



Photo submitted

Garden Mystery Solved

By Laura Lombardi

When a reader shared this photo asking about some unusually creepy-looking insects, even my 4-H entomology days didn't prepare me. I was stumped.

Fortunately, Anthony Zukoff, Instructor of Entomology and Insect Diagnostics Program Coordinator for K-State's Western Kansas Research and Extension Office, had the answer: they're immature wheel bugs.

"While they are numerous when hatching, they quickly disperse into the environment," Zukoff explained. "Many will actually be killed by predators or parasites before maturing."

That's one reason adult wheel bugs aren't seen very often. Though they can bite—especially the adults—they aren't aggressive if left alone, and they're not venomous.

"Ultimately, they are a positive insect for the local ecosystem," said Zukoff. "Wheel bugs are great predators and help control many pests."

He wasn't kidding. These stealthy insects feed on caterpillars, beetles, true bugs, sawflies, and aphids. Wheel bugs paralyze their prey with a powerful saliva that immobilizes them in about 30 seconds. And if you're wondering about honey bees—good news. Zukoff noted it's rare for wheel bugs to catch them.

The photo in question showed freshly hatched wheel bug nymphs just emerging from their egg cluster. Each female lays 40 to 200 eggs at a time, protected by a sticky coating that helps them survive the elements and hungry predators.

While the adults are gray or brownish, the nymphs stand out with their bright red bodies and black legs. It takes about three to four months for them to grow into their mature form.

Because wheel bugs are considered beneficial insects, Zukoff advised against using any control measures. So if you spot these curious creatures in your garden, give them space—and let them handle the pest patrol.



Unpaid Toll Texting Scam

By WDN Staff

Last week, a local resident contacted the newspaper office with a question about a text message he had received regarding an unpaid toll. The message was fraudulent, and had he clicked the link, his personal information could have been compromised.

The Kansas Turnpike Authority (KTA) is once again urging Kansans to be extremely cautious if they receive a text message about unpaid tolls.

"We do not send unsolicited text messages about tolls," said

Donnell Brown, KTA's Senior Customer Service Manager. "A person only receives a text if they have a DriveKS account and have signed up for text notifications. Then, the person must log in to their DriveKS account to view their statement or pay a bill."

According to the KTA, fraudulent texts are being sent to random phone numbers with no regard for whether the recipient has used a toll road or owns a vehicle. The messages urge quick action to avoid a penalty and include a link to a fake website that mimics the official DriveKS

toll payment site.

Kansans who receive an unsolicited text message claiming to be from KTA or the Kansas Department of Transportation should not click the link. Instead, they are urged to report the message to the Federal Trade Commission at: reportfraud.ftc.gov.

Anyone who has already provided information on a fraudulent website should contact their bank or credit card company immediately.

More information is available on KTA's website at: kturnpike.com/information-security.

Three Resurfacing Projects Begin In May

By WDN Staff

Three resurfacing projects are scheduled to begin this month in south central Kansas, according to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT).

The first project involves a 14-mile stretch of K-49, running from the junction with U.S. 160 north to the Sumner/Sedgwick County line. Work is expected to begin around May 19. In Conway Springs, crews will focus on paving

during the first week of construction. Residents are asked not to park along the highway while crews are working in town.

The second project covers 15 miles of K-2. It starts at the south end of the Spring Creek bridge in Harper County and continues northeast to the Harper/Kingman County line, then further northeast to the Kingman/Sumner County line.

The final project will resurface 15 miles of K-42 in Kingman

County, beginning at the K-14/K-42 junction and extending east to the Sumner County line.

During construction, traffic in each zone will be reduced to one lane and directed by flaggers or a pilot car. Drivers should be prepared to slow down, stop, and expect delays of up to 15 minutes.

KDOT urges all motorists to stay alert, follow posted signs, and drive cautiously in all work zones.



The map indicates project areas marked in orange. Photo submitted

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Published in Wellington Daily News
April 24, May 1, 2025

(First publication in the Wellington Daily News, 24, April 2025)
RESOLUTION NO. 6373
RESOLUTION FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE AND PROVIDING NOTICE OF A HEARING BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WELLINGTON, KANSAS, AT WHICH THE OWNERS, THEIR AGENTS, ANY LIENHOLDERS OF RECORD AND ANY OCCUPANTS OF THE BUILDINGS LOCATED BELOW MAY APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY SUCH BUILDINGS SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED AND ORDERED DEMOLISHED.

Published in Wellington Daily News
May 1, 2025

WEED CUTTING NOTICES
To: the following described properties

Property Address | Owner
215 E. South St. | Barbara Pingry
211 E. South St. | Edward & Christine Angel
1002 N. B St. | Daniel Shipley
902 N. C St. | Evelyn & Edward Williams
1102 N. C St. | Cole & Carol Smith
1306 N. B St. | Duska Cagle
721 S. Washington Ave. | Steven Good Attn: Damon Gooch

All in the City of Wellington: Within 10 days of publication of this notice, upon failure to cut said weeds, the City of Wellington will cut the same, and all costs, including administration costs, will be assessed on tax roll against the above described property. No further notice shall be given prior to removal of the weeds during the calendar year. All regulations as per Ordinance No. 4082 adopted March 15, 2012.

If you are calling to report a weed violation, please contact the city before Friday at noon in order to make the next week's publication. Any reports received after noon on Friday will be included in the following week's notice.

City Clerk's Office: 620-326-2811
Building & Codes Department: 620-326-3871

3405510

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lot 13 and the West Half of Lot 14, Block 4, Highland Park Addition, City of Wellington, Sumner County, KS otherwise known as 1101 East Lincoln Ave.

WHEREAS, the Code Official of the City of Wellington, Kansas, did on the 15th day of April 2025, file with the Governing Body of the City of Wellington, Kansas, a statement in writing that certain structures, premises, herein described, are unsafe and dangerous. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WELLINGTON, KANSAS, that a hearing be held on the 3rd day of June 2025 before the Governing Body of the City of Wellington, Kansas at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at

Published in Wellington Daily News
May 1, 2025

3396170

There is a NEW group of people EVERY day, looking for a DEAL in the classifieds.

Qualified buyers don't investigate every ad, just the ones that offer a good deal.

PUBLIC NOTICE

317 South Washington, in said City at which time and place the owners, their agents, any lien holders of record and any occupant of the structures, buildings or premises mentioned herein may appear and show cause why such structures, buildings or premises should not be condemned and ordered demolished. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WELLINGTON, KANSAS, that the City Clerk shall cause this resolution to be published and given notice of the aforesaid hearing in the manner provided by K.S.A. 12-1752 and City of Wellington 2015 IPMC (amended). ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY of the City of Wellington, Kansas, this 15th day of April 2025. (Seal) ATTEST: SEAL OF CITY OF WELLINGTON SEAL SUMNER Heidi Theurer, City Clerk FORM APPROVED: KANSAS Matthew B. Metcalf, City Attorney be M. Socia Joe Soria, Mayor

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