



The Witherbee Buzz

Vol. 18 No. 2 Newsletter

Spring 2021

The Witherbee Neighborhood Association includes the area bounded by 33rd to 56th and Randolph to "O" Streets

WNA Calendar of Events

- April 24th: Hazardous Waste Collection, 9 am - 1 pm; Star City Shores, 4375 S. 33rd St. (www.haztogo.com)
- April 24th: Nebraska Recycling Council Annual Recycling Day, 9 am - Noon, Nebraska Innovation Campus (www.nrcne.org/2021charm)
- May 1st: WNA Annual Cleanup, 8 am - Noon, north side of Bryan Community School at Hawthorne, 48th & M
- May 4th: City General Election, 8 am - 8 pm (www.lancaster.ne.gov/314/Election-Commissioner)
- May 6th: WNA Monthly Meeting; Business Meeting & Planning (all invited) 7 pm
- June 3rd: WNA Monthly Meeting; Woods Park Shelter off of Rodgers Memorial Dr. 7 pm
Neighborhood Safety & Neighborhood Watch
- June 10-12: Witherbee Neighborhood Garage Sales Event

Annual WNA Cleanup is Saturday, May 1st!

By Mike Kreikemeier

The WNA Spring Cleanup is back! It's been a long winter, let's get the neighborhood looking good for summer.



Unloading all of the litter at last year's Cleanup Day!

The WNA cleanup will be on Saturday, May 1st from 8am - Noon. As with all events where people gather, the schedule could change if the coronavirus threat increases. Updates will be posted to the WNA website and Facebook page.

The collection site will be along M Street directly North of Bryan Community School (48th & M Street). The Witherbee Cleanup is a great way to dispose of unwanted items when cleaning up your garage, your yard & your home.

This is the 18th year Witherbee Neighborhood Association has sponsored a cleanup. Every year we need volunteers to help pick up litter along the major street rights of way, around the schools and in the neighborhood parks. Litter pick up volunteers get exercise and make the neighborhood look great! I can't think of a better way to spend a Saturday morning. Litter pick up counts for service hours at all Lincoln High Schools.

Tires are taken to Firestone Complete Auto Care at 300 N 66th Street to be recycled. Complete Auto Care has been a generous cleanup partner for several years. No tires mounted on rims are accepted.

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About Your Witherbee Neighborhood Association

Boundaries:

33rd to 56th & 'O' to Randolph

Meetings:

7:00 p.m. first Thursday of each
month, VIRTUALLY, until we can
safely meet in person again.

www.facebook.com/witherbeena
www.WitherbeeNA.org

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President's Message



Spring has finally arrived with summer not far behind! In this issue of the "Buzz" you will see a theme of cleanup options available to all of us in Witherbee. From the annual Neighborhood Cleanup May 1st to the recycling event sponsored by the Nebraska Recycling Council April 24th and the Hazardous Waste Collection event, also on April 24th, and finally the Witherbee Garage Sales in June – there are plenty of options to take advantage of clearing out stuff that you no longer use or need. Please read all the details in articles or announcements in this newsletter.

Now that warmer temperatures have arrived, WNA is planning on holding some of our meetings outside in our neighborhood parks. Although Woods Park lies outside of Witherbee, it's a great neighborhood park where we will have our June meeting. Plan to join us June 3rd at 7:00 pm at the shelter off of Rodgers Memorial Drive in Woods Park. If you have questions about the location, please call our WNA phone line at 402-413-0156 or send an email to witherbeena@gmail.com and someone will get back to you. At this point, we do not plan on scheduling a "rain date". In case of inclement weather the meeting will be cancelled or postponed to another month. Check our Facebook page or watch your inbox for an email from "Your Witherbee Neighbor." And, by the way, if you have not signed up for email announcements from Witherbee, please do so by sending your request to witherbeena@gmail.com.

As of early April, we have processed 145 memberships for 2021! This number is comparable to 2020 but we would always like more involvement. Granted, there are ways you can be involved without "officially" being a member. Consider sending in your membership form—there is still time! If you have any questions about how to get involved, contact a Board member, or contact me!

Your neighbor,

*Kathy Holland,
2021 President*



*Dan, Bryan & Jay load up metal to
be recycled at last year's Cleanup Day!*

*Thank you to the following individuals & businesses who support the activities of the
Witherbee Neighborhood Association with their sponsorship donations.*

Organization Sponsors:

- Calvary Cemetary
- Jacobson Veterinary Clinic, PC
- Redeemer Lutheran Church
- FM Lawn Care

Individual Sponsors:

- Richard Bagby
- Carolyn Barber
- Jim Ihrle
- Mary Schwab
- Mary Jo & Rick Shibata
- John Dzerk
- Fred Freytag

Continued from page 1

The metal & household appliances (washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, etc) are hauled to Alter Metal Recycling. Appliances with freon are safely discharged before recycling.

Construction material and items such as windows and doors from building/remodeling projects as well as leftover lawn and landscaping materials and furniture in good condition are taken to Habitat for Humanity ReStore at 4630 Y Street. Stop by the store to see furniture, appliances or materials for your next remodeling project.

Goodwill Industries will recycle and reuse electronics and household items collected.

Brush coupons are also available. Brush coupons allow dumping a load of brush (sticks, twigs, small branches - NO LEAVES or TRASH) at the 48th Street transfer station for free. Only the coupons are provided. Picking up and hauling brush are not part of the WNA cleanup.

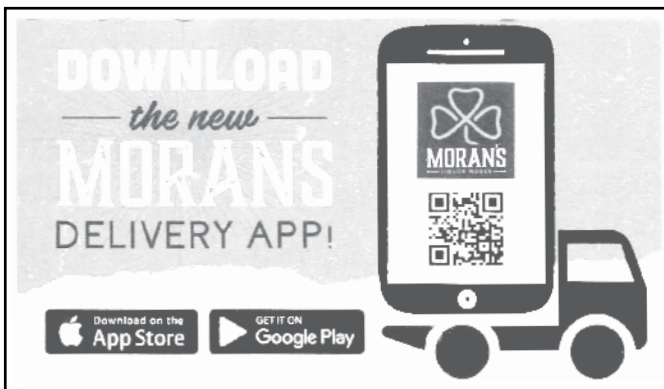
Many hard to get rid of items, such as mattresses, box springs and old furniture can be disposed of by bringing them to the collection area.

Items that CANNOT be accepted include trash, leaves, grass clippings, liquids of any kind (including paint, thinners, stains) ammunition/explosives, LP gas cylinders and CRT televisions and CRT computer monitors.

If you need help hauling items to the collection site email Mike Kreikemeier at mbk@windstream.net or call the WNA phone line at 402-413-0156 to make an appointment by leaving a message. The items must be easily accessible and placed near the curb, if possible, for our volunteers to pick up.

Many volunteers are required to make this cleanup event a success. Please consider joining us for a few hours to help clean up the neighborhood. Contact event organizers: Mike Kreikemeier, - mbk@windstream.net; Bryan Hurst - bbacon.hurst@gmail.com, Dan Wesolowski - dwesolowski@windstream.net and Jay Ridenour - jridenc@hotmail.com to volunteer or for more information.

This cleanup event is funded by a grant from "Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful". Food and beverages are donated by Midtown Hy-Vee. Refuse hauling is provided by Niederhaus Refuse Services.



June Meeting will be outside at Woods Park!

Want an update on recent activity in Witherbee? Join us June 3rd at 7:00 pm for the latest happenings in the Witherbee Neighborhood. LPD Officer Jason Hellmuth will attend our meeting and give a presentation about neighborhood safety and the neighborhood watch program. Jason is a continuing education, community service officer, partnered to Captain Chad Hein who is the Crime Prevention Coordinator.

We will be meeting under the shelter off of Rodgers Memorial Drive at Woods Park. Refreshments will be provided. All who attend will be entered in a drawing for a gift card from one of our neighboring grocery stores! If you haven't attended a meeting before, or it's been a while, grab a lawn chair and come join us out in the open air. We will be maintaining social distancing. Stick around after the program to say Hi to your neighbors!



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Nebraska Recycling Council Recycling Collection Event

Sustainable spring cleaning just got easier! The Nebraska Recycling Council (NRC) is hosting its annual recycling day event on Saturday, April 24th from 9am - noon at the Nebraska Innovation Campus in Lincoln. NRC's CHaRM event (a Collection for Hard to Recycle Materials) is a one-stop collection event to recycle old electronics, batteries, scrap metal, EPS foam coolers and packaging, secure documents for shredding, textiles, and to donate reusable housewares and clothing.

COLLECTION FOR HARD TO RECYCLE MATERIALS

CHaRM

A DROP-OFF RECYCLING EVENT FOR:

 ELECTRONICS TV & monitor fees apply	 BATTERIES All batteries accepted	 SCRAP METAL From car parts to bed frames	 EPS FOAM Hard, white packaging foam	 DOCUMENTS FOR SHREDDING Limit 10 boxes for secure shredding	 TEXTILES & HOUSEWARES Textiles may be usable or unusable
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For details about materials accepted go to nrcne.org/2021charm
Other questions? Email Megan Jackson at mjackson@nrcne.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 24TH 9AM-12PM
NEBRASKA INNOVATION CAMPUS LINCOLN

\$10 Suggested Donation to benefit Nebraska Recycling Council

 Please wear a face mask and stay in your car. Volunteers will unload.



DIRECTIONS: Vehicles enter from Salt Creek Roadway at the far east entrance (near the 27th Street overpass). Do not use 21st Street.

THIS EVENT MADE POSSIBLE BY: Sadoff E-Recycling & Data Destruction, Plastilite, Shredding Solutions, Interstate All Battery Center, Lincoln Goodwill, Nebraska Innovation Campus, Tetrad Property Group, Lincoln Earth Day

Most items are accepted for free except for TVs (\$10-\$35 fee based on size). A suggested donation of \$10 per vehicle benefits the statewide work of the Nebraska Recycling Council. Visit www.nrcne.org/2021charm for a complete list of acceptable items, limitations, and more information.

Yard of the Month Looking for the Great Landscapes of Witherbee!

A home surrounded by a well kept yard looks so inviting. WNA will again feature "Yard of the Month" this summer from May through August. If you have a friend or neighbor who does an exceptional job with their lawn and landscaping, please nominate them. Please send nominations to Sherry Miller by phone (402-488-2568) or email at yardofthemonth@witherbeena.org. Please include the address of the nominee plus their name and phone number if you know it. And keep on growing!!




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Help Keep Witherbee Beautiful



According to Keep America Beautiful, litter clean up costs the U.S. more than an estimated \$11.5 billion each year. That's a lot. While out on walks, I often see litter in yards and in the street, and I get plenty in my own yard. So how does this really affect us in Witherbee? Check out these facts from https://kab.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/LitterinAmerica_FactSheet_CostsofLittering.pdf:

- 93% of homeowners say a littered neighborhood would decrease their assessment of a home's value and influences their decision to purchase a property. And 40% estimated that litter would reduce a home's value by 10% to 24%.
- 36% of business development officials say that litter

impacts a decision to locate to a community.

- 55% of realtors think that litter reduces property values by about 9%.
- 60% of property appraisers would reduce a home's value if it was littered.
- The presence of litter in a community decreases property values by a little over 7%, according to the National Association of Home Builders pricing model

According to <https://app.lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/environ/Waste/KLLCB/Litter.htm>:

Why do people litter?

- Approximately 85% of littering is the result of individual attitudes. The individual person and their behavior is the most important factor in whether littering will occur.
- One of the biggest reasons why people litter is the prevalence of existing litter - individuals are much more likely to litter into already littered environments. The presence of litter in an area sends a message that littering is acceptable.
- People often feel it is acceptable to litter where it is someone else's job to clean up (such as a school with a custodial/maintenance staff that manages school grounds) or where there is no sense of ownership.
- Other factors that can contribute to litter include excess packaging, availability of garbage and recycling receptacles and lack of enforcement for existing litter regulations.
- Studies have found that young people, under the age of 35, are twice as likely to litter as people between the ages of 35-49, and three times as likely to litter as people over 50.

Why does it matter?

Litter can have several negative effects on a community, including the following:

- Property values decrease in littered areas.
- Crime increases in littered areas.
- Litter has a large financial impact. It costs the U.S. almost \$11.5 billion annually, money that could be used for other community improvements.
- New businesses and residents are less likely to locate in littered areas.
- Litter pollutes the environment and can be hazardous to wildlife.
- Recreation areas become less attractive and tourism can decrease.

If you see anyone littering from their vehicle, you can report them at 877-NO LITTR (877-665-4887) or <https://www.knb.org/litter-hotline/>. You will need their license plate number, a description of the vehicle, when and where the littering occurred, and what type of litter was thrown out. You can report anything from cigarette butts to large commercial waste.

We may not be able to stop others from littering completely, but we can take the time to look over our properties regularly and take just a few minutes to pick up trash left behind.

What else can Witherbee Residents do?

Join other Witherbee volunteers at our Cleanup May 1st to pick up litter throughout the neighborhood. You will be supplied with a safety vest, extended reach tools, work gloves and trash bags as you set out for litter pickup. Any amount of time you can volunteer is welcome. Stop by the Witherbee tent in the north school parking lot off of 48th & M anytime between 8 am and 12 noon. Help keep Witherbee free from trash and looking beautiful!

Witherbee Has a Wonderful Historical Neighborhood Cemetery

This article was Submitted by Jackie Varicak, Witherbee Resident and the Administrative Manager/Family Services and Sales Staff Member for Calvary Cemetery.

Calvary Catholic Cemetery & Mausoleum is an extension of faith. We are a visible connection between the faithful and the departed, for even in death we are a community of faith. Our cemetery has been blessed by the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Lincoln and is honored as holy ground; therefore, the deceased interred or entombed here have been laid to rest in a sacred and spiritual environment. In most cases, those of any faith may be buried at Calvary.

The Cemetery has provided over 150 years of service. From the earliest pioneer days, Catholic settlers of the territory began to look for a place of worship and for burial of their beloved dead. The first burial in the Catholic Cemetery, located at 40th and "O" Streets was Michael Shea in December, 1869. In the beginning, the cemetery was part of St. Theresa's parish. In 1930, it was deeded to the Calvary Cemetery Association, and was supported by Catholic parishes in the city of Lincoln. In 1941, Bishop Louis B. Kucera founded the Diocesan Department of Catholic Cemeteries, which was the first such department in the country. Until 1941, one of the local mortuaries administered the cemetery. Since then, a priest has served as director of Calvary Catholic Cemetery & Mausoleum in cooperation with parishes and funeral services in the Lincoln area. Currently Monsignor Timothy Thorburn is the cemetery director.

There are many notable citizens buried at the cemetery, including General Victor Vifquain who was a Belgian-born veteran of the American Civil War and the Spanish-American War. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for capturing a Confederate flag during the Battle of Fort Blakely. He was born on January 20, 1836 and died January 7, 1904. He is buried in section C of the cemetery. All sections of the cemetery are marked for the convenience of visitors. Each year on Veterans Day visitors will find a sea of flags marking where veterans are buried throughout the cemetery. The most recent notable citizen to be buried at Calvary was Officer Mario Herrera, the first Lincoln Police Officer who died in the line of duty in over 50 years.

You can find more information about Calvary Cemetery at their newly designed website online at www.calvarycatholic.com. If you would be interested in pre-planning, or if you find an immediate need to have a loved one buried, call the office at 402-476-8787. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Gate hours for visitation are 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.



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City General Election is May 4th!

Polls are open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. You may not vote before 8:00 a.m. If you are in line by 8:00 p.m., you will still get to vote. The Election Commission strongly encourages voters to wear a mask while voting and will provide masks for anyone who does not have one. Hand sanitizer will be available and social distancing will be enforced. Voter booths will be wiped down between voters.

Your voting polling place is based on your current address. If you have moved since the last election, do not go to your old polling place, go to the polling place that is designated for your new address.

There are four precincts in the Witherbee neighborhood. If you have a question as to where your polling place is located, this information can be found on the Election Commissioner website or call (402) 441-7311.

Need to Register to Vote?

Mail-in and online voter registration: must be post marked or completed on or before the third Friday preceding the election (April 16th).

In-person registration: must be completed before 6 p.m. on the second Friday preceding the election (April 23rd).

For instructions on how to register to vote, check the Election Commissioner website or call the Election Office.

Early Voting

Deadlines to Request an Early Ballot (also referred to as an Absentee Ballot):

By mail, fax, or email to the Election Office: 6:00 p.m., Friday, April 23rd.

In person at the Election Office: 5:00 p.m., Monday, May 3rd.

For your vote to count, completed absentee ballots (or early ballots) must be returned to the Election Office by May 4th, 8:00 pm. On Election Day, do not take your completed ballot to your polling place; take it to the Election Office. If you are mailing your ballot, the Election Office & the Post Office suggest that you mail your ballot one week prior to the May 4th election to ensure that the Election Office will receive it in time.

Early Vote Drop Box
Location: Office of the County Election Commissioner, 601 N 46th St. The drop box is located on the north side of the building and is available 24 hours a day through 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, May 4th.

Early Voting - In Person

In person early voting will begin at the Lancaster County Election Commissioner's Office on Monday, April 19th and continue through Monday, May 3rd. The Election Office is open week-days from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office may be open extended hours during election cycles, please call the Election Office or check their website for up to date information. Social Distancing will be observed and a limited number of voters will be allowed in the office at any one time.

Lancaster County Election Commission

601 N. 46th St.

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<https://www.lancaster.ne.gov/314/Election-Commissioner>



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Annual Neighborhood Garage Sales!

Spring cleaning or cleaning your garage invariably leads to GARAGE Sales and GARAGE Sales are AMAZING! Instead of tossing unwanted items, why not sell them instead?

WNA is having our annual neighborhood garage sale Thursday June 10th through Saturday June 12th.

Registering your garage sale with WNA for \$5 means you'll receive a lot of advertising that could translate into a lot of people hunting for their treasures at your address. Your \$5 registration fee also helps cover the costs to place ads in the Lincoln Journal Star and print information for your garage sale guests. The WNA Garage Sale committee will spread the word about our neighborhood event on Facebook pages, radio stations, Nextdoor, and Craig's List. Detailed information about your garage sale will be posted many places along with the WNA Website. The WNA Garage Sale Committee will save you time and money when you register your sale. Complete the form below, choose your sale dates and times, and list a few of the treasures you are temporarily caring for. Don't miss the deadline to submit registration forms by May 28th, 2021.

Did you know: If you register your garage sale, a committee member will deliver a garage sale participant sign to your yard for additional treasure hunters to notice!

You will also receive several maps listing locations of other neighbors selling items to pass along as you choose. The

Garage Sale Committee will be placing bright yellow signs at various locations around the neighborhood to advertise as well.

Please note: it is illegal to place garage sale signs on light poles or in the right-of-way. Please remember that WNA will use these signs for future annual garage sales, and we ask that you leave the sign near your front door. Someone from the committee will be over after the event to pick up the sign.

If you have items left over after your sale, WNA is again participating in the Goodwill Challenge. If you would like Goodwill to pick up your leftover items, starting at 3 pm on Saturday June 12th, please indicate this on the Registration Form. Items must be placed by the curb prior to the pick-up time. If you would like a receipt, please call Alana SESCO, Lincoln Goodwill @ 402-742-8456.

Please mail your completed registration form and \$5 before May 28th:

WNA
3401 L Street
Lincoln NE 68510

For questions please contact WNA Garage Sale Chair: Julie Flodman at garagesales@witherbeena.org or call and leave a voice mail on the Witherbee line at 402-413-0156.

2021 Garage Sale Registration Form

WNA Garage Sales are Thursday, June 10th - Saturday, June 12th

Name: (First & Last) _____ (Please Print)

Address: _____ Phone No: (XXX-XXX-XXX) _____

Email Address: _____

_____ a.m./p.m. TO _____ a.m./p.m. Thursday, June 10th (List Open - Close Times)

_____ a.m./p.m. TO _____ a.m./p.m. Friday, June 11th (List Open - Close Times)

_____ a.m./p.m. TO _____ a.m./p.m. Saturday, June 12th (List Open - Close Times)

Please note: EACH INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANT Determines THEIR OWN DATES AND TIMES FOR THEIR SALE

Check here to participate in the Goodwill Challenge.

_____ Goodwill will pick up your unsold items starting at 3pm on June 12th.

Items must be placed at curb. A list of acceptable/not acceptable items will be provided if you sign up for the Goodwill pick up.

Sale Items: (25 Words Or Less) _____

Send \$5 payable to Witherbee Neighborhood Association & This Completed Form

Before May 28th, 2021

TO: 3401 L Street Lincoln NE 68510