Everything you ever NEEDED to Know about the City of Ellis

Established — June 27, 1870

Incorporated — January 10, 1888

County — Ellis

Zip Code — 67637

Population — 1,958

Elevation — 2,120 feet above sea level

Municipal Building — 815 Jefferson Street

Website — www.ellis.ks.us

Facebook — City of Ellis, Kansas

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

City Clerk's Office

City Clerk Ashley Scheibler
City Treasurer Amanda Shannon

(785) 726-4812 ascheibler@cityofellisks.gov

Open 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Friday

Police Department

Police Chief Avery Smith

asmith@cityofellisks.gov

There is an officer on duty 24 hours a day. The officer on duty may be reached by calling the Police Department's office number (785) 726-4462 or non-emergency dispatch at (785) 625-1011 and ask for an Ellis Police Officer.

For emergencies call 9-1-1.

Public Works Department

Streets - Sanitation - Water - Sewer
Building Codes - Floodplain Regulations

Public Works Director Sebastian Footh

Office: (785) 726-4741 pw@cityofellisks.gov

Work Cell: (785) 726-1741 (during regular working hours)

Open 8:00 am—5:00 pm Monday—Friday (September-May)
7:00 am—3:30 pm Monday—Friday (June-August)

For *emergency* (evenings and weekends) water services, contact the Police Department.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Dustin Vine

db.bodyshop72@gmail.com

The Ellis Volunteer Fire Department consists of 20 firefighters.

For administration or if interested in volunteering, call the Fire Chief at (785) 656-0900.

For emergencies call 9-1-1.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

Municipal Court

Municipal Judge Ross Wichman
City Prosecutor Olavee Raub
Municipal Court Clerk Danielle Schaus

dschaus@cityofellisks.gov

Court is held at 8:00 am on the first and third Friday of each month in City Council Chambers. Fines may be paid in the City Clerk's office.

Call (785) 726-4812 to reach the Municipal Court Clerk.
Call (785) 201-3340 to reach the City Prosecutor's office.

City Council

Mayor	Martin LaBarge
Council President	Dava Gaschler
Council Member	Devin Henderson
Council Member	Kevin LaBarge
Council Member	David McDaniel
Council Member	Jolene Niernberger
Council Member	John Walz

City Council Meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 6:30 p.m.; except when the Monday is a designated holiday. Then the meeting will be held on the next working day. Mayor and Council members are elected for two year terms.

City Committees

The City of Ellis has various committees consisting of volunteers who are interested in promoting our community. If you are passionate about an area and would like to volunteer for one of the groups below, contact the Mayor at (785) 726-4563 or dave@triohomecenter.com.

Campground Committee ❖ Cemetery Committee
Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals
Senior Citizens Advisory Committee ❖ Tourism Committee

SEVERE WEATHER ALERT

The **TORNADO SIREN** for the City of Ellis
is a **LONG CONTINUOUS BLAST**.

UTILITY POLICIES

Connection of Utility Services

City utility services include water, sewer and sanitation. An application for service must be completed and signed by all applicants over 18 years of age who are responsible for payments of the utilities, prior to services being connected. Government issued photo identification is required. A one-time, non-refundable application fee is required for each meter. If a water meter is turned on, all other utility service fees will be assessed, including sewer and sanitation services. The customer must be present at the service address when water service is turned on, except in the case where service is already connected.

Billing and Payments

The water meters are read around the 10th of the month and City bills are due and payable on the following 1st of each month. **Bills must be postmarked or paid on or before the 15th of the month to avoid incurring a penalty.** No extension is granted because the 15th falls on a weekend or a celebrated holiday. However, the City will recognize payments as on time if made before 8:00 am of the next business day following the 15th of the month. After the 15th, a penalty of 10% is assessed on the unpaid balance, and a penalty notice mailed. If the bill remains unpaid 10 days after the penalty notice is mailed, services will be disconnected for delinquency without further notice. Whenever a request for a change of an occupant is made, a transfer fee is assessed. This fee is charged to both the previous and new occupants. Payment of City bills may be made in person, put in the night drop at City Hall, by phone, or mailed to the City Clerk's Office at 815 Jefferson St. Please return the *Payment Stub* portion of the utility bill with your payment.

Delinquencies

The amount due to reconnect utility service after delinquent shutoff is the amount of the bill plus applicable $60.00 reconnection fee. No utilities disconnected for delinquency will be reconnected on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, or after 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Services will be shutoff at the new service address for delinquency at an old service address under the same name. For a payment extension, customers must appear at the City Hall by 8:30 a.m. on the day of shutoffs or prior and sign a payment agreement. **Payment agreement must be in place PRIOR to shutoffs to avoid reconnection fee.** No phone calls will be accepted. Customers will be permitted no more than three (3) extensions for payment of utility bills in a calendar year, unless undue hardship can be proven to City Council and approved by City Council in regular session prior to the shutoff day. Pursuant to Ordinance #1281, an administrative fee of up to 30% shall be applied to all accounts forwarded to collections.

UTILITY POLICIES

Payment Policy

The City of Ellis accepts personal checks, cash, money orders, and debit or credit cards. Debit and credit cards are charged a convenience fee of 2.5%, which is established by the vendor providing the service, and will be assessed to the customer at the time payment is rendered. The following payments will not be accepted: (a) postdated checks, (b) checks the passer asks us to hold, (c) third party checks, or, (d) checks written over the due amount for cash in return. After three worthless payments within a two-year period, the City will accept payment of cash, debit/credit card, or money orders only. The City of Ellis assesses $30.00 on every returned payment.

Water Leak Policy

The water leak policy states that (per occurrence):

The residential customer will pay full cost for the first 50,000 gallons of water metered and ½ of the cost for any water metered in excess of 50,000 gallons. Proof or verification of the repair of the leak must be furnished to City Clerk's office before the leak can be adjusted. The City will adjust for a maximum period of three (3) months;

The commercial customer will pay full cost for the first 100,000 gallons of water metered and ½ of the cost for any water metered in excess of 100,000 gallons. Proof or verification of the repair of the leak must be furnished to City Clerk's office before the leak can be adjusted. The City will adjust for a maximum period of three (3) months.

Water Conservation

Whenever conditions indicate a drought, or some other situation is causing a water supply shortage, the governing body of the city is empowered to address the threat. Resolutions declaring the existence and end of the following three special water conditions will be effective upon their publication in the official city newspaper.

During a: ***Water Watch*** voluntary reductions in water use will be recommended;

Water Warning restrictions on nonessential use of water will be implemented;

Water Emergency mandatory restrictions on water use will be imposed.

Vegetation watering is prohibited between the hours of noon and 7:00 p.m. year round.

SAMPLE BILL

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

ACCOUNT NO:	9-8
LOCATION:	test bill
BILLING DATE:	10/21/26
DUE DATE:	05/15/26

AMOUNT DUE

LAST PAYMENT:	DATE: 03/13/26	AMOUNT:172.33
WATER PREVIOUS BALANCE:		90.44
SEWER PREVIOUS BALANCE:		132.38
SANITATION PREVIOUS BALANCE:		80.42
CURRENT CHARGES:		107.37
PENALTY:		0.00
TOTAL DUE:		410.61

CURRENT METER ACTIVITY

	PREVIOUS READING		CURRENT READING		USAGE
WATER	02/20/26	2015	03/19/26	2019	4

SPECIAL MESSAGE

CURRENT CHARGES DETAIL

DESCRIPTION	UNITS	FLAT	USAGE	TOTAL
WATER METER 3/4-5/8"	1.00	13.65	0.00	13.65
KS WATER PROTECTION	1.00	0.00	0.13	0.13
WATER USAGE	1.00	0.00	20.92	20.92
SEWER FEE	42.21	42.21	0.00	42.21
FAMILY POLYCART INSI	1.00	30.46	0.00	30.46

PAYMENT COUPON - PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

ACCOUNT NO:	9-8
LOCATION:	test bill
BILLING DATE:	10/21/26

AMOUNT DUE

DUE DATE:	05/15/26
CURRENT DUE:	410.61
PENALTY:	0.00
TOTAL DUE:	410.61

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

test bill
test bill
test bill 123456

WATER SYSTEM

The City's $5,500,000 water treatment plant was completed in 2007. All the water is supplied from City-owned wells and is chlorinated at the treatment plant before entering the system. It is regularly tested according to KDHE and EPA standards.

Taps

Applications for taps are made at the City Clerk's office. The fees must be paid before the tap is made.

Resize meter $100
3/4 inch - 5/8 inch meter (greater of fee listed or actual time & materials). $950
1 inch meter (greater of fee listed or actual time & materials)..... $1,350
1 1/2 inch (greater of fee listed or actual time & materials) $2,450
Greater than 1 1/2 inch meters (greater of fee listed or actual time & materials) $3,275

Rates

BD ~~Monthly water bond charge (per meter)..... $0.00~~

WT The monthly water bill is composed of:

METER CHARGE (based on ONE the following):
3/4 inch - 5/8 inch meter $13.92
1 inch meter $20.93
1 1/2 inch - 2 inch meters..... $33.96
Greater than 2 inch meters $54.01

PLUS

WATER USAGE CHARGE (based on ONE the following):

Normal Rate ..... $5.33 per 1000 gallons for all usage

OR

~~**Conservation Rate** (when Governing Body has declared a *Water Warning* or *Water Emergency*)~~
~~$5.33 per 1000 gallons used in the "*base tier*" *~~
~~PLUS $10.66 per 1000 gallons used in excess of the base tier usage~~
~~PLUS allowances per UB policy~~

WC ~~When in Water Conservation Rate, to work within the capabilities of our utility billing program, ALL water is billed out at $10.66 per 1000 gallons and then the Base Tier usage is credited back at ($5.33) per 1000 gallons.~~

**Base Tier* is the monthly average of gallons of water used during the three month period from the meter reading date in December to the meter reading date in March.

SANITATION SERVICE

All customers located within the City who subscribe to any City service must accept sanitation pick-up as provided by the City and are required to utilize either a City 90-gallon trash polycart or an approved large dumpster (which must be provided by the customer). One trash polycart is included in a customer's monthly sanitation charge. Additional trash polycarts may be rented for a fee as set by resolution. All trash deposited in the polycarts should be bagged. Customers may rent 90-gallon grass polycarts from the City for a monthly fee as set by resolution. The City will only assess the grass polycart monthly fee from the May 1st through November 1st billing. Grass clippings will be disposed through the City's sanitation system only if such clippings are in the City's green 90-gallon grass polycarts or bagged and placed in the trash polycart. NO household hazardous wastes are picked up by the City.

Monthly Charge

(for one pickup per week)

SN **Inside City Limits:**

Single Residential	$28.60
Family Residential	$31.07
Commercial Polycart	$32.31
Commercial Dumpster (per dumpster per collection)	$50.97

Outside City Limits:

Single Residential	$33.66
Family Residential	$34.81
Commercial Polycart	$36.06
Commercial Dumpster (per dumpster per collection)	$53.46

** Monthly sanitation charge includes the rental of first trash polycart **

TR EACH Additional Trash Polycart $9.95

GR EACH Grass Polycart $2.48
(grass picked up from April to October & billed from May to November)

Your trash pick-up day is _____.

Grass pick-up is every Monday.

Special Pickups

XT Customers may call the City Clerk's office to arrange for the removal of large or extra-ordinary items that will not fit in the customer's polycart or dumpster. Extra trash pickup charges will be billed on the next utility bill.

Special pickup charge is $10.00 for the first 200 pounds, plus $0.05 per pound for all additional weight. Freon-free appliances are charged an additional $12.00 charge; those not certified Freon-free will have an additional $30.00

added. Disposal fee for tires is $300.00/ton with a minimum of $10.00 for up to two car tires. Tree limbs will be subject to special pickup charges AND must be cut to 4-foot lengths and bundled prior to pickup.

SEWER SYSTEM

Construction was completed in 1998 on a $1,050,000.00 mechanical wastewater treatment plant. In 2016, EPA mandates required the City to perform $832,000.00 in plant modifications to achieve new chemical level standards. Regular testing is performed in accordance with KDHE and EPA standards.

Taps

Applications for taps are made at the City Clerk's office. Fees must be paid before the tap is made.

Residential sewer taps and inspections..... $50.00
Commercial sewer taps and inspections..... $50.00
Industrial sewer taps and inspections..... $100.00

Rates

SW Monthly sewer rates are determined by the average monthly water usage during the period from the December meter reading to the following March meter reading. Rates are recalculated annually, and become effective on the April 1st billing. New customers will have a monthly rate of $28.04 until they have established usage during the entire three-month evaluation period. Users not connected to City water or who supplement their municipal water with a private water well will be charged a flat sewer rate of $49.24 per month.

OTHER FACILITIES

Compost Site

386 Old Highway 40

The City of Ellis maintains a state permit for the compost site. Ellis residents may dump garden waste, grass clippings, mulch and leaves at the compost site. No branches, shrubs, twigs or other refuse are permitted.

Open: 24 hours/7 days a week from April to October as long as everyone respects the items we are allowed to dispose of at the compost site per the State of Kansas permit.

Maintained and operated by the City of Ellis

OTHER FACILITIES

Municipal Burn Site

900 East 8th

The City of Ellis maintains a state burn permit for the site. Ellis residents may dump tree limbs and brush. No wood, grass, tumbleweeds, leaves, construction waste, or other refuse are permitted.

Open:	8:15 am - 4:45 pm	Monday - Friday (September-May)
	7:15 am - 3:15 pm	Monday - Friday (June-August)
	8:30 am - 11:30 am	First and third Saturday of each month
	3:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Each Wednesday evening

Maintained and operated by the City of Ellis

Recycling Center

900 East 8th

The recycling site accepts *CLEAN:* aluminum cans, steel (tin) cans, plastic jugs and bottles, telephone books, newspapers, catalogs and magazines, cardboard, batteries, mixed papers, and sheet paper. There is an attendant on duty during service hours.

Open:	8:30 - 11:30 a.m.	MTTF and 1st & 3rd Sat
	3:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Wed

Maintained and operated by the City of Ellis

Ellis Lakeside Campground

Exit 145 - 301 East 8th

Services available include individual 30-amp and 50-amp electric hookups and potable water hookups, common dump station, handicap-accessible bathhouse, grills, picnic tables, playground, 24-hour police patrol, and a storm shelter near-by (in the basement of Christ Lutheran Church).

In-season Fees (Water is Turned On / Mid-April to Mid-November)
RVs, Pull-type or Pickup Campers and Anyone Parking in Electrical/ Water Pull-through Sites 1-13 & Sites 16-24.. $25 per day/night
Primitive Camping/Tent Area (no-hookups)
Sites 14 & 15 and EAST end of Campground . $15 per day/night

Off-season Fees (Water is Turned Off / Mid-April to Mid-November)
RVs, Pull-type or Pickup Campers and Anyone Parking in Electrical/ Water Pull-through Sites 1-13 & Sites 16-24.. $20 per day/night
Primitive Camping/Tent Area (no-hookups)
Sites 14 & 15 and EAST end of Campground . $10 per day/night

Maintained and operated by the City of Ellis

OTHER FACILITIES

Municipal Swimming Pool

301 Taylor (785) 726-3130

The original pool and bathhouse was built in 1936 as a WPA project. A new pool was built in 2020 and opened for the season in the Summer of 2021. In addition to open swimming, swimming lessons (both public and private), water aerobics and adult swim are offered.

Open: 12:30 - 6:00 pm daily from Tuesday after Memorial Day to approximately August 10th

	Child (5↓)	*Youth (6-12)*	*Adult (13-↑)*
Daily pass	free	$ 1.50	$ 2.00
15-day pass	free	$21.00	$28.00
30-day pass	free	$40.00	$54.00

Maintained and operated by the City of Ellis

Mount Hope Cemetery

900 East 12th

The cemetery was chartered on January 4, 1881 and deeded to City in 1935. The stone wall surrounding the Cemetery was built as part of a WPA project. The Bell Tower chimes play at noon and from 6-7 pm each evening April-October.

See *Miscellaneous Fees - Mount Hope Cemetery* on Page 18.

Maintained and operated by the City of Ellis

Ellis Public Library

907 Washington (785) 726-3464
Ellis Public Library on Facebook

Established in 1936, the Library is a member of Central Kansas Library System. Some other services include e-sunflower, fax, Internet, microfilm reader/printer, typewriter, copier, income tax forms, voter registration, community room rental.

Open: 10 am - 6 pm MWThF 10 am - 8 pm Tue 10 am -2 pm Sat

Children's Story Hour 10:00-10:45 am Wednesday
One session for 4/5-year-olds and one for 3-year-olds, as interest warrants

Maintained and operated by Ellis Library Board

MUNICIPAL PARKS

Walter P Chrysler Park

1000 Dorrance (both north and south sides of 10th St)

Shelter house, playground equipment, charcoal grills, picnic tables, bathrooms, drinking water hydrant, fishing, boat docks

Memorial Park

912 Washington

Park benches and glider, fountain, statuary and monuments, drinking water hydrant, off-street parking

Playworld Park

200 East 9th

Twilight Ball Field, playground equipment, bathrooms, shelter house, picnic table, charcoal grill, drinking water hydrant, off-street parking

Creekside Park

500 Taylor

Two youth ball fields, sand volleyball pits, two horseshoe pits, disc golf course, remote-control race car track, playground equipment, drinking water hydrant, picnic tables, bathrooms, fishing, municipal pool across street, off-street parking

South Hill Kids Zone

2001 Walnut

Playground equipment, bathrooms, park bench, picnic table and water hydrant.

To Reserve A Park For A Special Event

EVENT REQUEST forms are available at the City Clerk's Office. *Requests* for events involving alcohol must be approved by the City Council prior to the event being held. All other *Requests* will be approved in the City Clerk's Office. There is no charge for a permit.

Basketball Court

511 West 10th

Lighted cement court, drinking water hydrant, off-street parking

Tennis Courts

1600 Monroe

Two lighted rubberized tennis courts, two basketball goals

Fairgrounds

801 Cottonwood

Legion/K-18 ball field, softball field, bathrooms, shelter house, picnic tables, drinking water hydrant, Ellis Jr Free Fair facilities, horse arena, off-street parking

MUSEUMS

Ellis Railroad Museum & Doll Display
BK&E Miniature Train

911 Washington (785) 726-4493
www.ellisrailroadmuseum.com

View railroad artifacts and over 500 sq. ft. of working model train layout. A yellow Union Pacific caboose is located next to an actual depot, which is used as the train ride boarding point. A 1/3 scale General Motors Aero Streamliner travels along a 2.5 mile track. See a collection of over 1600 dolls.

Open: April 1-October 31
9 am-3 pm Tues-Sat Closed: Sun & Mon
Admission: Ages 13 to 64 - $6 Seniors 65 and above - $5
Ages 6 to 12 - $4 Age 5 & Under - FREE with paid adult

Train ride tickets: Ages 13 to 64 - $6 Ages 6 to 12 - $4
Age 5 & Under - FREE with paid adult
Contact the museum for train operation schedule.

Maintained and operated by Ellis Railroad Museum

Bukovina Society of Americas Museum

718 Washington (785) 785-623-7844
www.bukovinasociety.org

Browse through a collection of artifacts from Bukovina immigrants and a small library. Participate in the annual cultural and historical activities. Receive assistance with heritage research. Call to make appointment to view.

Maintained and operated by the Bukovina Society

Chrysler Boyhood Home & Museum

102 West 10th (785) 726-3636
www.chryslerboyhoodhome.org

The Home was placed on the National Registry of Historical Buildings in 1952. The Museum, located behind the Home, is filled with Chrysler's personal items. Cars are on exhibit, including a 1924 Chrysler and 1928 Chrysler Imperial.

Open: Wed.-Sat. 10 am-4 pm May 1-October 31
Closed: Sun., Mon. and Tues.
Admission: over 12 years—$5 Seniors 65 and above—$4
6-11 years—$3 Under 5 years—free WITH an adult
Group and special tours are welcomed
and may be a arranged upon request.

Maintained and operated by the Chrysler Museum Board

CONSTRUCTION FEES

Building Permits and Inspection Fees

Building/Electrical/Plumbing/Mechanical permits are based on cost of the improvement.

Less than $5,000 Value	$10.00
$5,001 to $75,000	$20.00
Over $75,000	$30.00

Inspection fees are in addition to building permits. The property owner will be billed for the inspections.

New Residential/Commercial	$250.00
All Other Inspections, each	$10.00

Flood Plain Development Permit	$25.00

Other Construction-Related Fees

Private Water Well Permit	$25.00
Move Building Permit	$10.00
Fence Permit	$10.00
Demolition Permit	$10.00
Sidewalk Permit	$10.00
Sign Permit	$25.00
Excavation Permit	varies
Flood Plain Variance (accessory bldg.)	$75.00
Special Use Permit	$85.00
Zoning Appeal, Change or Variance Application	$125.00

Contractor Licenses

License fees are for two calendar years or major portion thereof (based on January 1 of each *even* numbered year) and are non-refundable. If the initial application for city license is made after January 1 of an *odd* numbered year, the license fee is 1/2 price.

General Contractor/Builder License	$75.00
House Wreckers/Movers License	$75.00
Electrical Contractor	$75.00
Plumbing Contractor	$75.00
Tree Trimmer	$75.00
Lawn Sprinkler or Irrigation Contractor	$75.00

LICENSES

Animal

Terms are for a calendar year or major portion thereof. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required at the time of application. License fees are non-refundable.

Dog License (neutered or spayed)..... $5.00
Dog License (intact animal)..... $10.00
Duplicate Tag..... $2.00
Dog License (penalty per month beginning March 1st)..... $2.00
Per Animal Impound Fees (per calendar day - Vaccinated)..... $20.00
(per calendar day - Dangerous Dog/Non-Vaccinated)..... $30.00
Plus Administration Fee per Animal Impound..... $10.00
Fuel Surcharge - Average Fuel in Town > $3.75/gallon $5.00

Cereal Malt Beverage

Terms are for a calendar year or portion thereof and are not prorated or refundable.

Cereal Malt Beverage (General Retailer) $100.00
Cereal Malt Beverage (Limited Retailer)..... $75.00
Special Event Permit (up to a maximum of five days) per day .. $50.00
Change of Location $25.00
State ABC Stamp Tax (per license) $25.00
Background Checks (per name) $20.00

Liquor

Terms run concurrent with the State of Kansas liquor license. All liquor licenses require a copy of a valid state permit prior to the issuance of the applicable city license.

Retail Liquor Stores (2-year)..... $300.00
Private Clubs (Class A or B) (2-year) $200.00
Drinking Establishment (2-year)..... $200.00
Caterer's License (per day)..... $25.00
Temporary Permit (per day) $25.00

Business

Terms are for a calendar year or portion thereof and are not prorated or refundable.

Taxicab..... $10.00
TV Radio Tower/Antenna Permit $10.00

MISCELLANEOUS FEES

General Administrative

Photocopy (per page) $0.25
Facsimile, Incoming and Outgoing (per page) $1.00
Large City Map $3.00
Medium City Map $1.50
Small City Map $1.00
Street Map $0.50
Insufficient Check Fee $30.00

Police

Accident Report ..... See Records Request Brochure
Other Reports ..... See Records Request Brochure
ATV/UTV Registration $50.00
Golf Cart Registration $50.00

Cemetery

Mount Hope Cemetery (only)

Regular Burial Space $300.00
Baby Island Space $200.00
Columbarium Niche $450.00

Mount Hope, St Mary's, and St John's Cemetery

Amount depends on weekday or weekend service. There will be an additional charge if jackhammering is needed.

Adult Grave Opening/Closing ..... $400.00-$650.00
Infant Grave Opening/Closing ..... $200.00-$450.00
Cremation Opening/Closing ..... $175.00-$425.00
Disinterment/Reinterment .....(double applicable opening/closing)

Public Works

Abatement Fee (2 hour minimum of $100.00) $50.00/hour

Fire Department

False Alarm $150.00

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Electric and Gas

Midwest Energy Inc., Hays, KS	1-800-222-3121

Telephone (land-line)

GBT, Rush Center, KS	1-800-432-7965
Vyve, Hays, KS	(785) 726-3291

Cable Television

GBT, Rush Center, KS	1-800-432-7965
Vyve, Hays, KS	(785) 726-3291

Internet

GBT, Rush Center, KS	1-800-432-7965
Vyve, Hays, KS	(785) 726-3291

Voter Registration

You may register to vote at City Hall. You will need to present proof of U.S. citizenship when registering to vote for the first time in Kansas. If you are re-registering, you will need to present a valid Kansas photo I.D. You will also need to present a valid Kansas photo I.D. when voting.

Ellis Recreation Commission

1204 Washington	(785) 726-3718

Ellis Chamber of Commerce/Alliance

820 Washington	(785) 726-2660

FLOODPLAIN INFORMATION

A large percentage of the Ellis community is located in the floodplain of Big Creek. The term *floodplain* means the low-lying areas on both sides of Big Creek that will be covered with rising water in the event of a flood. This area is noted as *Zone AE* on the City's flood map, which has been provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The floodplain of Big Creek includes the normally dry area adjacent to the banks of the creek plus the creek channel itself. The floodplain is the land area that conveys the base flood discharge. The flood heights of the base flood discharge are shown on the FEMA map as *Base Flood Elevations* (BFEs).

The City has a Floodplain Management Ordinance that requires all development proposed to occur in the floodplain be issued a Floodplain Development Permit by the City before any work begins. Floodplain development includes new construction, substantial improvement, minimal improvement, filling, grading, excavating and any man-made alteration. The Ordinance also requires that in *Zone AE*, new construction of structures, which includes the placement of manufactured homes and the substantial improvement of existing structures must be elevated so the lowest floor, including the basement, is a minimum of two feet above the BFE.

The term *substantial improvement* means the cost of any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition or other improvements of a structure equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the start of the construction improvements. For more information about calculating substantial improvement, please contact the City Floodplain Administrator listed below. If improvements to an existing structure do not add up to more than 50 percent of the structure's current value, the structure has not been substantially improved and therefore is not required to be elevated. However, a Floodplain Development Permit is still required before improvements begin.

The Floodplain Administrator reviews the Floodplain Development Application to determine if the proposed activity is in compliance with the City's Ordinance. If the application for floodplain development is approved, the Floodplain Administrator will issue a Floodplain Development Permit that officially authorizes the development activity described on the permit to begin.

If You Have Questions concerning new construction, remodeling or additions within the floodplain, please contact Steve Homburg, Certified Floodplain Manager, at 785-726-4741.

The FEMA flood maps for Ellis
show two different areas in the floodplain.

• Floodway Fringe • Floodway

The Floodway Fringe is the area located on both sides of the main channel of Big Creek. The Floodway Fringe is characterized during flooding by the presence of rising floodwater that has minimal velocity and is an area of floodwater impoundment.

- Residential Structures: Requires new construction or substantial improvement to have the lowest floor, including the basement, be elevated a minimum of two feet above the BFE.

- Non-Residential Structures: Requires new construction or substantial improvement to have the lowest floor, including the basement, be elevated a minimum of two feet above the BFE. ***OR*** acquire from the City a Variance to the Floodplain Management Ordinance that allows the lowest floor of the non-residential structure to be built below the BFE. A Variance for a non-residential structure requires the structure to be wet floodproofed. Contact the Certified Floodplain Manager for more details.

The Floodway is the main channel of Big Creek and the area near the channel that will convey the majority of floodwater. The Floodway is the area that conveys most of the floodwater down-stream and has the highest floodwater velocity. The Floodway must not be obstructed by development of any type.

- Construction in the Floodway is prohibited unless a "No-Rise" Certification is provided by a licensed professional engineer certifying the proposed development will not result in any increase (0.00 feet) in the flood height shown on the FEMA flood map during occurrence of the base flood discharge.

- If a "No-Rise" Certification is provided, the proposed development shall meet all other requirements of the ordinance including elevation above BFE.

- Variances are not allowed for development in the Floodway.

The Floodplain Map can be accessed at:
https://gis2.kda.ks.gov/gis/ksfloodplain/