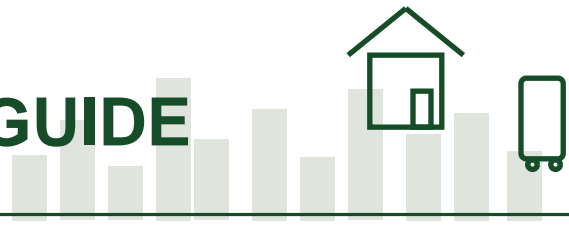


CHICAGO URBAN STEWARDSHIP GUIDE

HOME CARE. SHARED EDGES. CIVIC MINDFULNESS.



SMALL ROUTINES AT THE EDGE OF HOME AND BLOCK.

Care for the home. Notice the shared edges. Reduce small problems before they become bigger ones.



HOME CARE

Keep the private property working: seasonal tasks, 3-month checks, drains, vents, filters, safety items, and basic exterior maintenance.



SHARED EDGES

Watch the overlap zones: alleys, bins, gates, fences, sidewalks, drainage, vegetation, utility points, and exterior gaps.



CIVIC MINDFULNESS

Remember that small property habits affect neighbors, tenants, guests, buyers, and the feel of the block.



THE OWNER RHYTHM

Weekly glance

Bins closed, bags secure, gates working, no scattered trash or standing water.

Monthly walk

Check edges: gaps, overgrowth, drainage, odors, chewing, nesting, loose boards, and debris.

Seasonal reset

Gutters, vents, exterior touch-ups, irrigation shutoff, windows, screens, branches, and weatherstripping.

Quarterly basics

Filters, drains, detectors, hoses, vents, garage safety, attic/basement leaks, and foundation signs.



EARLY SIGNALS

- Trash or loose bags near carts
- Standing water or drainage changes
- Overgrowth against walls, fences, or garages
- Openings near doors, vents, utility lines, or foundations
- Odors, burrows, gnaw marks, droppings, or sudden pet interest
- Damaged gates, fences, lids, screens, or weather seals



THE GUIDE IS PRACTICAL

Not a grand plan. Not a complaint about the city. A simple homeowner rhythm for keeping private property and shared edges cleaner, clearer, and easier to live around.



FIELD NOTES WELCOME

Have a recurring home, alley, bin, drainage, exterior, or shared-edge issue worth including? Send a note and help shape v1.