

# Trash set for Clean Up

Phil Jarrett  
Index Staff

On nearly every block, a few houses sit behind a barricade of broken chairs, washing machines and old knick-knacks no longer in use.

At a quick glance, one might suspect a natural disaster or an eviction. But in Kirksville it could just mean Spring Clean Up.

The event began April 3 and will continue until April 28, according to the Kirksville Public Works department.

However, trash has been piling up on the curb since early March, a direct contradiction with Kirksville city ordinance 11712.

The ordinance for the proper maintenance of land states that, "the owner, owners, lessee, occupant or any agent, representative or employee of such owner having control of any occupied or unoccupied lot or parcel of land within the City shall not allow an accumulation of trash, garbage or rubbish."

Yet by mid-March, a few scattered couches, dressers and old bicycles were set out on the streets a few doors down from where walls of trash standing several feet high by nearly 10-foot-wide had been constructed.

Brad Selby, Kirksville code enforcement officer, said he spoke to five or six individuals in early March who had put trash out early.

"Those folks will usually take it back in or put in a garage until the proper time," Selby said.

But enforcing beyond a gentle sugges-

tion is difficult, Selby said.

"If we were to enforce two weeks early, the person would be given a timeline, say 10 days, and by then it is time to put the trash out again," Selby said. "When it comes mid-March, and some people have pickup the first week of April, you'll see one and then another on the same street. If the weather is nice, then they'll put it out a week or two early."

Not all trash makes its way to the dump, however.

Many thrifty Kirksville residents already have begun picking over the piles out on the curb.

Junior Jon Green said he set a sleeper-sofa out on the curb for the trash but was surprised by an early pickup.

"It disappeared in about 30 to 45 minutes," Green said. "We were inside, a friend came in and said, 'That couch disappeared pretty fast.'"

Green said he is an advocate of setting trash out early because things otherwise deemed disposable get a second life.

"You can clean out your basement and get all your stuff out of the way," Green said. "I think it is a good thing. You can find some cool treasures every once in awhile."

Code Administrator Paul Frazier said putting trash out earlier does allow

for "trash picking," but putting out for Spring Clean Up needs to be practiced with some restraint.

"We want them to put it out a week early, not two, three weeks early," Frazier said. "The more they put out early, the easier it is for the trash pickers. Hopefully they go out of the city with it. Sometimes they act like pack-rats. They just fill up an area and then move it out. But we do not go after them."

Selby said the scheduled pickup last year was extended because of weather and the quantity of trash.

He said he did not rule out the possibility that it could happen again this year.

"For a short period of time, it is an eyesore in places," Selby said. "It is like that every year."

The remaining scheduled pickups for Spring Clean Up are April 17 to 21 for west of Baltimore and south of Missouri/Illinois and April 24 to 28 for west of Baltimore and north of Missouri/Illinois.

Selby said that despite the reoccurring problem of shabby appearances, Spring Clean Up serves its purpose.

"It does them no good, but in the long run, they are getting rid of their stuff, we're willing to pick it up," Selby said. "From the middle of March on, we have to just about roll with it."

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Paul Frazier  
Code Administrator



Phil Jarrett/Index  
Bulky trash awaits pickup along Randolph Street on Saturday. Kirksville's Spring Clean Up program offers to remove trash from outside residences.

# Student advisers review weather emergency protocol

Lindsay McReynolds  
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Not since April 27, 1899, has Kirksville experienced the devastating effects of a deadly tornado. As the Midwest enters tornado season, however, many on-campus residents could be unaware of where to seek shelter in an emergency.

In the event of a tornado, student advisers are trained to show residents where to take shelter and how to remain calm in the case of imminent danger.

A tornado warning is issued when a funnel cloud has been sighted, according to the Residence Life Web site.

A tornado watch is ordered when weather conditions are such that a tornado could occur.

In Dobson Hall, a sign at the top of the stairwell informs students that "in the event of a tornado, report to the first floor of the building. Building staff will direct you to the appropriate

safe locations. Remember to stay away from windows and exterior walls. Remain in the center areas of the lower level of the building."

Senior Rafael Andrade, an SA in Dobson Hall, said that in the case of a tornado warning, the hall director gives them a call, and the word passes around.

The SAs try to keep everyone as calm as possible and alert residents that they might want to grab a bottle of water, a pillow and a blanket so that they can be comfortable.

"What we are supposed to do is go around the halls and knock on the doors and let the people know that there is a tornado warning and that the safest thing to do is to go to the first floor," Andrade said.

Andrade said that in the case of natural weather emergency, SAs are unable to force residents to leave their rooms, unlike in the case of fires, where the students are under obligation to leave.

"We just can let them know," Andrade

said. "For our own safety, we cannot stay there and wait for them to leave. A lot of people feel a lot safer inside their rooms during a tornado."

Because tornadoes are not spotted in the Kirksville area very often, the main thing SAs talk about with residents are fire drills. Andrade said the steps to ensure one's safety in the event of a tornado is pretty self-explanatory.

"If you think that the safest thing when a tornado comes is to go outside, then you're crazy," Andrade said.

In the event of a tornado watch, Centennial staff will "notify residents by placing signs at building entrances."

In the event of a tornado warning, however, "the staff will attempt to alert residents to the situation by going door to door as long as it is safe to do so and are strongly encouraged to seek shelter on the lower level hallways, away from windows," according to the Centennial Hall weekly e-mail newsletter.

Junior J.C. Scholfield, an SA in Ryle Hall, said there are signs up around Ryle advising students where to take shelter in the case of a tornado. Scholfield also said Ryle Hall director Mike Lueder recently sent out an e-mail to residents discussing safety measures in the event of a tornado.

"He went over procedure specifically with us on what our roles are as well," Scholfield said.

Scholfield said that in the event of a tornado warning where residents are in imminent danger, SAs recruit some residents to help them out and have them run down the hallway knocking on doors to let other residents know that a tornado is coming.

Scholfield said that in Ryle Hall, the bottom floor is the safest place to go during a tornado.

"A good majority of our bottom floor is actually subterranean," Scholfield said. "It's not even exposed. There are windows, but below the windows is dirt, so

that's our best place to go. There's not a whole lot of glass. The bottom floor has no lounges, which all the other floors have big glass lounges."

Sophomore Matt Johns, who lives in Dobson Hall, said that although it is voluntary as to whether or not a resident can choose to stay in their room during a tornado, he probably would leave.

"We haven't been over the procedure," Johns said. "No one's talked to us about it, but I would probably leave my room."

The Residence Life Web site advises that students seek shelter from the upper floors of the building, leave their rooms and other areas with windows and take shelter in protected areas away from the exterior of the building.

Areas of shelter include interior hallways, basements, lower floors and windowless rooms.

Students can get in touch with an SA for more information on they should go in case of a natural disaster.

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