

NEWSLETTER

UNION SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD

RESIDENT-LED



FUTURE-FOCUSED

APRIL - MAY 2026

Small Actions, Big Impact in Union Square Parks

By Chantelle, Lead - Union Square Neighborhood Connect

As the weather begins to warm up, more neighbors are spending time in our local parks again. Union Square is fortunate to have three neighborhood parks - Union Square Park, Union Ridge Park, and Wright Park (Reconstruction completion, late April - early May). These shared spaces are an important part of daily life in the neighborhood.

Like any well-used public space, litter naturally builds up over time. The City of Lakewood does a tremendous amount of work maintaining our parks, and their crews help keep these spaces functioning and welcoming for the entire community.

But another part of the story is neighbors themselves.

Over the past year, a small group of residents have quietly helped with litter pickup across the parks. One of those neighbors is Josh, who has helped out almost every time. Congratulations on the birth of your daughter, Josh, and thank you for all the help along the way.

There are also neighbors like Dan, who takes a few minutes during his own walks to pick up litter at Union Ridge Park. These small actions may seem simple, but they make a real difference across the neighborhood.

Next time you're taking a stroll through one of our parks, take a moment to notice the many ways these spaces are cared for. The City of Lakewood does a tremendous amount of work maintaining them, but often it's neighbors, picking up a piece of litter on their own time or lending a hand during a cleanup, who give these places their sense of pride.





Small Actions, Big Impact in Union Square Parks

If you'd ever like to join in for a little while, the next neighborhood litter pickup is planned for Saturday, April 4th and May 2nd from 10am - 11:15 AM at Union Square Park. Even a few minutes can make a difference when it comes to caring for the spaces we all share.

Parks aren't the only places where neighbors are helping care for shared spaces this spring. Just down the road, another neighborhood green space is beginning to buzz with activity...

Cedar Hill Community Garden @ GMUMC www.gmumc.com

[Green Mountain United Methodist Church - 2755 W Cedar Dr, Lakewood, CO 80228](http://www.gmumc.com)

News From the Garden

By Jean Arnold, Executive Leadership – Cedar Hill Community Garden

Spring is here, and the garden is beginning to come to life. Crocuses are blooming, and chives and onions are returning in the Oasis garden. Thanks to fall sheet composting, the soil has developed into a rich mulch over the winter. Our bees also made it through the season, helped by the mild weather.

To meet growing demand, we're working with DUG to build three new raised bed plots, including accessible plots for gardeners who need them.

We're also excited to introduce a new shared garden bed along the fence, where everyone in the community will be able to pick tomatoes, zucchini, and squash. These larger plants will have a dedicated space, allowing individual plots to be used more efficiently.

At Cedar Hill, the vision is simple and powerful:

“Feeding our community. I hope that time spent in the garden can grow not only sustainable food, but a community from diverse people and foster a sense of place that brings peace.” - Lori Osborn

The Cedar Hill Community Garden is part of the Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) network, a community-driven effort supporting food-growing spaces across metro Denver.



Cedar Hill Community Garden @ GMUMC

www.gmumc.com

Green Mountain United Methodist Church - 2755 W Cedar Dr, Lakewood, CO 80228

Getting a Garden Plot

It's not too late to get a garden plot for the 2026 season. Karen King, who manages plot assignments and the waitlist, is currently confirming returning gardeners. At least one plot is already opening up, and three new plots will be added this spring.

If you're interested in a plot or joining the waitlist, please contact:

- Karen King - cedarhillgarden@dug.org
- Jean Arnold - jeanarnold@arnoldarnold.com

The current plot fee is \$50, which covers water, compost, and supplies. This may adjust slightly depending on costs.

While waiting for a plot, volunteers are always welcome in the Oasis garden, container areas, and shared beds. Helping out on work days can also move you up the waitlist.

Scholarship Update

Thank you to everyone who contributed to scholarship plots this year. The garden has received generous donations, and two scholarship plots will be awarded in April.

Build a Bee House Workshop



Build a Bee House - Pollinator Workshop




April 11th | 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Cedar Hill Community Garden



Join Cedar Hill, GMUMC and Neighbors for a fun, hands-on activity where neighbors will build bee houses for the Cedar Hill Community Garden to support the pollinators that help the garden grow.

Learn about pollinators, tour the garden, and connect with neighbors, Fun hands-on activity, All materials provided, Snacks, water and juice boxes available.  [Click here for more info!](#)



Sustainable Rebates & Opportunities

There are a number of programs available right now that can help lower energy costs, reduce waste, and make it easier to get around the neighborhood. Here are a few worth exploring:

Free Home Energy Assessments (City of Lakewood) [Learn more or sign up](#)

The City of Lakewood, in partnership with Xcel Energy, is currently offering free home energy assessments for homes with up to 10 connected units that are side-by-side only, units cannot have neighbors above or below

Four of us in my HOA community signed up, and the experience was incredibly helpful. During my home assessment, the auditor:

- *Replaced 14 lightbulbs with energy-efficient LEDs, weatherized the front door, and upgraded an older thermostat*
- *Pressurized the home to identify air leaks and efficiency opportunities*
- *Provided a full data analysis to guide next steps for home upgrades*

This is a great starting point. Get a detailed analysis of your home, today!

Have questions about home energy rebates? Navigating programs like Xcel rebates and Colorado's electrification incentives can be stressful.



**GO ELECTRIC
COLORADO**

goelectriccolorado.org

Go Electric Colorado offers free coaching to help residents:

- Understand your home audit
- Learn about available rebates and incentives
- Plan home upgrades
- Find trusted contractors

E-Bike Rebates

There are state and local incentives that can significantly reduce the cost of an e-bike, often taking hundreds of dollars off at the time of purchase. Support local business!

State of Colorado E-Bike Tax Credit

All Colorado residents can receive up to \$225 off, an instant discount at purchase.

- Must be new at time of purchase
- Be a class 1, 2, or 3 electrical assisted bicycle

Denver E-Bike Rebate Program

If you have a Denver address, you may qualify for rebates around \$300 - \$450.

- Income-qualified rebates can reach up to \$900 when combined with state incentives



Sustainable Rebates & Opportunities



Home composting made easy and affordable for Lakewood residents in partnership with the City of Lakewood and Compost Colorado.

Sign up today for only \$5/ month!

* Registration required to participate

👉 [Click here to sign up!](#)

[Union Square Drop-Off Location](#)
Quail Street Recycling Center

Resources to help you get started

- [Watch the Virtual Workshop](#)
- **Free Kitchen Compost Caddies:** Residents who sign up to compost can pick up a free kitchen compost caddy at the Public Works Reception Booth (Permit Center Lobby) Monday - Friday, 8AM-5PM (excluding lunch, 12-1 PM)

Resources for Active Adults (Ages 55+)



Contact - Dave Appel | Phone: 303-987-4838
Email: davapp@lakewoodco.gov

[Clements Community Center](#) [1580 Yarrow St. Lakewood, CO](#)

Drop-in activities are available for adults 55+. Clements offers transportation services via Lakewood Rides, a hot lunch program, and a variety of classes.

Contact the Clements Community Center - Reachout office. Provides information and referral to over 3,500 programs for people ages 55+.



[A Little Help - Essential Support for Ages 60+](#)

👉 [Click here to fill out the Interest Form](#)

Connects volunteers with older adults (ages 60+) to provide essential support, including transportation, yard work, friendly visits, tech assistance, and much more.

Support Pets

& Community



Saturday, June 13th | 10am - 1pm

Wright Park - 500 Wright St, Lakewood, CO 80228

Wright Park Re-Opening Celebration & Neighborhood Fundraiser

Join your neighbors to celebrate the re-opening of Wright Park, the new dog park, and to raise money to build something lasting for the neighborhood: ***an enclosed community bulletin board!***

This is a **FREE** - low-key, family-friendly event where you can:

Meet neighbors, pet owners, and local businesses

Spend time in the park and enjoy the new dog park

Support your neighborhood in a simple, meaningful way



SCHEDULE

10:15 AM (Optional) Pets Walk Around the Park

Take a stroll with your pet, explore the space, and connect with neighbors along the way.

10 AM - 1 PM Neighborhood Get-Together

Gather at the dog park, relax in the shaded social areas, enjoy local businesses and community booths, play lawn games, and spend time with neighbors.

HOW YOU CAN BE PART OF IT!

- Help with setup or takedown
- Bring pre-packaged snacks to share
- Simply being there matters most
- Contribute to the fundraiser (*optional*)

 **Donate Here** 

**Contact for Details
Chantelle**

(Union Square Neighborhood Connect)

Email: unionsquarenc@gmail.com



Have a Local Business? Get Involved

- Connect with neighbors and the community
- Bring samples to share (no sales permitted)
- Featured in event outreach and fundraiser spotlight
- Help sponsor a lasting neighborhood resource

All contributions go toward installing an enclosed community bulletin board for the park.

SPONSOR TIERS

Connect with 4,000+ homes, Meet local pet owners & families,
Be part of a park re-opening, Support a lasting neighborhood resource.

Neighborhood Supporter **\$1 up to \$100**

Name in communications
Website recognition

Community Sponsor **\$100-\$200**

Logo on flyers
Website listing

Booth

*Table provided and
Free samples welcome (no sales)*

Premier Sponsor **\$200+**

Top logo placement
Dedicated website section
and marketing spotlight

Booth

*Table provided and
Free samples welcome (no sales)*

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Support Pets



& Community

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Wright Park - 500 Wright St, Lakewood, CO 80228

Upcoming Meetups - Union Square

Join neighbors online for our next Neighborhood Meeting

Tuesday, April 7th & May 5th
6:30 PM | Online

Email: unionsquarenc@gmail.com
to receive the meeting link

Union Square Neighborhood is a resident-led, renter-inclusive association focused on connecting neighbors, and encouraging community participation through sustainable efforts that create long-term impact. If you live here, you belong here!

LITTER LIFT Litter Pick-Up

Bring:

Water Bottle

Closed Toe
Shoes

Hat



www.unionsquarenc.org

Get your Litter Lift on! Join the Union Square Neighborhood in our effort to clean up litter and keep our parks beautiful. Let's work together to make a positive impact on our community!

Saturday,
April 4th & May 2nd
10 AM - 11:15 AM

Union Square Park

12200 W 2nd Pl, Lakewood, CO 80228

BUILD A BEE HOUSE



Pollinator Workshop for the Neighborhood



Saturday, April 11th
2 PM - 4 PM

Green Mountain United
Methodist Church

12755 W Cedar Dr
Lakewood, CO 80228

Join us for a fun, hands-on activity where neighbors will build bee houses for the Cedar Hill Community Garden to support the pollinators that help the garden grow.



Scan to learn more!

www.gmumc.com

www.unionsquarenc.org



- Learn about pollinators, tour the garden, and connect with neighbors
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Support Pets & Community



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- Bring pre-packaged snacks to share
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- Contribute to the fundraiser (optional)

Scan QR to Donate



Click For Event Details

Email: unionsquarenc@gmail.com



Around Lakewood: Events & Resources



Support Foothills Elementary -Foodies HUB-

Foothills Elementary is accepting food donations for the Foodies HUB, which is available to all students and families at the school.

FACT: Union Square does not have an elementary school. Foothills Elementary serves as home for many of our neighborhood's students.

👉 [View donation needs here](#)

Contact Katy:

katy.evans@jeffco.k12.co.us



Neighborhood Pantry Box

Monthly Pantry boxes available!

👉 [Request a box here](#)

-or-

Email: unionsquarenc@gmail.com

Most Needed Donations:

Shelf-stable foods

1-2 lbs. rice bags, boxed pasta, canned beans, packet oatmeal, peanut butter and jelly, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

#ShopLakewood

Support Local Businesses

Ongoing & Throughout The City

Family Lounge @ Green Mtn. Rec Center

Enjoy time with family and play video or board games and read books.

-Teen activities are available-

Green Mountain Recreation Center

13198 W Green Mtn. Dr, Lakewood

👉 [Learn more here](#)

Lunch & Chats: Women In Business

Tuesday, April 14th | 12 - 1 PM

Lakewood Community Resources

480 S Allison Pkwy, Lakewood

👉 [Click here to register](#)

State of the City - Together We Thrive

Wednesday, April 15th | 4 - 5:30 PM

Lakewood Cultural Center

470 S Allison Pkwy, Lakewood

👉 [For more information](#)

Open House @

Red Rocks Community College

Thursday, April 16th | 5 - 7 PM

RRCC - 13300 W 6th Ave, Lakewood

👉 [For more information](#)

Women's Gravel Training Rides (Free)

Saturday, April 25th & May 9th | 10AM

Various locations across the front range

👉 [Click here to register](#)



Around Lakewood: Events & Resources

Kentucky Derby Celebration

Saturday, May 2nd | 2 - 5 PM

The Plaza at Belmar

439 S. Upham Street, Lakewood

👉 [For more information](#)

Free Mulch Pick-Up

Saturday, May 2nd & 9th | 7 AM – 3:00 PM

City Greenhouse - 9556 W. Yale Ave, Lakewood

👉 [For more information](#)

Low Cost Pet Vaccination & Dog License

Saturday, May 2nd | 9 AM - 1 PM

Paramount Park

2729 Kipling St, Wheat Ridge

👉 [Learn more here](#)

Spring 26' Cornhole League

Weekly recreational cornhole league

Tuesdays Late April - June | 6:30 PM

\$180 per team (2-4+)

Old 121 Brewhouse - 2010 S Oak St, Lakewood

👉 [Register here](#)

Wolf + Wildflower (Mountain Milk)

Wine Bar Happy Hour

Monday - Saturday

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM & 9 PM - Close

Sundays - All Day

\$1 OFF Beer | \$2 - \$8 OFF

Select wines by the glass, small bites & flatbread

150 S Union Blvd, Lakewood

👉 [Learn more here](#)

FIRE & POLICE

West Metro Fire Rescue

-Station #4-

Call: 911 if you have an emergency

Call: 303-986-7300 for the Firehouse

- [Request a low-cost smoke or CO alarm](#)
- [Home Safety & Wellness](#)
- [Car Seat Checks](#)

Lakewood Police Department

Call: 911 if you have an emergency

Call: 303-980-7300 for 24/7

Non-Emergency Police Dispatch

Call: 303-987-7891 for Victim Assistance

REPORT ABANDONED VEHICLES, SHOPPING CARTS, OTHER

Request Lakewood

-or-

Contact Us

unionsquarenc@gmail.com

TRANSIT ASSISTANCE

RTD FlexRide - Green Mountain

Call: 303-299-6000 to book a ride

- \$2.75 for a Standard 3-hour pass
- \$1.35 for a Discounted fare
- Youth 19 and under ride at no cost

👉 [More resources!](#)



Trusted Neighborhood Partners

Residents aren't the only ones who make our neighborhood succeed, the businesses and organizations that call Union Square home play an essential role as well. We extend a huge, heartfelt thank you to our Trusted Partners for their continued support, generosity, and commitment to the neighborhood.



Silver Reef Apartments

274 Union Blvd # 450,
Lakewood, CO 80228
www.liveatsilverreef.com

Silver Reef Apartments is a welcoming place to live in Union Square, close to parks, transit, and local amenities.



Local businesses and organizations supporting neighborhood initiatives

Want to become a Trusted Partner?

Fill out our form

-or-

Email:

unionsquarenc@gmail.com



Green Mountain United Methodist Church & Cedar Hill Community Garden

12755 W Cedar Dr, Lakewood, CO 80228
www.gmumc.com

GMUMC is an inclusive neighborhood church rooted in faith and community.

Cedar Hill Community Garden is a shared space where neighbors grow food and connect.



Inner Circle Bookkeeping

Call or Text Jason: 720.341.8817
www.innercirclebookkeeping.com

Inner Circle Bookkeeping is our neighborhood bookkeeper who helps keep things running smoothly.



Mile High Flood District

12575 W Bayaud Ave,
Lakewood, CO 80228
www.mhfd.org

Mile High Flood District helps protect our community from flood mitigation through education, planning, and local infrastructure projects.



Ed Prather Real Estate

274 Union Blvd # 450, Lakewood, CO 80228
www.edprather.com

Ed Prather Real Estate helps neighbors buy and sell homes with expert care and is a community champion for stable, thriving neighborhoods.



Getting ready for our Rethink Indoor Comfort home energy workshop in partnership with GoElectricColorado.org



The Digital Buzz

FACEBOOK

Union Square Neighborhood Connect Page

Union Square Corridor Businesses & Neighbors Page

NEIGHBORHOOD CALENDAR

Neighborhood Meetups

CITY INFORMATION

City of Lakewood Website

Contact City Council



Families hanging out and enjoying popcorn at Movie Matinee!

Leprechaun fun at Crafty Creations, held once a month!

Upcoming:
Build a Bee House
Sat. April 11th
2-4 PM
@ GMUMC



ABOUT ME

Hi! My name is Chantelle.

I've called Union Square home for 13 years and am a lifelong resident of the City of Lakewood.

I launched this resident-led association to bring neighbors together around shared goals for a more connected and sustainable community.

I'd love to hear from you!
Email me - unionsquarenc@gmail.com



Thank you to Ed Prather Real Estate & Associates for helping pack pantry bags!