

Belle Isle Buzz



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Shelli Wasson, Editor

May / June 2023

Neighborhood Night Out Set for Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at Belle Isle Park

Planning for the 2023 Neighborhood Night Out (NNO) is currently underway, according to Sara Fathree, one of our planning team members, who are taking the lead for this year's event. Others working diligently to make this year's celebration "the best ever" include Lauren Dunlevy, Taryn Clark and David Patterson. Belle Isle West board is thrilled with this group's new energy, ideas and desire to expand the interest and participation in this important event.

NNO is a free event sponsored by the Neighborhood Alliance and the Oklahoma City Police Department with supplemental activities/entertainment from Belle Isle West (BIW) Neighborhood Association. NNOs are held all over the city and are meant to enhance community spirit and crime prevention.

Sara, 58th Place resident, said the planning committee will be meeting in July with more BIW neighbors who have volunteered to help. " We still need more people to help on the evening of the event. Please contact her at Sara.Fathree@gmail.com if you would like to help.

"We have a lot of ideas for kids and adults alike! Stay tuned for more details as we work on this project."
Submitted by Toni Taylor-Glenn, resident on 62nd St.

Call for Volunteers for Urban Heat Mapping Campaign

The City of Oklahoma City is seeking hundreds of volunteers to be a part of a national campaign to map extreme heat in urban areas.

More than 300 people are needed to capture temperature and air quality data across the city along predetermined routes during the early morning, late afternoon and evening. See Heat Mapping, pg 2.

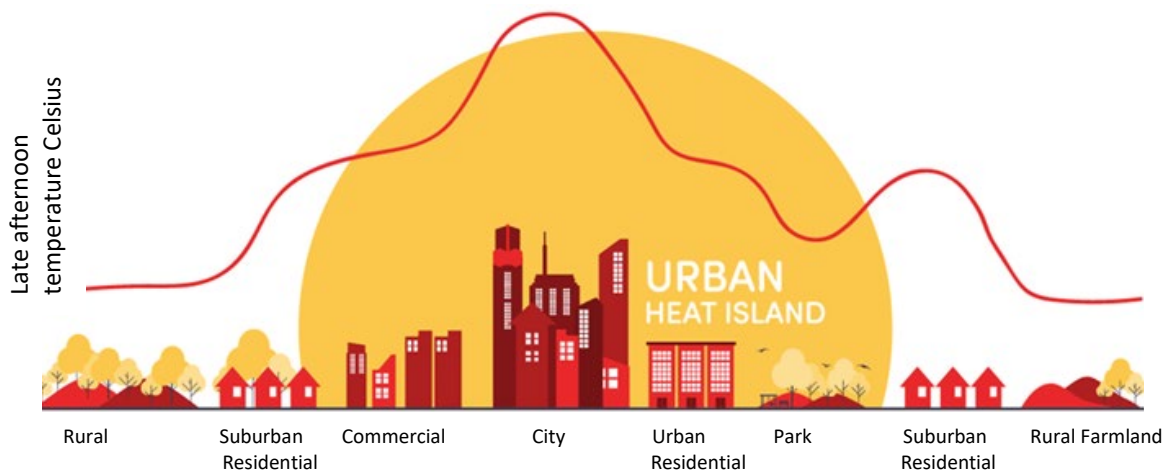


Figure courtesy of Kamyar Fuladi,
World Meteorological Organization

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hallgreg05@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT – David Patterson
dgpat@cox.net

SECRETARY – Cathy Fitzhugh

TREASURER – Cathie Shaw

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STREET DIRECTORS (04/04/2023)

55th Place – Dave Campbell & Greg Hall

55th Terrace – Cathy Fitzhugh

56th St. & Linn – Sandy & Peter Pembroke

57th St. – Shannon & Randy Wells

58th Place – Shelli & Craig Wasson,
Cathie Shaw

58th St. – Sue Fellers

59th St. – Aimee Dial Parrish

60th St. – Christie Baker

61st St. – Scott Sproat & Maribeth Govin

62nd St. – OPEN

Imperial Terrace – Jackie Wilkinson

Riviera Drive – OPEN

2300-2400 Blocks of 59th St.– OPEN

Ross Ave. – Eunice Khoury

Villa Ave. &

2400-2412 NW 63rd St.- Brooks Taylor



Heat Mapping, cont.

Volunteers, aka street scientists, will attach equipment to their vehicle's window and drive along an assigned route, measuring air temperature, air quality (particulate matter) and tracking location. The Volunteers will be matched in groups of three, including a driver, a navigator and a backup.

Once the route is completed, volunteers will return the equipment to a designated location for the next volunteer group to use. The campaign will take place on one of the hottest days of the year, tentatively set as Aug. 12, depending on weather conditions. A backup date is planned for Aug. 26. Volunteer training will be held virtually 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM July 13 and 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM July 27.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) chose Oklahoma City as one of 18 communities selected to participate in the 2023 NOAA Urban Heat Island (UHI) mapping campaign. City Council approved the grant award for the project June 6, 2023.

Urban heat islands — areas with few trees and more pavement that absorbs heat — can be up to 20 degrees hotter than neighborhoods with more trees, grass, and less black asphalt. Extreme heat events are the deadliest weather-related events nationwide, according to NOAA. Some groups are more vulnerable to heat, including the elderly, children, pregnant people, low-income and minority populations, and those with heart-and lung-related health conditions, diabetes and obesity, among other conditions.

In addition to the one-day volunteer event, the City's Office of Sustainability and researchers with three colleges from the University of Oklahoma will host education and awareness workshops. OU's Colleges of Landscape Architecture, Public Health and Geography are also conducting research on heat vulnerability in Oklahoma City.

Once data collection is completed, a NOAA contractor, CAPA Strategies, will create a report for local decision-makers, planners and health organizations to take action to reduce the health impacts of extreme heat.

[Read more](#) about the City's Urban Heat Island project.

<https://www.okc.gov/departments/planning/programs/sustainability/extreme-heat>

[Sign up](#) to become a volunteer and contact the Office of Sustainability at sustainability@okc.gov for questions.

Media Contact: Sarah Terry-Cobo, Office of Sustainability
(405) 297-3933 sarah.terrycobo@okc.gov

City of OKC <cityofokc@public.govdelivery.com>

Email to Shelli Wasson, Tues., June 27

OKC Animal Welfare awinfo@okc.gov

- Goal is a 90 percent live release rate for the animals cared for by the OKC Animal Welfare.
- You can [adopt](#) and [look for lost pets](#) at the [Oklahoma City Animal Shelter](#).
<https://www.okc.gov/departments/animal-welfare>
- Serves more than 24,000 animals each year in the City of OKC.

Mail dues to:

**Belle Isle West NA
5030 N. May, Box 118
Oklahoma City, OK
73112**

**2023 Belle Isle West
Neighborhood Association Dues**



Name _____

Address _____

Phones(s) _____

Email _____

*Your canceled check
is your receipt.*

◆ Annual dues are \$35.00 per household. ◆



(Make checks to BIW Neighborhood Assn.)

*Thank
You!*

I have enclosed \$ _____

**MANY THANKS FOR
YOUR DONATIONS!**

Several residents add a little (or a lot) to their dues check each year to help fund projects in Belle Isle West. We send out a BIG thank you to the following generous neighbors who recently contributed over and above their \$35.00 yearly dues.

They are: Christie & Tim Baker, Karla Cason, Shelli & Craig Wasson.

Since our non-profit organization is educational, social, voluntary, intended to improve our neighborhood and because you receive no goods or actual services from the association, your dues and any amount you choose to donate (up to \$250) are tax deductible due to our 501(C)4 designation with the IRS. If you have further questions, please consult with your tax expert. Thank you for supporting Belle Isle West!

Feral Cats

Contact Dave Campbell to reserve a cage. Dave will show you how to easily use the cage. Cats are returned to their "home" area after being spayed or neutered. Sterilizing feral cats also reduces nuisance behaviors (i.e., spraying, fighting, howling and roaming). Belle Isle West encourages residents to continue using this free program.

Traffic Calming

Update to the article in the Nov / Dec 2022 newsletter article about Traffic Calming.

The pilot program for speed cushion implementation on 58th Place between Villa Ave. and Ross Ave. is moving forward. Residents on 58th Place and the OKC Traffic Commission have been working closely on the process. Next steps include engineers confirming locations for the speed cushions and installation which should take place in about 8 weeks.

Other streets in BIW have begun the process of speed cushion implementation. If you are interested in more information about the program, please reach out to BIW President, Greg Hall.

Submitted by Will Fathree, 58th Place resident

Belle Isle West
Neighborhood Assoc.
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Oklahoma City, OK 73112

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BIW email is biwestokc@gmail.com
www.biwokc.com



Calendar of Events in 2023

August 1 BIW Business Meeting at Belle Isle Library 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Meeting lasts one hour.
If you reside in Belle Isle West, you are welcome to attend.

September 12 Neighbor's Night Out in Belle Isle Park, see pg. 1 for more information.

Bi-Monthly Business Meetings in 2023: August 1, October 3, December 5

Storm Shelter Registry

After the May 3rd, 1999 tornado that devastated nearby Moore, OK, homeowners started getting tornado shelters installed in their garages to protect them in case of tornado. The Storm Shelter Registry is a service for Oklahoma City residents to provide information about their storm shelters to help first responders in case of an emergency.

Contact the **Action Center (405) 297-2535** Monday - Friday between 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM for assistance. Provide your address, the type of shelter you have, where it is located. You can also check to see whether your storm shelter is already registered.

You may also provide the name and phone number of an emergency contact person. This additional contact information is optional and not required to register your shelter. All information you provide will be used by first responders --- police, fire, and emergency medical service -- to help with emergency response, in the event your home or neighborhood are affected by a tornado or other disaster.