



Neighborhood News

Quarterly Neighborhood Update - Summer 2014

Three-Day Festival Celebrates Ames 150

The year 2014 marks a significant milestone in the history of Ames. This is the year of our sesqui-centennial!

Ames history began in 1863, when John Insley



Blair selected the marshy property between the Skunk River and Squaw Creek as a future train depot location. In 1864, Blair was deeded land from local resident Cynthia Duff. Blair named the town after his friend, Massachusetts Congressman Oakes Ames, who never actually set foot in town. The city's first 12 blocks were platted and recorded on Dec. 17, 1864. In the 150 years that followed, Ames has grown and prospered.

Events celebrating this milestone will continue to take place throughout the year. The signature celebration, Ames 150 on the Fourth, will be three days of music, entertainment, games, food and more fun for all ages.

For a calendar listing of each day's events, see page 2.

A more detailed listing of activities featured at Ames 150 on the Fourth is also available at www.ames150.com.

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IMPORTANT DATES:

July 3: Fireworks

July 3-5: Ames 150 on the Fourth festival

July 4: Independence Day, City offices closed

Sept. 1: Labor Day, City offices closed

Emerald Ash Borer Management Strategies Planned

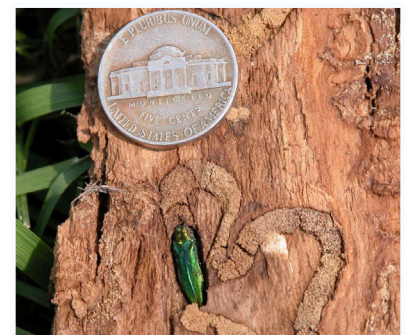
Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been in the news with increasing regularity lately. This invasive beetle kills all species of ash trees and has been spreading throughout the United States since its discovery in southeastern Michigan in summer 2002. The pest has made its way to Iowa, where it was found in Allamakee County in 2010. Tens of millions of trees have been destroyed as a result of this infestation.

To slow the spread of the insect, communities throughout the U.S., including Ames, are developing EAB management strategies.

The City of Ames Public Works and Parks and Recreation staff have been working with Shane Donegan, an urban forestry specialist, to develop a tree management plan for the city. An inventory of all right-of-way trees and trees in most city parks and other public property has been completed. "When the inventory was taken a couple of summers ago, ash trees made up about 16 percent of trees on public

land in Ames," said Donegan. The plan will address strategies for identification, treatment, removal, and replacement of infected trees on public property.

At press time, presentation of the plan to the City Council is scheduled for a workshop on Tuesday, June 17, in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 515 Clark Ave. Following the workshop, additional public meetings may be scheduled to discuss EAB management strategies with the community. For information on the plan, please call Corey Mellies, Public Works Operations Manager, at 515.239.5276.



The Emerald Ash Beetle is bright metallic green in color and is visible to the naked eye, but small—about the size of Monticello on the back of a nickel. Photo by Eric R. Day, VA Polytechnic Institute & State Univ.



AMES 150 ON THE 4TH

3RD OF JULY

Reiman Gardens

Ames Municipal Band concert, birthday cake, barbecue, and fireworks!

4TH OF JULY

Downtown Ames

5! on the Fourth run (Ada Hayden)
Pancake breakfast 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.
(with the Ames Mayor & City Council)
Bill Reilly Talent Show
Fourth of July Parade – 11 a.m.
John Insley Blair Community Stage
(historical presentations, community and cultural groups)
Kids and Family Fun Zone
(inflatables, historical games and crafts)
Food and Craft Vendors
Danfoss Main Stage:
(Bookends Concert, local and regional bands)
Sierra Leone Refugee All Stars – 8 p.m.

5TH OF JULY

Downtown Ames

Ames Main Street Farmers Market
Ames Chautauqua Tent in Bandshell Park
(community, cultural, and historical presentations) 10a.m. – 6 p.m.
John Insley Blair Community Stage
(historical presentations, community and cultural groups)
Kids and Family Fun Zone
(inflatables, historical games and crafts)
Food and Craft Vendors
Danfoss Main Stage:
(local and regional bands)
Buckwheat Zydeco – 7 p.m.
Robert Randolph and the Family Band – 8 p.m.

For more information about the Ames 150 yearlong celebration and Ames 150 events, go to www.ames150.com. Special thanks to Danfoss for the company's Platinum sponsorship of the Ames 150 on the Fourth celebration. A complete list of sponsors can be found at www.ames150.com. For more information about the Fourth of July parade: Main Street Cultural District: www.ames-downtown.org Special thanks to these sponsors for their support of the Main Street Cultural District Fourth of July parade: Hy-Vee and Chocolaterie Stam.

Help Reduce Summer Electric Peak Usage with Energy Saving Tips

During the summer, temperatures and humidity create a seasonal demand for more energy. By reducing summer peak electric use, the need to build additional power plants is delayed and electric rates can be kept as low as possible.

The City of Ames Electric Services offers the following energy saving tips to help reduce peak electric demand.

- Shift electric usage from peak hours (3 to 9 p.m. in the summer) to early morning or late evening hours.
- Turn off any unnecessary electrical devices.
- Reduce the number of exterior door openings and closings.
- Avoid cooking with the oven. Eat cold foods or use a microwave.
- Don't water your yard or garden on very hot days.
- Set your thermostat up 5 degrees.
- Use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) instead of incandescent.
- Replace or clean your furnace filter every month during hot weather.
- Have your cooling equipment checked and cleaned each year.

- Caulk and weather strip your windows and doors.
- Shade your house on the east and west sides. Venetian blinds or drapes are helpful, as well.
- Air conditioning can cost \$3 per day, a fan only \$.10 a day.
- Sign up for Prime Time Power or learn more about electricity-saving Smart Energy rebates at www.cityofames.org.
- Call the Energy Guy at 515.239.5177 with questions.



Westlawn Neighborhood Gathers for Block Party



Residents on Westlawn Drive and adjacent streets in this north Ames neighborhood gathered for a block party Sunday, June 8. They reserved the City's Street 'N' Greet Block Party Trailer and used the tables and chairs, tent awning, street cones, and games available from the trailer. Firefighters from Station No. 1 brought Engine No. 1 to the party and let kids have a look inside.



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TO THE CURRENT RESIDENTS AT
«ADDRESS»
«CITY» «STATE» «ZIP»

One Weekend Still Available to Reserve Street 'N' Greet Trailer

The City's Street 'N' Greet Trailer has been reserved for use at neighborhood block parties every weekend this season with the exception of Sept. 27 (at the time of newsletter publication).

The block party trailer is available free of charge to Ames residents for use at neighborhood parties. Call 515.239.5400 to reserve the trailer for that weekend or to be placed on the waiting list for possible cancellations.

Have an idea? We want to hear!

Submit your own story ideas for Neighborhood News. Neighborhood News articles or ideas may be submitted for publication by Ames residents.

To submit information for Neighborhood News via email: printern@city.ames.ia.us.

Neighborhood News

Neighborhood News is a quarterly publication of the City of Ames, Iowa, mailed directly to Ames residents who are members of established Neighborhood Associations or who ask to be placed on the mailing list. You can receive the newsletter via U.S. Mail or request to be put on the e-mail list.

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