



## ELMWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD REFERENCE GUIDE

*JOIN NEIGHBORS and MAKE THINGS HAPPEN*

### **Elmwood Neighborhood Association**

**(ENA):** ENA provides technical support for residents who take on neighborhood projects. A monthly newsletter, Yahoo listserv, and occasional meetings help keep neighbors informed about projects and in touch with one another.

Subscribe to the neighborhood newsletter by emailing [karen\\_ena@earthlink.net](mailto:karen_ena@earthlink.net). Exchange emails with other neighbors by subscribing to the **Elmwood Exchange** at [groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ElmwoodExchange/info](http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ElmwoodExchange/info)

### **Crime Watch for Elmwood and South**

**Providence:** Meets monthly with the district lieutenant to discuss crime trends, safety and quality of life issues. Monthly guest speakers.

Contact: [doug.crimewatch@gmail.com](mailto:doug.crimewatch@gmail.com)

### **Friends of Peace and Plenty**

**Park:** Maintains and improves a neighborhood park in northern Elmwood; develops and hosts programming for youth and adults.

Contact: [peaceandplentypark@elpvd.org](mailto:peaceandplentypark@elpvd.org)

**Friends of Columbus Square:** Aims to develop the park as a vibrant place to rest and relax, and to enjoy pop up markets, performances, and other community activities.

Contact: [karen\\_ena@earthlink.net](mailto:karen_ena@earthlink.net)

### **Friends of Knight Memorial**

**Library:** Advocates for library programs and repairs. Organizes summer tutoring and school break programs. Raises money for programs and improvements through a variety of fundraisers. Meets monthly.

Contact: [deborah@gleegum.com](mailto:deborah@gleegum.com)

### **Providence Neighborhood Planting**

**Program:** Providence residents increase the tree cover in their neighborhoods by planting trees in April and October. Find out more at PNPP: [www.pnpp.org](http://www.pnpp.org), or reach out to these experienced tree planting event organizers in Elmwood:

Paula Donovan, [paula.on.lenox@gmail.com](mailto:paula.on.lenox@gmail.com);  
Jane Gerhard, [gerhardjane2@gmail.com](mailto:gerhardjane2@gmail.com),  
Brooke Hammerle  
[brookehammerle@gmail.com](mailto:brookehammerle@gmail.com);  
Doug Victor, [doug.crimewatch@gmail.com](mailto:doug.crimewatch@gmail.com);  
Ward Weathers, [weathersw@gmail.com](mailto:weathersw@gmail.com);

### **Elmwood Ave Business and Community**

**Association:** Aims to create a welcoming atmosphere on Elmwood Ave that promotes local businesses and a sense of community. Meets monthly.

Contact: [karen\\_ena@earthlink.net](mailto:karen_ena@earthlink.net)

### **ENA Troubled Properties Task**

**Force:** Maintains a list of troubled properties and promotes improvements in properties with the City and CDCs working in Elmwood.

Contact: [paula.on.lenox@gmail.com](mailto:paula.on.lenox@gmail.com)



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### CITY/STATE INFORMATION & SERVICES

#### **Request City services**

Do you want the city to fix a pothole, clean up a trash strewn lot, or remove graffiti? Let the city know by dialing **311** Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. You can also input and search requests at the PVD-311 Web site: <http://www.providenceri.gov/pvd-311> or report requests via twitter: [twitter.com/PVD311](https://twitter.com/PVD311)

If you need personal help from the City, contact Lajuan Allen, Community Relations Coordinator, Providence City Hall: [Lallen@providenceri.gov](mailto:Lallen@providenceri.gov), (401) 680-5743 or dial PVD311.

#### **Overnight parking and permitting**

You can be fined for parking on the lawn in front of your house. Avoid the fine by getting an overnight street parking permit. It costs \$100 per year for cars registered in Providence. Cars registered outside of Providence pay \$200 per year. (You can obtain up to two permits per household/unit.) Guest passes costing \$25 allow visitors to park on the street five nights per month. Get details at <http://www.providenceri.gov/police/overnight-parking>

#### **Attend City meetings**

Anyone can sign up directly with the City of Providence Open Meetings Portal, and receive immediate notification of every Board of License, or City Council Committee meeting agenda. You get notified when the agenda is posted.

#### **Plan a special community event**

To host an event that will impact public property, you need to apply for a permit 90 days in advance and submit a permit fee of \$50. Find the application at <http://www.providenceri.gov/act/public-events-permit-application/> For street and/or sidewalk closing permits, contact Traffic Engineering/Department of Public Works [klakis@providenceri.gov](mailto:klakis@providenceri.gov); [nurso@providencere.gov](mailto:nurso@providencere.gov); 401 680-7518

#### **RIPTA service**

Find information about tickets, routes, and service alerts at <https://www.ripta.com>

#### **Report broken street lights to Prism**

To report flickering street lights, or street lights that go out for minutes at a time, call **866 733-7138** during business hours, Monday through Friday. Have the pole number or nearest address available.



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THINK GREEN

### **Plant and care for street trees**

Providence Neighborhood Planting Program (PNPP) provides free street trees. Applications are due mid-January for April planting and mid-July for October planting. The City Forestry and Parks Department prepares tree pits and selects appropriate trees for each application, but residents must commit to plant trees and water them weekly until they take root. [Download an application at www.pnpp.org](http://www.pnpp.org). For more information call PNPP at (401) 368-5380.

Caring for trees and identifying diseased, damaged, or dead trees is an ongoing effort. Watering trees during the first few years after planting is essential to establish healthy trees. PNPP recommends 20 gallons of water each week. Trees may also need staking, pruning, weeding, and mulching.

Several residents have experience working with PNPP and organizing street tree planting events. Contact them for more information: Paula Donovan, [paula.on.lenox@gmail.com](mailto:Paula.on.lenox@gmail.com); Jane Gerhard, [gerhardjane2@gmail.com](mailto:gerhardjane2@gmail.com); Brooke Hammerle, [brookehammerle@gmail.com](mailto:brookehammerle@gmail.com); Doug Victor, [doug.crimewatch@gmail.com](mailto:doug.crimewatch@gmail.com); Ward Weathers, [weathersw@gmail.com](mailto:weathersw@gmail.com)

### **Get a free tree for your yard**

RI Department of Environmental Management (RI DEM) teams up each year with the Arbor Day Foundation and other RI initiatives to give away 1,000 trees to property owners. Register in early April. Contact Tee Jay Boudreau at DEM at 222-2445, ext 2059 or email him at [TeeJay.Boudreau@dem.ri.gov](mailto:TeeJay.Boudreau@dem.ri.gov)

### **Garden with neighbors in a community garden plot**

For plots at the Peace and Plenty Community Garden in Elmwood, contact [doug.crimewatch@gmail.com](mailto:doug.crimewatch@gmail.com).

Southside Community Land Trust (SCLT) manages dozens of other community gardens in Providence, and networks with gardens managed by local agencies, churches, and schools. Read more at <https://www.southsideclt.org/community-gardens/> or contact SCLT at (401) 273-9419, ext.107

### **Reduce energy use**

Repairing leaky faucets can save you \$72 a year on electric hot water. Line drying clothes can save you \$96 a year. Washing clothes in cold water can save you \$108. And turning off lights, appliances, TVs, stereos, and computers when not in use can save you another \$108 a year.

### **Reduce use of plastic bags**

Point-of-sale plastic bags are now banned in Providence; however, stores may offer paper bags or reusable plastic bags. Whatever you use, do recycle them. You can use paper bags many times before depositing them in your recycle bin. You can get reusable cloth or plastic shopping bags at Providence Community Libraries, or drop off extras at libraries for other residents.



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### RECYCLE RIGHT

Recycling is the law. Get information about proper recycling of household waste at the RI Resource Recovery Web site: <http://www.rirrc.org>. Need a recycling container? Contact (401) 467-7950.

- Recycling in green bins: <http://www.rirrc.org/recycling-composting-disposal/what-to-recycle-in-your-bin-cart>.
- Recycling other items: <http://atoz.rirrc.org/towns/providence#Drop-off%20Center>
- Yard waste: Put your yard waste at the curb on your regular trash pickup day mid-April to mid-December. Use a paper bag or place the debris in a properly labeled garbage can.
- Bulky trash items, including furniture and appliances: Call (800) 972-4545 24 hours before pickup. Pickup is free. Limited to e bulk items per collection day.
- Christmas trees: Place Christmas trees at the curb on your regular trash day during the 2nd and 3rd full weeks of January. Remove all lights and ornaments.
- Styrofoam: Put open cell spongy Styrofoam in the trash. Put clean foam food and drink containers in a clear plastic bag and take to the Johnston Landfill. Reuse Styrofoam peanuts or donate to shipping businesses. For details see <http://www.providencejournal.com/article/20150504/ENTERTAINMENTLIFE/150509863>
- Mattresses and box springs: Providence residents may drop off old mattresses free of charge at 700 Allens Ave from 7am to 1 pm. Limit of 2 items per day per home.  
For curb side pickup, call Waste Management, (800) 972-4545 from Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm at least 24 hours prior to your regular collection day. Residents will be charged a \$22 fee for mattress pickup. For a similar fee, Ace Mattress Recycling will pick up and recycle 95% of your mattress. The business is women and minority owned. Call (401) 615-9619 to schedule a pickup
- Unused medications: Many CVS and Walgreens pharmacies have a recycle bin for prescription and over-the-counter medications.

### RECYCLE USABLE GOODS

- The Career Closet at CAPP helps clients upgrade their wardrobes.
- Clothing Collaborative at Dorcas International Institute of RI (645 Elmwood) helps newcomers dress for success.
- Savers, Salvation Army, Good Will accept clothing, fabric, and household goods for resale.
- The Ward-robe (1286 Broad St, Central Falls) supports clients of Elmwood's McAuley Ministries. Call (401) 729-0405; or go to <https://www.mcauleyri.org/donating-clothing---household-goods.html>
- Many churches accept clothing and household items for redistribution or resale, e.g., Open Table of Christ Church, 1520 Broad St. Call 401-941-2212 for details.
- Resources Recycling for RI Education (RRIE) accepts paper goods, magazines, craft items and other goods that can be used in the classroom. Located off Elmwood near Park Ave: <http://www.rrie.org>
- Freecycle is an online nonprofit network of people exchanging stuff for free: <https://www.freecycle.org/>



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### PREVENT AND REPORT CRIME

The Police Department relies on the eyes and ears of residents and business owners to prevent and report crime. Only a fraction of criminal incidents is reported to the police; and if it's not reported, it's as though it never happened. Don't leave "someone else" to report crime and suspicious behavior.

#### How to report crime and suspicious behavior

Report times, locations, and descriptions of people involved. If a vehicle is involved, report descriptions and license plate numbers. If you cannot read the license plate, report other details, e.g., the make and/or color of the vehicle, damage to the vehicle's doors, bumpers, special hubcaps, lights, and so on.

- Report a crime in progress: **911**
- Report Hate Crimes 24/7: **877-3HCRIME**
- Report suspicious activity to non-emergency line: **272-3121**. If your concerns are dismissed, ask to speak with the Desk Sergeant at **243-6191**

#### Attend Neighborhood Crime Watch meetings

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 on the 4th Wednesday of each month

Location: YMCA Offices, St. Joseph's Clinic, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room (20 Peace St at Broad)

Police reports on crime trends and incidents since the last meeting. Other speakers often attend to address crime-related and quality of life issues. Crime watch window placards are available at each meeting.

Contact: Doug at [doug.crimewatch@gmail.com](mailto:doug.crimewatch@gmail.com) to receive meeting agendas.

#### Create a phone tree with your neighbors, and subscribe to urgent alerts from the PPD

Get to know your neighbors so you know who does and doesn't belong. Exchange telephone numbers for reporting thefts and suspicious behaviors. Use a service like Next Door (<https://nextdoor.com/>) to organize your communications with neighbors.

Next Door's Urgent Alert feature helps the Providence Police Department push out real-time, critical information area-wide, targeted to a specific service area, or neighborhood. Find out how you can ensure your Urgent Alert feature is active in case of an emergency: [help.nextdoor.com/s/article/How-to-send-an-urgent-alert?language=en\\_us](http://help.nextdoor.com/s/article/How-to-send-an-urgent-alert?language=en_us)

#### Install security cameras and register them with the police

The Providence Police urge residents and businesses to register their security cameras with the new Community Security Camera Registration Program. When investigating a crime, the PPD can quickly identify nearby cameras that may have captured criminal activity. Once your camera is registered, you will only be contacted by the Providence Police Department if there is an incident that requires further police investigation. If necessary, police will request to view footage from your camera.

For more information on this program and to register your camera, please visit the City of Providence Web site: <http://www.providenceri.gov/police/cameras/>



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### PREVENT AND REPORT CRIME, cont.

#### **Get help from the Attorney General's satellite office at 693 Broad Street**

Receive free assistance with scams, fraud, identity theft, billing disputes, landlord/tenant disputes and more. The office is open Wednesdays from 12 to 4:30 and Thursdays from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. For more information, call 401-274-4400 x 2555, email [communityoffice@riag.ri.gov](mailto:communityoffice@riag.ri.gov) , or visit [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov)