



City of Gardner
120 E. Main Street
Gardner, Kansas

Mark your calendars



City Council Meetings:

- May 18 at 7 p.m.
- June 1 at 7 p.m.
- June 15 at 7 p.m.
- July 6 at 7 p.m.
- July 20 at 7 p.m.

*View more meeting dates at www.gardnerkansas.gov

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DON'T FORGET....

Bands in the Park

Starting on May 30, the City will launch their new "Bands in the Park" Summer Concert Series at Cornerstone Park. Dates, times and band names available in the section below.

Movies in the Park

Prepare for four family friendly movies at our "Movies in the Park" Series at Cornerstone Park. One showing will be held at the Aquatic Center. Date and time available below. Movie info available at www.gardnerkansas.gov.

Festival on the Trails

June 12 & 13, FOTT will be packed with concerts, a car show, kids' zone, basketball tourney and more, and it's all here in Gardner! Visit www.festivalonthe trails.com.

4th of July Celebration

Who's known for the best fireworks show in the entire state? Gardner! Come to Celebration Park for musical entertainment from some great bands and a fireworks show you won't want to miss. Come celebrate with us! More information below.

Consumer Confidence Report

The 2015 Consumer Confidence Report for water quality is now available on www.gardnerkansas.gov. Contact the Public Works Department for more information at 913.856.0914.

Backflow test reports due July 1

The City requires an annual safety certification on backflow preventers, aka connection devices. Backflow test reports are due by July 1. Kansas requires public water suppliers develop and maintain a backflow program. More info at www.gardnerkansas.gov.

Upcoming Gardner Parks and Recreation Activities and Events:

Youth Programs:	Date:	Registration Deadline:	Age/Grade:	Costs:
Park Champion	April 1 - Aug 31	N/A	12 and Under	Free
Bike Rodeo	June 6	June 1	12 and Under	\$5
Total Baseball Camp	June 8 - 10	May 29	5 - 14 years	\$65
Junior Golf Clinic	June 8 - 11	June 1	8 - 15 years	\$60
Art in the Parks- Cornerstone	June 9	June 5	3-10 years	\$5
Babysitting Clinic	June 16	June 8	11-15 years	\$55
Family Campout	June 26 - 27	June 19	All Ages	\$30
Art in the Parks- Veterans	July 3	June 29	3-10 years	\$5
Adult/Family Programs:				
Bands In The Park- La de Dahs	May 30	N/A	All	Free
Movies In The Park	June 6	N/A	All	Free
GPRD Night at the T-Bones	June 19	June 12	All	\$9.50/ticket
Women's Volleyball	Early June	May 22	18 and Up	\$150
Summer Splash at the GAC	June 20	N/A	All	Daily Fee
Bands In The Park- The Magnetics	June 20	N/A	All	Free
July 4 th Celebration	July 4	N/A	All	Free
Men's Softball (Mondays)	Mid July	June 26	18 and Up	\$450
Co-Rec Softball (Sundays)	Mid July	June 26	18 and Up	\$450
Bands In The Park- Soca Lukebox	July 18	N/A	All	Free
Movies In The Park (GAC)	July 23	N/A	All	\$3

913.856.0939

www.gardnerkansas.gov

120 E. Main St., Gardner, KS 66030

MAY/
JUNE
2015

CITY OF
GARDNER
BI-MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

Inside
Gardner

**Message from
Mayor Morrow**

We have two new council members, Rich Melton and Lee Moore, and re-elected council member Todd Winters as part of our governing body. I look forward to working with all of our council members for the benefit of all of Gardner's citizens and businesses. Heath Freeman and Tony Roberts leave the council with my thanks, having served on the council over five years combined. As with any reorganized group, the new council is anxious to get to work in earnest. I will continue to employ a Triple "C" Approach of Civic engagement, Collaboration and Communication with our citizens and local businesses, and I trust our reconfigured council embraces this approach with me. I am confident we will continue to focus on our four strategic goals of economic development, quality of life, infrastructure and asset management and fiscal stewardship.

As spring turns to summer, families can look to the opening of our rehabilitated aquatic center. Our award-winning Parks and Recreation team can guarantee another cool summer at the pool and area parks. Other exciting events are coming soon to Gardner —

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The road to a successful economic development program

Imagine a city with multiple retail stores to accommodate your living needs. Diverse restaurants that offer a range of cuisines to satisfy your appetite. And, an accessible shopping center to run in and buy that special outfit for an important engagement.

What you have just imagined are options. The options the City of Gardner believes you should have right here in your own community. And, with the recent adoption of an Economic Development Incentive Policy, those options now have a greater chance of becoming a reality for Gardner in the very near future.

Our Road to Economic Development

One of the city's key goals for the past two years has been to improve the quality of life for its citizens. This meant the city needed to examine its future economic health and readiness for a strong economic development program to help Gardner thrive. In 2014, the city developed an Economic Development Advisory Taskforce to oversee the development of a Comprehensive Plan and a Strategic Economic Development Plan.

The Comprehensive Plan serves as a 20-year blueprint outlining Gardner's vision, goals and policies to help guide its investments and developments. The Economic Development Strategy is an extensive roadmap ensuring proper uses of resources, wise investments and development incentives. This plan identified seven long-term goals for the city. 1.) Continue to develop and maintain a quality community

with character; 2.) Create a community that people don't want to leave; 3.) Build an image/identity as a business-friendly community; 4.) Recreate downtown as a destination; 5.) Utilize existing assets; 6.) Be development-ready; and 7.) Diversify the economic base.

While this plan is an extension of the Comprehensive Plan, it lays out the implementation process for economic development. (Both plans were developed with the participation and input of Gardner citizens—residents, faith-based communities, business partners and the governing body.)

The most recent step of the economic development process is the creation of the Economic Development Incentive Policy. The policy informs prospective developers of the types of incentives available to them in exchange of their development or business residing in Gardner. It also provides incentive strategies/tools to help with funding projects. The policy incentives vary, but range from bond incentives to tax abatements. Ultimately, the plan is designed to attract businesses that will help Gardner diversify its tax base, create jobs and improve citizens' quality of life.

While there is much work to be done, Gardner is on the right path to a successful economic development program.

