



The Sunflower Market

# NEW BUSINESS WELCOME PACKET

## A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR MERRIAM BUSINESSES

Welcome to Merriam, Kansas—we're excited that you're here. You're joining a healthy business community of 560+ companies employing more than 13,000 people from across the Kansas City metropolitan region. From small local merchants to award-winning healthcare facilities, corporate headquarters, and everything in between, Merriam is Just Right for you and your business!

This resource guide was created to include helpful information about our community and supportive resources to guide your journey as a business owner in Merriam. If you have any questions, please reach out—we're here to help your business succeed!



Advent Health Shawnee Mission

**KAREN CRANE**

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Development Manager*

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913-322-5534



# MERRIAM

## BY THE NUMBERS

Size:  
4.3 SQUARE MILES

Population:  
11,098

Median Age:  
36.6

Median Household Income:  
\$63,806

Median Home Value:  
\$169,400

Number of Businesses:  
560+

Number of Employees:  
13,583



## COMMUNITY PROFILE

Merriam is proud of our diverse economy of more than 560 businesses, award-winning healthcare facilities, top-ranked schools, outstanding parks and trails, plus convenience and accessibility to major interstates and the airport. One of the most favorable cities in the Kansas City metro region, Merriam is a welcoming, inclusive, and tight-knit city that is small in size, but big at heart!

Our community appreciates the City's approach to services. In fact, the most recent Community Survey conducted in 2021 by the ETC Institute indicates that 88% of respondents are very satisfied/satisfied with the overall quality of City services. Additionally, 73% of respondents felt they received value for their tax dollars and fees. 87% feel satisfied with the quality of local police and fire protection, and 93% felt they were dealt with in a courteous and polite manner by City employees.

Merriam is no stranger to award-winning achievements and accolades! We're proud of our community, and we want you to be proud to be a part of it. Some of our past trophies include "best city to start a business, top tourist-friendly city, and best place to retire in Kansas!"



Rock Cottage Glassworks

# BUSINESS CHECKLIST

Planning to join the Merriam business community? Start here...

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT | 913-322-5520 | MERRIAM.ORG/BUSINESS

- An occupational license is required if your business is located in Merriam or you're doing business within City limits.
- Prior to signing a lease or purchasing a building, call to confirm that your business is compatible with building and zoning codes for your proposed location.
- New or modified commercial signage requires a Merriam signage permit.
- Building permits are required for new construction, parking lot installation/modification, building repairs or modifications (electrical, mechanical or plumbing), roof repair/installation, and/or changing the occupancy or intensity of your building space—contact Community Development before starting so staff can assist you in obtaining the appropriate permit.
- Learn more and complete forms online at [merriam.org/business](https://merriam.org/business)

## MERRIAM POLICE DEPARTMENT | 913-322-5560 | MERRIAM.ORG/POLICE

- Set up a consultation to review crime prevention techniques to help improve the safety of your business. Contact Officer David Vincent at [dvincent@merriam.org](mailto:dvincent@merriam.org).
- Register your business alarm so police and fire can provide service to you during an emergency. There is no fee to register your alarm. Contact Officer Gerry Eickhoff at [geickhoff@merriam.org](mailto:geickhoff@merriam.org).
- Video cameras are one of the best methods for catching criminals in the act. The Community Video Partnership Program invites residents and businesses to work with police to create a list of active security cameras across the City. Contact Crime Analyst Seth Potts at [spotts@merriam.org](mailto:spotts@merriam.org).

## FIRE DEPARTMENT | 913-888-6066 NON EMERGENCY | MERRIAM.ORG/FIRE

- Businesses will be inspected upon coming to Merriam and annually thereafter to make sure they are in compliance with life-safety issues. Contact Inspector, Suzanne Coleman at [suzanne.coleman@opkansas.org](mailto:suzanne.coleman@opkansas.org)

## COMMUNICATIONS | 913-322-5507 | JENNA GANT | JGANT@MERRIAM.ORG

- Find recent news articles and sign-up for Merriam's weekly e-newsletter at [www.merriam.org/Residents/Stay-Connected](http://www.merriam.org/Residents/Stay-Connected).
- Look for our award-winning Merriam Highlights magazine! Published three times per year, it will come straight to your mailbox.
- Follow Merriam on social media—we're on Facebook (City of Merriam), Twitter ([merriamks](https://twitter.com/merriamks)), Instagram ([cityofmerriamks](https://www.instagram.com/cityofmerriamks)), and Nextdoor!

## TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | 913-322-5534 | KAREN CRANE | KCRANE@MERRIAM.ORG

- Planning a meeting, corporate training, or need hotel rooms for business functions in Merriam? We can help with meeting space, overnight lodging, and attendee itineraries.
- Submit a special offer/coupon at [exploremerriam.com/specialoffers](https://exploremerriam.com/specialoffers) to help promote your business to Merriam residents and visitors.
- Sign-up to receive a biannual e-newsletter featuring all things related to operating a business in Merriam.



# MERRIAM BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS



“It's a pleasure being a part of the Merriam community. After working in the neighborhood with different individuals, there is a genuine feeling of community. The Hotel Lotus Merriam has partnered with the Merriam Visitors Bureau to welcome a national association to host their annual conference in Merriam. We're also fortunate to be a part of the IKEA Family, which provides special discount pricing for the IKEA Family Membership. The City of Merriam is also helpful and attentive in terms of our guest security. We're appreciative of the fast response time and level of care.”

--Tim Ryan

Director of Sales - Hotel Lotus



The Kansas Department of Commerce Office of Minority and Women Business Development awarded *Debra Roark, owner of Spirit Life Apparel & Screen Printing* in Merriam with the Kansas Minority-Owned Manufacturing Firm of the Year Award (Nov. 2022)

# HELPFUL BUSINESS RESOURCES

City Hall:  
9001 W. 62ND ST.  
913-322-5500  
MERRIAM.ORG

Police Department  
9010 W. 62ND ST.  
913-322-5560

Parks & Rec / Community Center:  
6040 SLATER ST.  
913-322-5550

Northeast JoCo  
Chamber of Commerce:  
5115 ROE BLVD.  
913-262-2141  
NEJCCHAMBER.ORG

Kansas Dept. of Commerce  
TOPEKA, KS  
KANSASCOMMERCE.GOV



## CAN'T MISS EVENTS

### ART GALLERY EXHIBITS

View the schedule at  
[merriam.org/TMAG](http://merriam.org/TMAG)

### FARMERS' MARKET

Saturdays, May-Sept.  
Merriam Marketplace

### TURKEY CREEK FESTIVAL

3rd Saturday in May  
Antioch Park

### FLAGS 4 FREEDOM

Week of 4th of July  
Merriam Marketplace

### TURKEY CREEK CAR SHOW

2nd Saturday in Sept.  
Merriam Marketplace

### MERRIAM DRIVE LIVE

1st Saturday in Oct.  
Merriam Marketplace

