

# Make Brooklyn Safer, Greener and Fun

Neighbors make Brooklyn a great place to live with a unique vibe. You can contribute by sprucing up your yard to adding some artwork, to creating a walking club or hosting a game night. Here are some of the things we suggest, it's not a comprehensive list. Send in your ideas.



**Little Free Library:** A *Little Free Library* is a *free* book exchange where anyone may take books or leave books. Start your own, it can have a theme, or be general interest. Here is a list of Libraries in Brooklyn. 3424 SE 15th; 908 SE Franklin; 3340 SE 10th Ave; 1116 SE Rhine; 1003 SE Center; 3726 SE 8th. Puzzle Library at 3352 SE 8th Ave. More info at: <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>



**Poetry/Art or Info Poles:** Poem poles are a staple in Portland, but in Brooklyn we have a poetry pole at 3384 SE 16th, and we have a neighbor who posts native plant info at 3340 SE 10th.



**Sidewalk obstruction Bingo:** from *Oregon Walks* when you go on walks. To help create a more accessible community. You have the option of enter your information for a prize drawing. <https://sidewalk-obstruction-bingo.oregonwalks.org/>



**Block Party:** Organize a block party with neighbors: For information on obtaining a Block Party permit, please visit [www.pbotblockparty.com](http://www.pbotblockparty.com). Call or write at 503.823.4003, [pbotblockparty@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:pbotblockparty@portlandoregon.gov) You can also join National Night Out; info at [natw.org](http://natw.org)



**Create fun for Neighbors:** Hang up a swing; place a bench; leave painted rocks around the neighborhood, draw a hopscotch on your sidewalk; fill your garden with art, or dinosaurs; Yarn bomb a fence or bike rack; leave out chalk for a sidewalk gallery; make your block into a monopoly game. Holiday Ideas: One neighbor leaves out easter eggs filled with jokes; in December another leaves out trimmers and bags and a sign encouraging neighbors to take trimmings from their holly tree.

## Make Brooklyn Safer, Greener and Fun Continued



**Go Big:** Create an event. Put together a parcours route around your block, create a scavenger hunt event, a mini fun run, or organize a themed bike ride, host an informative walk, or make your block into a monopoly board. It's easy to advertise them to neighbors on Nextdoor and other social media or by placing a sign in front of your home.



**Street Intersection Painting:** can be beautiful, but it also can calm traffic, as cars tend to drive slower. Currently there are no intersection paintings in Brooklyn, but you could spur the first painting. These projects are initiated, designed, installed, and maintained by the local community. Neighbors will typically talk with each other at block parties, community potlucks, or door to door to find neighbors interest and ask for ideas to create a proposed design and location.

For more information about street painting, please contact Greg Raisman at 503.823.1052 or [greg.raisman@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:greg.raisman@portlandoregon.gov)



**Know your Neighbors:** Introduce yourself to the next 4 neighbors on each side of you. Make sure to welcome new neighbors. Everyone has busy lives, so sometimes catching neighbors at home is difficult, so leave a calling card with a note inviting them to catch up and get a treat- cookies or a drink.



**Love your Neighborhood:** Do you enjoy passing that house with the great garden or the house that has the little library with great books or a swing on the street? Leave a note, a painted rock, etc., acknowledging you noticed, and you enjoy it.



**Make Brooklyn Bloom:** Plant extra seedlings or divide your plants, such as irises, etc. and leave some potted seedlings out front of your home with a sign for the neighbors to take home. It can spread beauty across the neighborhood.



**Sidewalk Safety:** Trim limbs around your sidewalk to ensure safe passage for everyone. Tree limbs must hang no lower than 7.5 feet above the sidewalk. Clean mud and muck from the curb ramps. Keep sidewalks clear of vegetation, leaves, mud, gravel and obstructions to help make it safer for all pedestrians including people with disabilities and pushing strollers to get around.



**Keep Sidewalks Clear:** Pull automobiles and bikes all the way into your driveway so it's not blocking the sidewalk. It's dangerous for people with disabilities to maneuver around a blocked a sidewalk.



**Tripping Hazards:** Property owners must keep sidewalks in good repair so that they are free of tripping hazards and other safety hazards for pedestrians and people in wheelchairs. If you have uneven sidewalks highlight the tripping hazard with spray paint as a temporary measure.



**Driveway Access:** If your driveway access is blocked your first course, and fastest course of action should be to ask neighbors if they can identify the auto. If that is not successful, then call 503-823-5195 or after hours call 503-823-3333.