

City Side

Caring People Quality Programs Exceptional Service

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Labor Day Closings

City Hall and most City of Ames offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 5, for the Labor Day holiday.



Lincoln Way Corridor Planning Continues with Workshops

Few streets in Ames are as widely traveled as Lincoln Way. This east-west roadway stretches 6.75 miles through neighborhoods, business districts, and commercial properties, as well as Iowa State University. The Lincoln Way Corridor Plan began in the fall of 2015 as a way to address land use, development, traffic and mobility, urban design, infrastructure, and more along the corridor. Once complete, the plan will guide decision-making and investment for the area for the next several years.

This summer, Ames residents and business owners attended an open house to identify concerns and offer ideas on potential future redevelopment. Participants focused on five selected areas, as well as the whole corridor. They provided feedback on specific improvement ideas for land use and development, urban design and character, and transportation and mobility. Summaries, documents, and maps from the open house can be found on the Lincoln Way Corridor Plan website at <http://www.hlplanning.com/portals/ames/>.

It's not too late to provide input! Fill out an online survey or use the sMap mapping tool, which are both available on the project website. Additionally, comments or questions can be sent to Karen Marren, City of Ames Planner, at kmarren@city.ames.ia.us. The next step in the Corridor Planning process is for the City's consultant team, Houseal Lavigne Associates, to complete an overall framework plan for Lincoln Way and a detailed assessment of development and improvement options within the five focus areas. This will be followed by another public input opportunity.

New Sixth Street Bridge!

After nearly 10 months of construction, drivers, bikers, and pedestrians can soon celebrate the opening of the Sixth Street Bridge. Spanning the Squaw Creek, just east of Brookside Park, the bridge replacement project began in November 2015.

The new Sixth Street Bridge is a wide, multi-use bridge that offers improved transportation flow and safety. The new bridge provides a physical barrier between vehicles and pedestrians, as well as includes an on-street bike lane on the bridge deck. In addition to the bridge replacement, the project includes reconstruction of the approach



pavement from the west and east extending approximately 300 feet.

Calendar

City Council Meetings

The following meetings will be held in the Council Chambers, 515 Clark Ave.:

6 p.m. Sept. 13

6 p.m. Sept. 27

A Council workshop will be held at 6 p.m. on Sept. 20. For the most current information, go to: www.CityOfAmes.org.

TriWizard Trek: 5K Fun Run

Join Ames Public Library for a Harry Potter themed 5K fun run or 1K walk on Saturday, Sept. 17 at 9:30 a.m. at Brookside Park. Stay late for entertainment and prize drawings!

A special prize will be awarded for best costume. Stop by Ames Public Library or go to www.bit.ly/TriwizardTrek to register today!

Early Registration

(through Aug. 31)

\$20 for adults

\$10 for kids under 18

Beginning Sept. 1, registration will increase \$5 per category. All proceeds will benefit the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation (APLFF). This event is organized by APLFF Teen Advisory Group.

City's Website, Safety Campaign Honored with Design Awards

The City of Ames was recently honored with two American Inhouse Design Awards from Graphic Design USA. The American Inhouse Design Awards is considered to be the premier showcase for outstanding work by in-house designers. Derek Zarn, City of Ames Printing Services Technician, was recognized for work in the Internet Design and Brochures/Collateral categories. The competition included nearly 6,000 entries from corporations, publishing houses, non-profits, universities, and government agencies, and only 15 percent were recognized with an Award of Excellence. Zarn provides printing, publishing, and graphic design services to all City of Ames departments.



In the Internet Design category, the City of Ames website was recognized for blending an attractive, user-friendly design with the functionality needs of citizens. The Bike Walk Drive SMART brochure won an award in the Brochures/Collateral category. This campaign was a joint outreach effort by Ames Police and Iowa State University Police to increase safety through respect. (See example of Bike Walk Drive SMART below!)

Traffic Rules Keep Everyone Safe

For pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists, navigating around Ames can be tricky when transportation routes intersect, but following the “rules of the road” makes the journey easier for all. Obeying traffic laws, signs, and signals makes anticipating how others act more predictable and increases safety. “Safety can’t be delegated to one person,” said Commander Jason Tuttle, Ames Police Department. “Whether you’re walking, running, skateboarding, biking, or driving, you play a role that includes being aware of your surroundings and following the law.”

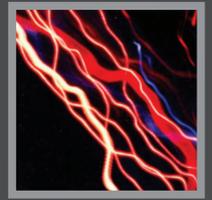


- Ride safely and follow traffic laws.
- Eyes up - don't be distracted.
- Signal to others when turning or stopping.
- Protect yourself.
- Emphasize visibility.
- Cross only at marked crosswalks.
- Take your time.

With students soon returning to classrooms, traffic patterns change. More students will be walking, biking, riding buses, and being transported to and from school. Drivers, in particular, must be more attentive to the change. Pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks, so drivers must be prepared to yield. Yet, pedestrians should never

assume a driver will give you the right of way. “Always make eye contact with the driver of a stopped or approaching vehicle before crossing the street,” Tuttle warned.

Another consideration is school buses. Remember, it is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped with its red stop lights on. The Ames Police Department conducts speed enforcement in the school zones to ensure children’s safety, and speed trailers are placed in the school zones to help attract attention to the speed limit in the area.



Do We Have Your Number?

Weather can be unpredictable. Accidents happen. These things - and others - can affect your electricity. While Ames Electric Services can't guarantee that your power will never go off, we are ready if it does. Our goal is to restore service as quickly as possible. The City of Ames Electric Services continues to improve its Outage Management System (OMS) to assist in the restoration of power to customers. The OMS pinpoints the outage and provides mapping for line crews. This saves precious time and reduces the duration of the outage.

How does it do this? The system identifies your phone number when you call, associates it with your address, and automatically adds your home to the outage list. Two telephone numbers can be associated with your account, such as a home phone number and a cell phone number or two cell phone numbers. Due to the increase in cell phone use and the problems with using cordless phones during a power outage, associating a cell phone number with your address is the safe and smart way to help ensure your electricity is reconnected in a timely manner. (Remember, the outage reporting number is 515.239.5240.)

How can you help? Contact Utility Customer Service at 515.239.5120 and make sure they have two current phone numbers for your home, or fill out the form at www.CityOfAmes.org/outage.

Ceiling Fans Lower Electric Use

During summer, turning up your thermostat and using ceiling fans can make you comfortable and reduce your electric bill. Ceiling fans can improve comfort at a given room temperature by creating a wind chill effect when they blow air across the skin. But because fans cool people and not stuff, it pays to switch the fan off when you leave the room.

During the hottest part of the summer, an air conditioner can cost about \$3 dollars a day to operate, but a fan only costs about 10 cents a day. For each eight-hour period you turn your thermostat up five degrees, you can save 20 percent of your cooling energy. We might spend 10 cents a day running a fan, but we might also save 60 cents by turning our thermostat up. Using a fan together with a thermostat turned up consistently can reduce air conditioning bills by as much as 40 percent. But remember, if you don't adjust your thermostat and turn on several fans, you'll end up adding to your bill.

A good ceiling fan should create enough air movement to keep you comfortable at 82 degrees and 80 percent relative humidity. The sizing of the fan is important, so use the following as a guide:

Room Area (square feet)	Minimum Fan Diameter
100	36 inches
150	42 inches
225	48 inches
375	52 inches
400+	2 fans needed

Source: U. S. Department of Energy

Smart Energy On the Web

Check out Electric Services' Smart Energy website for information on programs and incentives available to help you improve your efficiency, conserve energy, and reduce your bills. Visit www.CityOfAmes.org/smartenergy.

Prime Time Power Reminder

Prime Time Power program is available to all homeowners and small businesses with central air conditioners. Remember, you do not need to reapply for Prime Time Power if you signed up in a previous year. The \$5 credit during each of the four summer months is automatically applied to your account. To sign up or receive additional information about the program, call Utility Customer Service at 515.239.5120 or Steve Wilson at 515.239.5177.



Q: How do I know the color of a light bulb before I buy it?

A: The color of the light from any light bulb is measured in degrees kelvin (K). Before getting too far into that, first some physics!

Color and light are connected. A black object is black because it absorbs all light that falls on it. When heated, the color of the thermal radiation emitted is the same as its surface temperature. By measuring the emitted radiation changes relative to surface temperature changes, a scale is created using degrees kelvin. Kelvin in this case is not a measure of temperature, but color.

When we purchase a light bulb, the package will provide a degree kelvin number representing its color. This becomes important when you consider your preferences or how the light bulb will be used. You may prefer a more yellow color when reading, but need a whiter color when displaying product in a store. Kelvin temperatures below 3500 K appear yellow-red (warmer), whereas those above 6500 K appear white-blue (cooler).

The following are color examples:

<u>K Temperature</u>	<u>Source</u>
1850 K	Candle flame
2000 K	Sunrise or sunset
2870 K	100-watt incandescent bulb
3400 K	Cool white fluorescent lamp
4100 K	Moonlight
5800 K	Mercury vapor lamp
6000 K	Bright sunlight
7400 K	Overcast sky

Numbers to Know

- Power out515.239.5240
- Street light out515.239.5500
- Utility bills515.239.5120
- Energy questions..515.239.5177
- Tree growing too close to an electric line515.239.5500
- Going to be digging?
- Iowa One Call:811
- Storm Water Concern.....515.239.5160



Renewable Energy

For June 2016

18% of electricity used this month was generated from wind and Refuse Derived Fuel.

24 Ames customers have invested in solar voltaic systems.

Degree Day information available at www.CityOfAmes.org/Electric

Steve Wilson

"The Energy Guy"

Energy Services Coordinator
515.239.5177

Call Before Digging!

Ames Electric Services wants you to be safe. There are dangers lurking underground! Remember to call Iowa One Call at 811 before you dig. Iowa One Call will arrange to have your yard marked free of charge. Flags or paint correspond with specific underground services. Here is the key:

- Red – Electric
- Yellow – Gas, oil, steam
- Orange – Communication, CATV
- Blue – Water
- Green – Sewer
- Pink – Temporary survey markings
- White – Proposed excavation

City Side is a publication of the City of Ames, Iowa

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Questions?

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