

Explore Greensburg!

Walk, bike, or drive and discover all the ways we put the 'green' in Greensburg!

Following the May 4, 2007 tornado that destroyed 95% of our community, we have made the commitment to rebuild stronger, better and greener!

Many of our facilities feature sustainable design practices, water saving features, and alternative energy production.

On your tour, you'll see evidence of tornado damage contrasted with new buildings.

Have a smart phone or tablet? Download our free Greensburg Tourism app for expanded content such as photos, videos and local business information.

Want to borrow a bike for your tour? We've got one for you! Bikes can be checked out from the Big Well Museum and returned when you're done. It's that easy!



City of Greensburg, KS
Tourism

315 S. Sycamore
Greensburg, KS 67054
620.723.4102
www.greensburgks.org



Explore

GREENSBURG, KS

Walk



Bike

Discover how
we put the
'green' in
Greensburg!

Stop 1-The Big Well Museum & Visitor Center

The Big Well is a marvel of pioneer engineering that was completed in 1888 as the town's original water supply. At 109 feet deep and 32 feet in diameter, this is a breathtaking sight to see. In 1939, the Big Well opened as a tourist attraction and welcomed her 1,000,000th visitor in 1956. On May 4, 2007 the Big Well Gift Shop was destroyed, but the well itself was left unscathed. A new museum opened May 2012 that allows visitors to experience the well via a spiral staircase and has exhibits about the history of Greensburg, the Big Well, tornado and rebuilding as a sustainable community.

Stop 2-Tornado Memorial/Fleener Family Memorial

On the north side of the Big Well Museum you'll see a memorial marker honoring those who we lost in the May 4, 2007 tornado.

To the west, is a metal tornado sculpture. This sculpture was made by Caster Iron Company, who purchased the old water tower for scrap iron following the tornado. They made this sculpture with parts from the tower and returned it to Greensburg.

At the north east corner of the block is the site of the Weaver and Emily Fleener family home from 1915-2007. There are many happy family stories of the home, The Big Well and of front yard basketball games. Following the May 4, 2007 tornado that destroyed the family home and most of Greensburg, the Fleener Beck families donated the property to the City of Greensburg for this memorial plaza.

Stop 3- 5.4.7 Arts Center

The 5.4.7 Arts Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness of the parts by providing an environment to create and learn through exhibits, performances and classes. This unique building is the 1st LEED Platinum building in Kansas and utilizes wind and solar power.

Stop 4-Fran's Antiques Steps

After the May 4, 2007 tornado, all that remained of the Fran's Antiques building, were the stairs and a pile of rubble. Prior to housing Fran's, the building was the Greensburg First Christian Church.

Stop 5-Main Street Streetscape

Four blocks of Main Street in the downtown corridor have been renovated with a new streetscape design. This design utilizes reclaimed brick for the sidewalks, native plantings that are low maintenance need little water and rainwater capture in underground cisterns.

Stop 6-City Business Incubator Building

After the tornado that devastated Greensburg, all of the west side of the 100 block of Main Street was destroyed. Businesses that were affected include the Kiowa County Historical Museum, Care N Share, Hunter Drug Store, Snootie Seconds, and Clark Printing. This location is now home to the Greensburg Business Incubator Building and Centera Bank. The 9,580 ft² LEED Platinum two-story building provides affordable office space for small, start-up businesses in the town. Five street-level retail shops and nine second-level professional service offices make up the building; a storm shelter is also included.

Stop 7- Kiowa County United Building

Following the 2007 tornado, all of this block was destroyed, except the S.D. Robinett building. Businesses destroyed included the Twilight Theatre, Kiowa County Library, Starla's Stitch N Frame, Duckwalls and Roses & More Flower Shop. The Robinett Building housed Centera Bank at the time of the tornado. Now it has been renovated and home to Where'dya Find That Antiques. Following the tornado, a local non-profit organization, Kiowa County United, was formed to build a building to get businesses back on Main Street. Completely funded through donations, this project is a prime example of Greensburg's pioneer spirit and that is reflected through the Kansas state motto on the top of the building, "Ad Astra per Aspera" or "To the stars through difficulties."



Stop 8- S.D. Robinett Building

The Robinett Building is an early 20th century Main Street commercial building located in downtown Greensburg. It stands as the business district's lone survivor of the devastating May 2007 tornado. This two-story brick building with concrete trim was built in 1915 to better withstand the elements after a fire destroyed much of the downtown wood frame buildings. The building was placed on the National Historic Register in 2009 for its commercial significance and as the only remaining early 20th century downtown building.

Stop 9- Twilight Theatre & Community Auditorium

The Twilight was in operation at the time of the May 4, 2007 tornado and was completely destroyed. The non-profit organization's board of directors worked tirelessly to rebuild the theatre at 200 S. Main to serve as a movie theatre, performing arts venue and auditorium for school activities. The new Twilight Theatre & Community Auditorium celebrated its grand opening in April 2015.

Stop 10- Greensburg City Hall

Built to LEED Platinum standards, the 4,700 ft² City Hall building is the symbol of Greensburg's vitality and leadership in becoming a model sustainable community where social, environmental, and economic concerns are held in balance. It houses the city's administrative offices and council chambers, and serves as a gathering space for town meetings and municipal court sessions.

Stop 11- Kiowa County Commons

Following the tornado, the buildings containing the Kiowa County Library and Historical Museum were completely destroyed. Kiowa County has replaced these facilities with a new community center called the Kiowa County Commons. This building houses the historical museum & soda fountain, the Kansas State Extension Service, the library and media center. The Kiowa County Media Center houses an internet radio station, an internet TV station and a web portal capable of delivering news and events throughout the county. The building is LEED Platinum certified.

Want to see more? Get on your walking shoes, hop on a bike, or jump in a car & visit these stops!

Stop 12-Kiowa County Schools

The new LEED Platinum 132,000 ft² Greensburg K-12 School was built green from the ground up. School leaders and the design/construction team worked together to design an environmentally responsible, student-focused academic environment that reinforces the community's commitment to sustainability. The school has the capacity to hold more than 300 students ranging from preschoolers to high-school seniors.

Stop 13- Kiowa County Memorial Hospital

Replacing the original hospital that was destroyed in the tornado, the new 48,500 ft² Kiowa County Memorial Hospital is the first critical access hospital in the nation to achieve LEED Platinum certification. It includes 15 acute-care beds, a five-provider clinic, specialty clinic, an emergency department with two trauma rooms, physical/occupational therapy department, radiology department, laboratory, pharmacy, and other support areas such as an on-site daycare facility.

Stop 14- BTI John Deere Dealership

Brothers Kelly and Mike Estes rebuilt their new John Deere Dealership as a LEED Platinum certified 33,000 ft² metal building. Constructed with high-performance walls and roof, the building contains an offices, sales floor, service area and warehouse.

Stop 15- Greensburg Wind Farm

The Greensburg Wind Farm consists of ten 1.25 megawatt (MW) wind turbines that supply 12.5 MW of renewable power to the town—enough to power every house, business, and municipal building in Greensburg. The town uses only about 1/4 to 1/3 of the power generated to reach its "100% renewable energy, 100% of the time" goal. Excess power is placed back on the grid and offered as renewable energy credits for other Kansas Power Pool customers.