

How walkable is your community?

Take a walk with a child and decide for yourselves.

Everyone benefits from walking. These benefits include: improved fitness, cleaner air, reduced risks of certain health problems, and a greater sense of community. But walking needs to be safe and easy. Take a walk with your child and use this checklist to decide if your neighborhood is a friendly place to walk. Take heart if you find problems, there are ways you can make things better.

Getting started:

First, you'll need to pick a place to walk, like the route to school, a friend's house or just somewhere fun to go.

The second step involves the checklist. Read over the checklist before you go, and as you walk, note the locations of things you would like to change. At the end of your walk, give each question a rating. Then add up the numbers to see how you rated your walk overall.



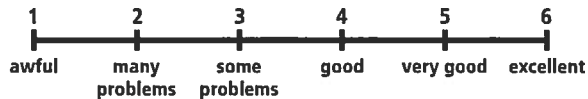
Turn Surveys
in to your
school or the
Wamego Public
library -

Rivers
Inc.

PO Box 408
504 Miller Drive
Wamego, KS 66547
(785) 456-9915

Location of walk _____

Rating Scale:



1. Did you have room to walk?

- Yes Some problems:
- Sidewalks or paths started and stopped
 - Sidewalks were broken or cracked
 - Sidewalks were blocked with poles, signs, shrubbery, dumpsters, etc.
 - No sidewalks, paths, or shoulders
 - Too much traffic
 - Something else _____
- Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) _____
1 2 3 4 5 6
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

2. Was it easy to cross streets?

- Yes Some problems:
- Road was too wide
 - Traffic signals made us wait too long or did not give us enough time to cross
 - Needed striped crosswalks or traffic signals
 - Parked cars blocked our view of traffic
 - Trees or plants blocked our view of traffic
 - Needed curb ramps or ramps needed repair
 - Something else _____
- Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) _____
1 2 3 4 5 6
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

3. Did drivers behave well?

- Yes Some problems: Drivers...
- Backed out of driveways without looking
 - Did not yield to people crossing the street
 - Turned into people crossing the street
 - Drove too fast
 - Sped up to make it through traffic lights or drove through traffic lights?
 - Something else _____
- Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) _____
1 2 3 4 5 6
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

4. Was it easy to follow safety rules?

Could you and your child...

- Yes No Cross at crosswalks or where you could see and be seen by drivers?
- Yes No Stop and look left, right and then left again before crossing streets?
- Yes No Walk on sidewalks or shoulders facing traffic where there were no sidewalks?
- Yes No Cross with the light?
- Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) _____
1 2 3 4 5 6
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

5. Was your walk pleasant?

- Yes Some unpleasant things:
- Needed more grass, flowers, or trees
 - Scary dogs
 - Scary people
 - Not well lighted
 - Dirty, lots of litter or trash
 - Dirty air due to automobile exhaust
 - Something else _____
- Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) _____
1 2 3 4 5 6
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

How does your neighborhood stack up?

Add up your ratings and decide.

1. _____ 26-30 Celebrate! You have a great neighborhood for walking.
2. _____
3. _____ 21-25 Celebrate a little. Your neighborhood is pretty good.
4. _____
5. _____ 16-20 Okay, but it needs work.
- 11-15 It needs lots of work. You deserve better than that.
- Total _____ 5-10 It's a disaster for walking!

