follow these rules, there are other reasons why all citizens would want to follow this law.

First, having a clearly marked street address means protection in Case of Emergency. If you need 911 services, fire, law enforcement and EMS will be able to find you faster.

" A well marked and Identifiable addresses save important time in an emergency. When someone has a fire or medical emergency, getting to the location promptly and safely is critical," according to Deputy Chief Danny Yates. A visitor, child or an injured



person may be unable to give clear directions. You must remember, seconds count in an emergency!

Second, you need to have the identification for utility services because telephone, Nashville Electric Service, and cable companies rely on an address to start a new service or respond to a maintenance problem.

And, finally, the United States Postal Service (as do the private delivery and parcel services) needs the address to be visible in order for you to get you mail, packages and other

deliveries require an address. By having that address clearly shown will ensure prompt delivery.

It is important to check your address for obstruction by paint or shrubbery. Remember, if you can't see your address, neither can emergency responders!

In the event that someone is not available to alert the responding equipment, we are dependant on visible numbers and letters of addresses to arrive and begin the tasks that complete the life-saving mission of the Nashville Fire Department." Deputy Chief Danny Yates Fire/EMS Bureau

Alternative Locations for Premises Identification

Some communities have the premises numbers painted on the curb in front of the dwelling. Whether this is acceptable or not may depend upon the restrictive covenant , if one is active, for your community. However, numbers as described in the article must be plainly visible either on the dwelling or on the mailbox, even if the numbers are painted on the curb.

One more thing to consider. Most people only place the numbers on one side of the mail box, usually facing the direction of vehicle traffic. But, what if someone is approaching the home from the opposite direction? If you only have numbers on the mailbox, consider placing them on both sides of the box or pole.

Accessory Structures

More than dilapidated sheds

When discussing "accessory structures", most people are unsure of what an accessory structure actually is. Most people think of sheds or detached garages, and that would be right. But there are other structural elements that are considered accessory structures.

As defined in the Title 17, an "Accessory structure" means a structure detached from a principal building located on the same lot that is customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal building.

Section 16.24.330(H) of the Property Standards Code further defines this by listing examples of accessory structures, they include:

- Detached garages
- Fences
- Walls

And this would also cover sheds, car ports, and storage buildings. All of these structures are to be kept structurally sound, in good repair and in an otherwise safe, clean and sanitary condition.

If a new detached garage, shed, or carport is going to be build, a permit must be obtained if the structure is larger than 100 square feet. All detached structures with the exception of a fence cannot be located inside any required front, side or rear setback for the parcel.

If you have questions about setback requirements for your property, call our office at 862-6510.

Did You Know?

Signs like these attached to utility poles, or signs stuck in the ground along the road way are illegal.



These signs are used to advertise businesses, garage sales, little leagues, entertainment events, you name it. But they are all illegal.

MAYOR ASKS NEIGHBORS TO LEAD NASHVILLE LIVABILITY PROJECT

Livability Project to implement recommendations following year-long study on the increase of retiring Baby Boomers

Mayor Karl Dean has announced the formation of the Nashville Livability Project after receiving a report from the Livable Community Task Force, which spent a year studying the impact retiring Baby Boomers and other aging Nashvillians will have on the city over the next two decades.

The task force determined that the city will need to make significant changes in how it houses, cares for and serves residents to accommodate the changing demographics. Dean asked Vice Mayor Diane Neighbors, who led the task force, to oversee the Livability Project, which will coordinate the task force recommendations with Metro departments and community groups.

Dean also announced plans to immediately take on the report's recommendations to focus on fitness by beginning a series of monthly walks around the city to draw attention to the benefits of exercise. He said the walking program will begin during Walk Nashville week starting Oct. 3.

The task force spent 12 months studying the city's preparedness for the "graying" of its citizenry. Neighbors told the mayor that it will take short-term fixes, long-term commitment and cooperation with a range of partners to ensure that "Nashville remains a great city not just for this generation, but for those years to come."

"The Nashville Livability Project gives us a way to focus not just on the immediate events proposed in this report. It also gives us a way to plan for the broader changes that will leave a longer-lasting imprint on the city," Mayor Dean said in accepting the task force recommendations.

In 2000, the number of Nashvillians ages 21-34 outnumbered those more than 65 years old by more than a 2 to 1 margin, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. By 2018, the two age groups will be nearly equal in number, according to projections presented to the task force by Dr. Garrett Harper with the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce. He also forecasted that by 2018, Davidson County will experience a net gain of 31,000 people over age 65 and more than 13,000 will be over 75 years old.

The task force found that Nashville seniors will have increasing longevity, political influence, economic impact and social significance, and they will have higher education levels than current seniors. The task force also concluded that the need for health and community support services will increase.

It recommended that the mayor initiate the Nashville Livability Project to create a timeline for implementing the proposals and work as an interagency group to better coordinate community planning.

Task force subcommittees proposed immediate steps, planning steps and long-term goals for five areas: health and wellness, housing, safety and support services, transportation and mobility, and workforce and civic engagement.

Health and wellness recommendations:

- Implementing a "Get Fit Day" – a city-wide celebration of fitness and healthy lifestyle activities;
- Creating a web-based health and wellness site that would include a self-assessment component, education and event

postings;

Supporting policies and legislation to expand and fund home and community-based options.

Housing recommendations:

- Targeting economic stimulus weatherization funds to homes that need modifications;
 - Increasing the budget for the tax relief program;
- Establishing "Universal Design" standards that can be used as models for future housing developments.

Safety and support services recommendations include:

- Completing neighborhood-based needs assessments to determine their livability;
 - Compiling neighborhood-specific service and information resource lists;
- Considering a senior registration process that provides for automatic telephone alerts about various topics and during emergencies.

Transportation and mobility recommendations:

- Adopting a "Complete Streets" policy;
 - Assuring that Wayfinding and Directional signage meets existing needs;
- Exploring creation of mini-hubs for public transit system.

Workforce and civic engagement recommendations:

- Holding a conference on the challenges and opportunities presented by a changing workforce;
 - Encouraging employers to support and expand policies to support caregivers;
- Offering incentives to attract and retain all levels of health care providers specializing in elder care.

Mayor Dean commended the task force, which presented him with a copy of its report, "Creating a Livable Community for all ages: The Nashville Livability Project," at the FiftyForward Knowles Center.

"The report shows that we are ready in many ways, but there is more we can do," the mayor said. "When I ran for office I made a point of talking about the many facets of a city. What I said then is what this report shows today – it's all connected. We want Nashville to be a livable community for people of all ages."

He asked the task force to work with the Chamber of Commerce, the Nashville Health Care Council and the Healthy Nashville Leadership Council to plan a conference in November to focus on health from an economic and economic development perspective.

The mayor also said he will ask the Chamber of Commerce to plan a conference early next year to focus on the needs of the city's changing workforce.



**CITIES OF
SERVICE**

**MAYOR KARL DEAN HELPS LAUNCH CITIES OF SERVICE
TO MOBILIZE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS NEW SERVICE ERA**



Nashville Mayor Karl Dean, was joined by New York Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg as well as mayors from 15 cities across the country to launch *Cities of Service*, a bipartisan effort by a coalition of mayors representing more than 20 million Americans, who will work together to engage millions more volunteers in service.

The founding mayors met for a half-day summit at Gracie Mansion where they signed a Declaration of Service, a commitment to finding new ways to tap the

power of volunteers to address each city's most pressing challenges. The coalition will share strategies on how best to engage citizens at the local level, and it will provide a platform for the mayors to make their voices heard – and their priorities known – in Washington. The coalition will utilize lead support from the Rockefeller Foundation to provide technical assistance and other support to member mayors, including funding full-time Chief Service Officers in select cities to develop and implement comprehensive service programs.

As the capital city for the Volunteer State, my goal is for Nashville to be a leading city in this national service initiative. Nashville is known as Music City and one of the friendliest cities in America – we're a city with tremendous talent and good will. We need to put those attributes to work in our neighborhoods and our schools," said Mayor Dean.

The summit at Gracie Mansion occurred just five months after the passage of the bipartisan Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act and the day before the anniversary of the attacks of September 11th, the newly designated National Day of Service and Remembrance. The 17 founding mayors were joined at the summit by Entertainment Industry Foundation President Lisa Paulsen, Rockefeller Foundation President Judith Rodin, film and television star and social media innovator Ashton Kutcher and leaders from service organizations.

The founding members of the *Cities of Service* coalition (in addition to Mayor Dean and mayor Bloomberg) are Atlanta, GA Mayor Shirley Franklin; Baltimore, MD Mayor Sheila Dixon; Chicago, IL Mayor Richard Daley; Dublin, OH Mayor Marilee Chinnici-Zuercher; Jacksonville, FL Mayor John Peyton; Los Angeles, CA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; Newark, NJ Mayor Cory Booker; Phoenix, AZ Mayor Phil Gordon; Pittsburgh, PA Mayor Luke Ravenstahl; Providence, RI Mayor David Cicilline; Sacramento, CA Mayor Kevin Johnson; Trenton, NJ Mayor Douglas Palmer; Vicksburg, MS Mayor Paul Winfield; Washington, DC Mayor Adrian Fenty; West Palm Beach, FL Mayor Lois Frankel and Mayor Bloomberg.

"The historic, bipartisan Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act promises 'a new era of service' in America – and America's mayors can help lead the way in making it a reality," said Mayor Bloomberg. "Cities around the country are facing enormous

challenges, and mayors have an opportunity to make the most of our greatest asset: public-spirited citizens and organizations. This new coalition will encourage mayors to find new ways to tap the power of their citizens, help us identify and share the most effective approaches, and empower us to speak with one voice in Washington."

Cities of Service reflects the mayors' belief that healthy, vibrant cities are those whose citizens volunteer their time and talent to keep communities strong and help neighbors in need. To support *Cities of Service*, the Rockefeller Foundation will provide gener-

- ✦ Developing a comprehensive service plan and a coordinated strategy focused on matching volunteers and established community partners to the areas of greatest local need;
- ✦ Working with other mayors and elected officials to advance strategies and best practices that accelerate the service movement and produce measurable results;
- ✦ Encouraging other mayors to join this national effort to engage our citizens; and
- ✦ Ensuring that the voice of cities is heard in federal legislative, policy, and program discussions related to service, which will help the country achieve the ambitious goals of the Serve America Act.

ous lead support to The Fund for Cities of Service, which will support member mayors and their local efforts to increase service. Specifically, The Fund for Cities of Service will support the development of effective local service strategies, facilitate the dissemination of best practices between cities working to increase service, promote accountability within the service field, articulate policy proposals, and promote partnerships between city halls and local universities, which can bring resources, evaluation, and other expertise to bear in local communities. A key goal for The Fund for Cities of Service during the next six months will be to award grants to ten cities, on a competitive basis, to hire Chief Service Officers to lead local planning and implementation. New York City became the first city in the nation to appoint a Chief Service Officer this summer. Bloomberg Philanthropies is also supporting The Fund for Cities of Service.

"The Rockefeller Foundation is proud to help America's mayors bring Senator Edward Kennedy's Serve America Act and legacy of service to their own communities," said Rockefeller Foundation

President Judith Rodin. "As president of the University of Pennsylvania, I saw how a local institution's commitment to civic engagement can save a neighborhood. With the Rockefeller Foundation's support, *Cities of Service* will help local leaders across the country tap into similar engines of expertise, opportunity, and economic expansion."

Continued from Page 4

The *Cities of Service* coalition will lead a multi-year effort to engage other mayors from across the country by:

The bipartisan coalition will be open to other mayors who sign onto the Declaration of Service; they can do so by visiting www.citiesofservice.org. The coalition is also supported by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and a number of nonprofit and advocacy organizations including Service Nation, HandsOn Network, and the American Association of Retired Persons. Representatives from each organization have been assisting the *Cities of Service* coalition and were present at the summit.

At Gracie Mansion, Stephen Goldsmith, former mayor of Indianapolis, IN and current Vice Chair for the federal Corporation for National and Community Service, gave a presentation on the Serve America Act. The mayors then heard from an expert panel that included HandsOn Network Co-Founder and President Michelle Nunn, Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund Executive Director Gail Nayowith, and New York City Chief Service Office Diannah Billings-Burford.

After the summit, the mayors joined leaders from the Entertainment Industry Foundation and celebrities in Times Square to launch the ground-breaking, multi-year I PARTICIPATE cam-

paign, which will engage the entertainment industry in promoting a new way of thinking about service and encouraging more Americans to volunteer regularly. To jumpstart the campaign, Entertainment Industry President and CEO Lisa Paulsen and stars Tyler Perry and Ashton Kutcher announced its 2009 centerpiece: a week-long television event running from October 19th to October 26th, when television shows on ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, and other networks will spotlight service through scripted programming, segments and Public Service Announcements with inspirational messages and storylines about volunteerism. Randy Jackson (Fox), Christine Baranski (CBS), Tim Daly (ABC) and Michelle Trachtenberg (NBC) also participated in the announcement. Additional information about I PARTICIPATE can be found at www.iparticipate.org. Lisa Paulsen and Ashton Kutcher also spoke to the mayors at the Gracie Mansion summit.

“The whole entertainment industry is stepping forward to encourage more Americans to volunteer in communities around the country,” said Entertainment Industry President and CEO Lisa Paulsen. “And mayors are stepping forward to connect those volunteers to local opportunities to make a difference. This is a tremendous collaboration that we hope will grow America’s service movement in new and critically important ways,” said Entertainment Industry President and CEO Lisa Paulsen.



Making Nashville one of the healthiest cities in America is everyone's goal in the community so October 3-9 has been declared Walk Nashville Week to celebrate and promote walking in your daily life and walking throughout Nashville.

The week will consist of Walk to Worship Day (October 3-4), Walk Your Neighborhood Day (October 5), Walk to Work Day (October 6), Walk to School Day (October 7), Walk for Active Aging (October 8), and Walk to Lunch Day (October 9).

- [Walk to Worship Day](#) promotes local congregations to walk to their worship activities on the weekend of October 3-4. Congregations are encouraged to develop walking groups, that will continue throughout the year.
- [Walk Your Neighborhood Day](#) celebrates taking pride in your city and neighborhood. The Community Health and Wellness team is developing a printable booklet of various maps of community-based walks that will not only encourage physical activity but also give you an opportunity to learn about Nashville history, along with a chance to appreciate your commu-



nity. If you would like to submit the directions/map of a community walk, please contact us by [clicking here](#).

- [Walk to Work Day](#) asks Nashville workers to walk to work for the day and to consider walking to work more often in the future. The Community Health and Wellness Team sets up shop at various locations around town to provide free breakfast to walkers and to promote the day.
- [Walk to School Day](#) is designed to increase students' physical activity levels, focus on the walk-ability of the surrounding environment, and increase safe walking skills. The Nashville Walk to School Day has been nationally recognized for its large participation numbers and health promotion aspects.
- [Walk for Active Aging](#) promotes walking among senior citizens and the senior centers around Nashville. Maintaining physical activity into your senior years continues to have a great benefit on your health.
- [Walk at Lunch Day](#) promotes walking at lunch for the day. Area companies and local office buildings will be promoting walking groups from within to walk at lunch, and to hopefully continue these walking groups throughout the year.

SAFETY CORNER
**H1N1 Flue Virus
What You Need To Know**

Cases of H1N1 flu continue to occur in Davidson County and we expect to see an increase in the weeks and months ahead.

Communitywide attention to preventive measures is critical to lessening the impact and saving lives in the coming months. A recent essay in the Tennessean explains why H1N1 flu needs our careful attention.

Basic prevention

Like ordinary flu viruses, the 2009 H1N1 influenza (flu) virus can spread from person to person when an ill person coughs and sneezes. When people cough or sneeze, they spread infectious droplets through the air or onto surfaces that other people may touch. The Health Department wants you to help reduce the spread of flu by taking the following steps.

- Cover nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing or cough into your shirt sleeve. Throw the tissue in the trash after use.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Get the seasonal flu shot when it becomes available.
- Get the H1N1 flu shots when that vaccine becomes available.
- What to do if you are sick with fever and flu-like symptoms:
- Stay home until you have been fever free without taking medicine for at least 24 hours.
- Consult your primary care provider if you are concerned about your illness.
- Do not visit emergency rooms unless your symptoms are severe.
- Understand that laboratory testing to determine what kind of flu is present is not always necessary
- If your child is sick, keep them at home. Consult your pediatrician.

Flu-like symptoms include:

- Fever
- Muscle aches
- Headache
- Extreme tiredness
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- In some cases, vomiting and diarrhea

Leaders and managers role

Leaders in schools, workplaces and other organizations can take action now to make it easier for people to adhere to these preventive measures. Frequent reminders including posters, prominent availability of hand sanitizer, and attention to illness and leave policies are a few steps that people can take. Additional resources for worksites are available at the CDC website.

Stay informed

For more information visit the Health Department's website (health.nashville.gov) or call (615-340-7775) for the latest information about seasonal and H1N1 flu.

Metro Codes

E—News For Neighborhoods

Trash Truck Art Contest

Metro Public Works, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools and Red River Service Corporation are sponsoring the fourth annual **Beautiful Nashville Art Contest** for 3rd and 4th grade art students in Davidson County. The winning entry from each MNPS grade school will be featured on the side of a Red River waste collection truck to remind citizens of the importance of beautification and recycling.

The deadline to enter the contest is Wednesday, October 28, 2009.

Three grand prize winners will be chosen from all winning entries submitted from each school. The art departments of each grand prize winning contestant's school will receive prize amounts of \$1,500 (1st place), \$1,000 (2nd place) and \$500 (third place). In addition, winning artwork will be featured on a truck in the Nashville Gas Christmas Parade on Friday, December 4, 2009.

All winning entries will be displayed on Red River waste collection trucks from December 2009 through May 2010, and will be seen by more than 9,000 people each day while the trucks are on their routes.

**Property Standards
Production Report August 2009**

New RFS Cases Received	1,214
RFS Cases Closed in August	328

**Compost Bins Available from
Metro Beautification**

To encourage backyard composting, Metro Beautification/Public Works has compost bins and supplies available at the Public Works Omohundro Convenience Center.

The convenience center is located at 1019 Omohundro Drive. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday from 8:30am until 4:30p.m. For directions, please call 615-880-1955

Save The Date—Codes Teeing It Up For Charity On Oct. 17

The 13th annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament is set for Saturday morning, October 17th, at the Ted Rhodes Golf Course.

According to Terry Cobb, Director of Codes and Building Safety, the tournament format is a 4-man scramble (best ball), with foursomes established by “luck of the draw”.

All net proceeds will be donated through the Metro Employees Consolidated Charities Campaign (MECCC) to the Easter Seals Camps for Physically Challenged Youth, Miriam’s Promise and the Harris-Hillman School.

“Last year, with the help of more than 100 sponsors, the Metro Codes Department donated more than \$28,000 to local charities,” Cobb said. “We always have a great time.”

The individual entry fee is \$60 per player which includes greens fees, cart, lunch, beverages and door prizes. Sponsorship opportunities range from individual hole sponsors to a beverage cart sponsor or the Platinum Exclusive Hole Sponsorship.

This year, the tournament will benefit the Easter Seals Camp, Miriam’s Promise and Harris-Hillman School through the Metro Employees Consolidated Charities Campaign. For more information on how to enter a team or become a sponsor, contact Rick Shepherd at 351-9993 or Jim Winchester at 262-2999.



Ted Rhodes Golf Course



**Department of
Codes & Building Safety**

Metro Office Building
800 2nd Ave., South
Nashville, TN 37210
615-862-6590 / Fax 862-6593

Mayor - Karl F. Dean

Director - Terrence Cobb
Asst. Director - Bill Penn
Office Hours: Mon-Fri / 7:30-4:00



For information regarding accessibility, please contact Manley Biggers at (615) 862-6521 or fax (615) 862-6499.



PASS IT ON!

Pass the word about our newsletter! We would be honored if you would share our newsletter with your colleagues and co-workers. If anyone would like to sign up to receive it themselves, they just need to send us their email, and we will be happy to “Pass It On” to them.

Terry Cobb and **Bill Penn** welcome your feedback on our e-newsletter. Please send your comments to [Bill Penn](mailto:bill.penn@nashville.gov), at bill.penn@nashville.gov Assistant Director, Property Standards Div , 862-6590