



Photo: Lake Olathe, Customer Service Insights Manager Sandra Hasty



The City of Olathe’s new website is dedicated to providing information to users quickly and efficiently. A new “My Services” section on the homepage provides the power to easily find personalized information based on the user’s address, including information about trash and recycle days, City Councilmembers, nearby parks, and more. The “City Services” section makes it simpler to find what’s needed, guiding users step-by-step to reach directly the information or services searched.

More Secure with .gov

The shift to OlatheKS.gov ensures that the website remains as secure as possible into the future. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the federal agency that helps manage, and reduce risk to our cyber and physical infrastructure, grants the use of .gov domains solely to U.S.-based government organizations and publicly controlled entities at no cost. Using a .gov domain makes OlatheKS.gov easily identifiable as the official City website and increased security makes it more difficult for malicious actors and scammers to hack into and take control of the site.

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Visit OlatheKS.gov and click on **NEWS** for additional Olathe news.

OLATHE BEYOND EXCEPTIONAL IN 2022



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Our city continues to grow, adding 4,000 people during the past year and leading all Johnson County cities in new home construction. With a population of more than 150,000, Olathe is where people want to be for many reasons. Our outstanding schools, higher learning opportunities, jobs, and excellent local government services are among the city's strengths and why we live in an exceptional community. I would say beyond exceptional.

During 2022, we continued to see the City of Olathe providing the highest rated services as measured nationally. The devoted and passionate people who serve you are one of those reasons Olathe is beyond exceptional.

On June 13, 2022, Olathe Fire Engineer Michael Moreno and his colleagues answered a call for a cardiac emergency. Like every Olathe firefighter, Moreno is a trained and certified paramedic. When they arrived at the home, the patient had no pulse and was being given CPR by first-arriving police officers. Moreno and the crew continued care, performing their jobs exceptionally well. Jib Felter, an individual I've known for more than 15 years and City Councilmember LeEtta Felter's husband, is still with us because of those who serve us. In the last year, our first responders have had a best-in-class cardiac arrest survival rate – over twice the national average.

As one of the nation's safest cities, our Police Department's crime clearance

rates exceed national averages and lead other high-performing cities to which we compare ourselves. Additionally, our response times lead the nation.

What else is beyond exceptional? It's the willingness to sacrifice your life like School Resource Officer Erik Clark. On March 4, 2022, his actions at Olathe East High School secured the safety of those in the building. Officer Clark's response is a testament to the training, talent, and dedication of our Police Department's men and women.

While our public safety is exceptionally strong, the business community is also growing and thriving. Both established and new businesses are investing in and moving to Olathe.

In all, more than \$250 million in investments and a million square feet of new commercial space were added to our community, fueling nearly 1,000 new or retained jobs in Olathe over the past year. We thank our partners Tim McKee and his team at the Olathe Chamber of Commerce for their work to bring new investment, new jobs, and activities to our community.


Your parks, trails, community center, and recreation programs are important and we continue to listen to you to establish priorities that will support our quality of life. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan update, now underway, will guide what your parks will offer in the near future and for the next generation.

We are also moving forward on traffic flow improvements with recently completed or current work on Pflumm Road south of 143rd Street, on Black Bob Road south of 153rd Street, 135th Street at Pflumm Road, Sunset Street and Ridgeview Road, and on College Boulevard leading into Cedar Creek neighborhoods.

Above all, it's the heart of Olathe's people that makes our city exceptional, whether it's through the way you perform your jobs or how you take care of neighbors. Year after year, the Olathe Mayor's Children's Fund is caring for vulnerable children in our city by providing basic needs like medical care, food, shelter, shoes, clothing, and school supplies. This fund has raised almost \$1.8 million over the past 16 years, changing the lives of thousands of Olathe kids. More information about the Olathe Mayor's Children's Fund and how to donate is available at [OlatheCares.org](https://www.olathecares.org).

During this holiday season, I am abundantly grateful for the people who live in our amazing community — family, friends, neighbors, teachers, leaders, and service providers of all kinds. It is you that makes Olathe beyond exceptional in so many ways! Merry Christmas and may you have many blessings in the new year.

Sincerely,


John Bacon
Mayor



Olathe Public School students raised a record amount for the Olathe Mayor's Children's Fund last year. This allows Olathe's Center of Grace to help 1,000 students have new shoes.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

We all have a role to play to keep Olathe a beautiful city.



VEHICLES

- Inoperable vehicles may not be stored outside.
- Vehicles must be street-operable and properly registered. Tarps may not cover any vehicle.

Olathe Municipal Code Chapter 6.06.040



RECREATIONAL VEHICLES (BOATS, TRAILERS, MOTOR HOMES, ETC.)

- RVs must be parked in garage, side, or rear yard if there is reasonable access.
- Only 1 RV may be parked on the driveway if there is NOT reasonable side/rear yard access.

Olathe Municipal Code Chapter 6.06.047

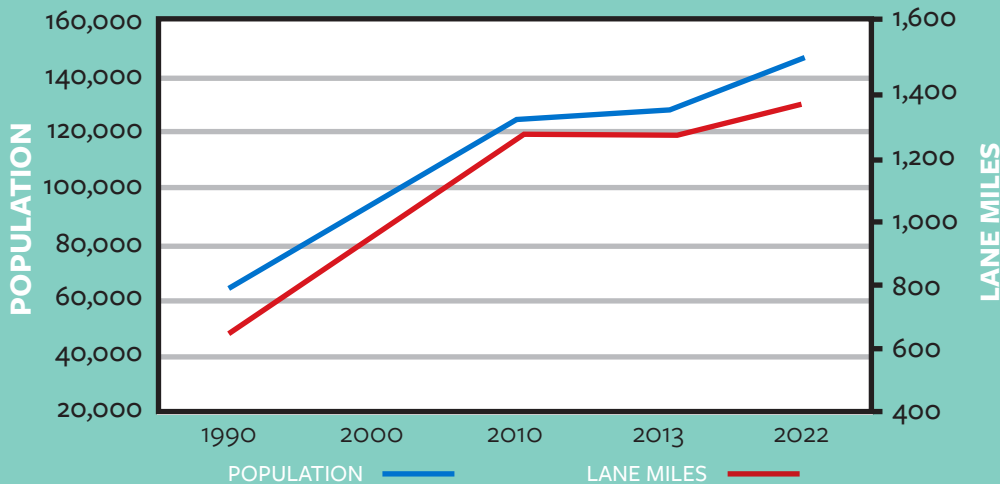


PARKING

- Vehicles/motorcycles may not be parked in any portion of the yard or walkway.

Olathe Municipal Code Chapter 6.06.046

OLATHE'S GROWTH OF STREET LANE MILES AND POPULATION



The city's growing population also means a growing street network. Since residents approved the current Street Maintenance Sales Tax in 2013, Olathe has added 103 lane miles for maintenance. The additional streets increase the overall cost to maintain our assets. Olathe's street preservation program is ongoing with resurfacing completed on 115 lane miles during 2022. Olathe has a total 1,362 lane miles.

IMPORTANT CITY PHONE NUMBERS

Regular Business Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

OlatheKS.gov/Government/Facilities-Directory

EMERGENCY911

Emergency TDD/TTY Calls911

GENERAL INFORMATION

(TDD/Voice) 971-8600

CUSTOMER SERVICE

(Billing, Trash, Water & Sewer)

1385 S. Robinson..... 971-9311

FIRE ADMINISTRATION

(Non-Emergency)

1225 S. Hamilton Circle971-7900

OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Indian Creek

16100 W. 135th St. 971-6835

OLATHE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Temporary Location

1078A W. Santa Fe 971-6850

OLATHE PARKS & RECREATION /COMMUNITY CENTER (TDD/Voice)

1205 E. Kansas City Rd. 971-8563

POLICE DEPARTMENT

501 E. 56 Highway 971-7500

HUMAN RESOURCES

100 E. Santa Fe 971-8735

OLATHE CITY COUNCIL

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Mayor

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OLATHE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE PROGRAMS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Whenever possible, the Olathe Prosecutor's Office is improving lives by helping keep people out of the Municipal Court system through programs such as community mediation, diversion, and mental health diversion.

Community Mediation

Bringing people together with mediation while avoiding Municipal Court is most often a successful path for non-criminal disputes. Common mediation examples are disagreements between neighbors, landlord and tenants, and consumers and merchants. The City of Olathe offers an independent mediator, free of charge, who guides participants through challenging discussions, and the parties decide together how they will resolve differences. Through 2019, 99 percent of the program's cases reached an agreement. The Olathe Community Mediation Office can be reached at 913-971-7736 or visit OlatheKS.Gov/Government/Municipal-Court for more information.

Diversion Program

Those with misdemeanor Municipal Court violations may be eligible for a diversion program at the discretion of the Prosecutor's Office. Normally, only first-time offenders of the charged violation with a good record are eligible. Not having automobile insurance and student traffic violations are examples of misdemeanors. If a diversion is granted, the defendant enters a contract with the Prosecutor's Office specifying the diversion's conditions. Charges may be dropped at the end of the diversion term if conditions of the contract are met.

Mental Health Diversion

Getting people the treatment they need is the goal of the Mental Health Diversion program through a partnership with Johnson County Mental Health. Only a few years old, the program has helped defendants struggling with serious mental health issues, sometimes combined with substance abuse, relationship issues, and other challenges. Since third quarter 2020, 13 people successfully completed their diversion and 15 are still participating in the program. If treatment and conditions of the diversion contract are met charges may be dropped.

WHAT'S BEING BUILT IN OLATHE



Johnson County Square

Johnson County Square is a new three-acre civic park and public gathering space located at the intersection of Santa Fe and Kansas Avenue in downtown. A second and final phase of this redevelopment project will include a 2,400 square foot open stage area, children's play area, historical plaza, public art, additional seating, and landscaping.



New Fieldhouse at Garmin Soccer Complex

A new fieldhouse will soon be constructed at the Garmin Olathe Soccer Complex, generally located north of 106th Street and west of Ridgeview Road. The 33,200 square foot building will be a multi-use facility for year-round use.



PREVENT FROZEN PIPES

During bitter cold weather, water in pipes can freeze and expand with nowhere to go, resulting in pipes bursting. Be especially aware of the possibility of frozen pipes when temperatures dip to -20°F and lower. At-risk areas for frozen pipes are located against your home's outside walls and in unheated spaces.

Do you need to thaw frozen pipes? Visit OlatheKS.gov/Snolathe for tips, or call a licensed plumber.

What You Can Do

- Let water run in a very slow drip from a faucet farthest away from water's entrance to the house. This will help keep water moving to reduce the chance of frozen pipes.
- Open cabinet doors that lead to exposed pipes to allow circulation of warmer household air.
- Keep garage doors shut. Plumbing routed through unheated space leaves it vulnerable to cold air.
- Install pipe insulation products on exposed pipes, such as a pipe sleeve or UL-listed heat tape, heat cable or similar products.
- Keep your thermostat set above 65°F when away from your home or business for several days.

New Pavilion at Lake Olathe

Relax. Picnic. Fish. The new waterside pavilion on Lake Olathe's east side is the perfect spot to enjoy the lake. This accessible, 22 by 40-foot roof-protected area is outfitted with four picnic tables. The Olathe Park Sales Tax funded the pavilion as well as the overall redeveloped Lake Olathe Park.



OLATHE PARKS AND RECREATION SUPPORTS COMMUNITY

City of Olathe Parks and Recreation not only maintains our parks, but our quality of life, supporting the health of families, the environment, and the economy.

The 2014 Olathe Parks Sales Tax voter renewal has provided more than 25 improvement projects in all parts of the city.

New park construction and major park refreshes

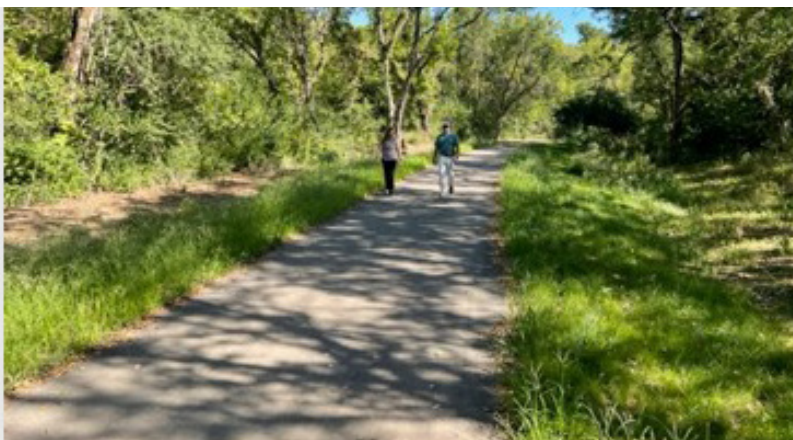
Lake Olathe	Frisco Lake Park
Lone Elm Park	Civic Center Park
Woodland Hills Park	Pellett Park
Stagecoach Park	Indian Creek Park

Residents highly regard their public places for outdoor and indoor activities and recreation opportunities, according to the 2021 DirectionFinder® resident survey.

Repairs and refreshes occurred at other park locations

Calamity Line Park	Mill Creek Park
Raven Ridge Park	Heatherstone Park
Cory Circle Park	Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop
Arbor Landing Park	Haven Park
Oregon Trail Park	Fairview Park
Prairie Center Park	Cedar Lake
Santa Marta Park	Hampton Park

Three new trails: approximately five trail miles were built on Meadow Lane Trail, Cedar Creek Trail, and Boulder Creek Trail.



Cedar Creek Trail



Indian Creek Park

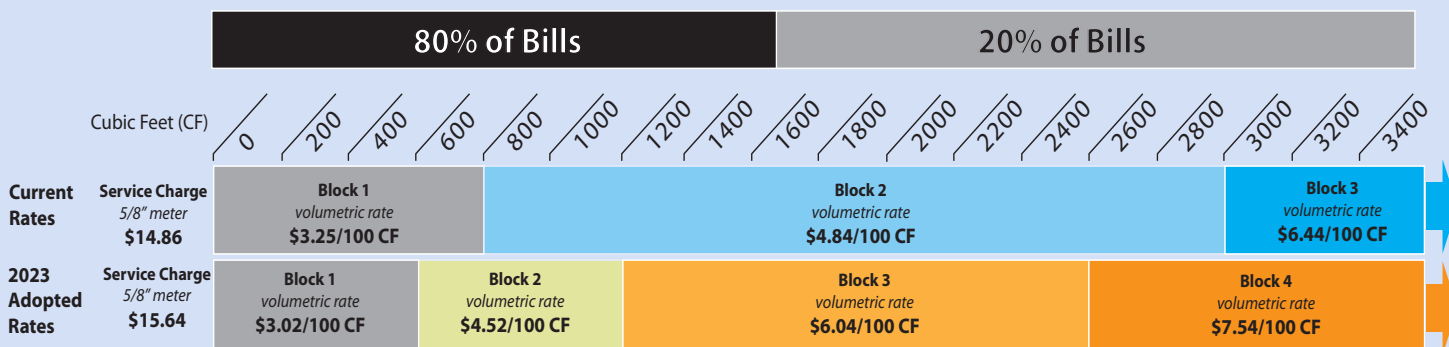
NEW WATER UTILITY RATE STRUCTURE COMING IN 2023

Approved during the summer of 2022, the new water rate block structure will go into effect Jan. 1, 2023. Although Olathe is modifying its block structure, this is a common billing practice in the industry and is currently used in many other cities.

How does the new structure work?

The concept of the block rate structure is the less water you use, the less you pay. For the first 600 CF (cubic feet) of water you use, you will be billed the lowest amount (\$3.02/100CF). Once you have reached the 600 CF usage threshold, you will be billed \$4.52/100CF for the next 600 CF of water. It is only when you use certain volumes of water that you move up to the next volumetric rate. For reference, a cubic foot of water is equal to just under 7.5 gallons of water.

NEW WATER RATE BLOCK SCHEDULE



How will this affect my water bill?

The City Council approved a small increase in water and sewer rates for 2023. For the average Olathe customer, the block rate structure should only cause minimal changes, if any at all.

As shown below, 55 percent of Olathe water customers should actually see a small decrease in their monthly bill. Those with large irrigation needs will experience the most change.

WATER RATE BLOCK STRUCTURE EXAMPLE

Proposed Water Blocks	Approx. % of Bills in New Blocks	Water Usage Examples (CF)	Current Monthly Bill	Proposed Monthly Bill	Impact (\$)
Basic Needs 0-600	55%	588	\$33.97	\$33.40	-\$0.57
Larger Family 600-1,200	25%	1200	\$60.22	\$60.88	\$0.66
Efficient Irrigation 1,200-2,600	15%	1600	\$79.58	\$85.04	\$5.46
Enhanced Irrigation >2,600	5%	3208	\$160.74	\$191.28	\$30.55

Why is this change happening?

This change improves affordability and equity for basic resident water needs.

The hope is the new block structure will change behaviors by encouraging residents to water outdoors efficiently and conserve when possible, protecting capacities of our system.



For more information, visit OlatheKS.gov/Fees or scan the QR code.

Visit OlatheKS.gov/WaterConservation for tips to reduce water bills.

Water usage can be monitored throughout the month by logging onto your City of Olathe Online Utility Account and clicking "Show Usage." Please keep in mind, water usage numbers may take 24-48 hours to update.

SNOLATHE

Learn more about snow removal operations, and access a plow truck tracking map during winter weather events, at OlatheKS.gov/Snolathe



KC Wolf cheers on Olathe's snow team.

When weather turns wintry, street snow removal begins immediately with dedicated plow trucks for main roads and smaller trucks for residential neighborhoods. Operations sometimes begin days before the storm with salt brine applications if rain is not forecast before ice or snow. During removal operations, up to 58 plow trucks work around the clock to clear 1,362 lane miles and 1,428 cul-de-sacs.



This winter, the City of Olathe has five new salt brine tanks for trucks treating streets. They help focus on trouble areas on main roads and in neighborhoods. Pretreatment can occur up to a week in advance of a storm, especially on bridges, hills, and cul-de-sacs.

You Can Help Snow Removal Go Smoothly

- Park vehicles in your driveway when possible, making sure no part of the vehicles extends into the street.
- Remove portable basketball goals, hockey goals, skate board ramps, or other structures to enable plow trucks to reach the curb.
- Avoid shoveling driveway snow into the street. Shovel snow to the downstreet side (the direction traffic flows past your driveway) to minimize snow buildup at the bottom of the driveway.
- Shovel the sidewalk adjacent to your property.

Tips to Stay Safe

- If possible, stay off the roads during snow removal.
- Stay back at least 50 feet from snowplows and avoid passing them. Larger trucks can plow multiple lanes at once.
- Do not build snow forts near streets, and never near snow windrows. Plow trucks may come by again.
- If you have an emergency, dial 911. Dispatchers will contact snow removal operations if needed to assist emergency vehicles.

OlatheConnect

Look up information or submit a service request 24/7.
OlatheKS.gov/OlatheConnect

Stay Informed

Visit OlatheKS.gov and sign up for Olathe news and updates by email or text messages.

CONNECT WITH US



Apps available
on the App Store
and Google Play

OLATHE CONNECT **OLATHE** TrashDay

HOLIDAY RECYCLING TIPS



LIGHTS

Holiday lights can be recycled at the City's HHW Facility, 1420 S. Robinson Dr. Call 913-971-9311 to make a drop-off appointment, schedule one online at OlatheKS.gov/HHW or stop by a Saturday drop-off event from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. without an appointment.

Full details are available at OlatheKS.gov/HHW and on the TrashDay app.

REAL TREES

If a tree is real, it can be recycled two ways once it's free of ornaments and lights.

- Place it at the curb for collection on your trash day.
- Drop it off at the Compost Facility located at 127th and Hedge Lane.

ARTIFICIAL TREES

Artificial trees must be discarded in the trash, while broken strings of lights can be recycled at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility.

For more information, visit OlatheKS.gov/Recycling.

WRAPPING

Holiday wrapping can sometimes be recycled if it's clean, free of glitter, and not made of a shiny material.

BOXES

Boxes should be flattened. If they don't fit in the recycling cart, place them next to it. If the box displays an expensive item that's inside your home, drop the cardboard off at one of Olathe's recycling sites to ensure your safety.

More holiday recycling information can be found at OlatheKS.gov/Recycling.