



CITY SIDE

OCTOBER 2021

RUMMAGE RAMPAGE HELPS NON-PROFITS; RECYCLES MATERIALS

The fifth annual Rummage RAMPage, a community rummage sale designed to keep reusable items out of the waste stream, surpassed previous years in landfill diversion totals and proceeds generated. The event, which was held over nine days, found new homes for more than 90,000 pounds of furniture and housewares, and raised more than \$40,000 for local non-profit agencies.

In its fifth year, Rummage RAMPage increased proceeds



by almost \$7,000 compared to results from 2019. Rummage RAMPage was not held in 2020 due to the pandemic.

The City of Ames, in partnership with the ISU Office of Sustainability, held the sale from July 30 to Aug. 7 at the Ames Intermodal Facility, 129 Hayward Ave.

This year's event spanned two weekends and was assisted by 28 non-profit groups who sent dozens of volunteers to staff the event.

"This year's sale was truly exceptional especially in the number of donations, purchases, and volunteers," said Merry Rankin, ISU Sustainability Director and City of Ames Sustainability Coordinator. "The success or failure of Rummage RAMPage rests in the hands of the community, and once

again, the response was overwhelming. This was a phenomenal show of support."

Because many leases in Ames terminate at the end of July, relocating ISU students and community members often discard items that may still be usable. During these weeks, the City of Ames Resource Recovery Plant (RRP) often sees an influx of couches, wooden furniture, clothing, and more as renters attempt to meet their move-out requirements.

ALERT IOWA PROVIDES EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

Story County has replaced its Story County Iowa Alert system with Alert Iowa, a new emergency notification system with enhanced features. With this switch, residents have access to new functions and can create one user account for an entire family that includes multiple addresses and phone numbers. Participants may also opt-in to receive weather alerts from the National Weather Service.

To access these features, users must register for a new account. Even residents who registered for alert notifications in

the past should register again to ensure their data is entered in the new system. Three options are available for residents to sign up:

- **Online** at <http://www.storycountyiowa.gov/alerts>
- **Download the Smart911 App** to a cell phone or wireless enabled device
- **Opt-in via text messages.** The service is free, although standard data and messaging rates may apply from your carrier.

Once created, a user can choose to



provide information about relevant health information that will assist emergency management identify potential special response needs during a disaster or allow for specific emergency messaging.

For more information, visit the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management website at <https://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/programs/alert-iowa/>

CITY NEWS TO USE

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Climate Action Planning Update
- Rain Barrel Rebates Offered
- Ames Electric Celebrates 125 Years
- Parks & Recreation Notes
- Energy Q&A

TRICK OR TREATING

The official night for trick-or-treating in Ames is Sunday, Oct. 31. The recommended hours are from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FOCUSES ON EMISSIONS REDUCTION

The City of Ames has completed several preliminary steps toward developing a community-wide Ames Climate Action Plan (CAP). The Ames City Council has made environmental sustainability a goal. The Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory, a community-wide baseline for carbon emissions, was completed in 2020. This data provides a foundation from which to build a CAP and community goals for reduction.

The Ames CAP will establish relevant, achievable, and cost-effective strategies to achieve GHG reduction goals within a specified timeline, designate milestone reduction achievements along the timeline, and specify metrics to track

REBATES OFFERED FOR WATER CONSERVATION

Although rainfall has continued to be below average this year, gardeners still have plenty of work before the end of the growing season. Making the most of every drop of water is important.

Rain barrels are a great way to harvest rainwater for gray water usage around your home and garden. Ames residents are encouraged to use rain barrels and other water conservation practices. In fact, utility customers can receive a one-time \$50 rebate if they purchase or build their own rain barrels.

Additionally, the City of Ames offers several rebates to promote conservation. Those include



rebates for rain gardens, native landscaping, and soil quality improvements.

For more information, go to www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartWatersheds.



SUSTAINABLE AMES

and measure progress.

Sustainable Solutions Group (SSG) has been hired to facilitate the process. The Ames City Council will serve as the project steering committee, and a volunteer Supplemental Input Committee has been appointed. Work continues on

a community engagement strategy to ensure public participation, energy and emissions modeling, website materials, and more.

As an organization, the City of Ames has a long history of implementing environmentally sound choices in operations, equipment purchases, services provided, and policies that guide organizational decision-making. The completed CAP should engage and empower residents, businesses, and institutions toward ownership and responsibility in ensuring a resilient and sustainable future through lowered GHG emissions. Updates to the process will be posted at www.CityOfAmes.org/Sustainability

AMES ELECTRIC SERVICES CELEBRATES 125 YEARS

Ames Electric Services continues to celebrate 125 years of public power and has partnered with the Ames History Museum for a small exhibit. A timeline of the electric utility highlights significant milestone events and two exhibit cases feature electric-production artifacts including a utility pole, an original metal utility pole tag, climbing gear, and other items. The Ames History Museum is located at 416 Douglas Ave. The museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 4 p.m.

“Ames is fortunate to have a long, successful history of locally controlled, dependable public power,” said Ames Electric Services Director Donald Kom. “Collaborating with the Ames History Museum to produce this exhibit allows us to share our utility’s story with the rest of the community.”

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Council meetings are held in the City Hall City Council Chambers, 515 Clark Ave. See [website](http://www.cityofames.org) for more information.

6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12

6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19 (workshop)

6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26

For more information about Ames City Council meeting, go to www.CityOfAmes.org/CCmeetings

HOME CLUBHOUSE

NOW OPEN!



BOOK YOUR SPECIAL EVENT AT THE NEW CLUBHOUSE TODAY!

- Birthday Parties • Work Outings • Family Reunions
- Class Reunions • Bachelor/Bachelorette Parties

Room	Occupancy Rate	Availability
Community Room	80 people \$100/hour	Year Round
Pro Shop	24 people \$50/hour	Nov. 1 – March 31
Both rooms	104 people \$125/hour	Nov. 1 – March 31

Contact Nate Pietz at nate.pietz@cityofames.org or 515.239.5363

AMES/ISU ICE ARENA

You can now follow the Ames/ISU Ice Arena on Facebook: @AmesISUIceArena, Instagram: amesIsuIcearena, and Twitter: @AmesISUIceArena to keep up to date on arena happenings, schedule changes and updates.

The Ice Arena is also available to rent or host a birthday party! Please contact Taylor Bassett at taylor.bassett@cityofames.org or 515.292.6835.



PARK SHELTERS

The last day for park shelter rentals is Sunday, Oct. 17. Please call 515.239.5350 to schedule your reservation.

NEW SESSIONS OF CLASSES START IN OCTOBER

OCTOBER 4

Adult fitness classes (in-person, recorded and Zoom classes)

OCTOBER 11

Youth swim lessons M/W
Adult swim lessons M/W

OCTOBER 12

Youth swim lessons T/TH
Pre-teen swim lessons T/Th

OCTOBER 13

Beginner salsa dancing (in-person and Zoom)

OCTOBER 14

Healthy Foot class

Register at www.AmesParkRec.org

OCTOBER 16

Youth tennis, First Aid/CPR/AED

OCTOBER 19

Youth and adult Tae Kwon Do

OCTOBER 25

Youth dance, youth tumbling, and youth gymnastics

ACTIVITIES OFFERED

YOUTH BASKETBALL (GRADES 3-6)

Youth basketball leagues are organized by grades 3-4 and 5-6. Teams will play in the Central Iowa Recreation League and play games at the Ames Middle School and nearby surrounding towns. Practice for fifth to sixth grade teams begins Oct. 25, and third to fourth grade teams start Nov. 29. Volunteer coaches are needed for this program. Please contact Ben Flaherty at ben.flaherty@cityofames.org if interested!

YOUTH BASKETBALL (GRADES K-2)

Instructors will lead kids through drills and games focusing on teamwork, fundamentals, and the rules of basketball. This session will be held at Kate Mitchell Elementary School Gymnasium starting Oct. 12.

DANCE AND GYMNASTICS

Instructors lead kids ages 3 and older through basic ballet, tap, and jazz moves, or an introduction to tumbling and gymnastics for different ages and skill levels. The next session starts Oct. 25. Spots are limited.

TENNIS LESSONS

Kids in first to sixth grade get the chance to learn the basics of tennis from professionals inside the Ames Fitness Center South Tennis Bubble. The next session starts Saturday, Oct. 16. Spots are limited.

ADULT BASKETBALL

Get a team signed up for men's officiated basketball leagues. Games are played on Wednesdays and Sundays at the Ames Middle School starting Oct. 27. Register by Oct. 11 to guarantee your spot!

WINTER INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

Women's and men's officiated leagues are offered Monday through Thursday, and coed leagues play on Friday evenings and Sundays. Games are played at the Community Center and start in January.

FOR DETAILS AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR ALL PROGRAMS, GO TO AMESPARKREC.ORG OR CALL 515.239.5350.

ENERGY Q&A

Q: *I'm thinking of purchasing an electric vehicle. Would I need to install a Level 2 charger and upgrade electrical service in my garage to charge it?*

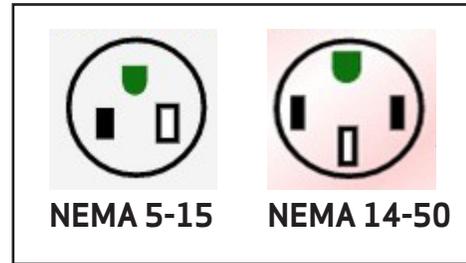
A: Not necessarily. A Level 1 charger plugs into a standard 120V outlet and can give you two to four miles of range per hour. If you do the math, that could mean 20+ hours to fully charge an empty battery. But don't panic yet. Most people don't use their full battery each day, and therefore don't need to fully charge from empty every night. If your daily commute is 30 miles or less, a Level 1 charger can easily replenish the charge you use on an average day. If the Level 1 solution can work for you most of the time, the new DC Fast Charger at 2108 Isaac Newton Dr is a good back-up for days that you need a little more juice.

If you're unsure about the Level 1 option, keep track of the miles you drive and the number of hours your car is parked at home for a couple weeks. Most people who've made the switch to an electric vehicle say that keeping their car charged is much easier than they anticipated. Many drivers with Level 2 chargers installed at home end up only plugging in once a week and find that the Level 1 option could have met their needs most of the time.

If you drive more than 30 miles per day, you may still be able to avoid installing a Level 2 charger if you can charge up at

work. If you can't charge at work, you drive more than 30 miles on most days, or if you just prefer the flexibility of a faster charge, a Level 2 charger might be for you.

The cost to install a Level 2 charger can vary dramatically, depending on the electric service that is already available in your garage. An electrician will be able to help you estimate the cost of Level 2 charging for your home and help you make your decision.



Level 1 Charger: Standard 120V outlet (NEMA 5-15)
 Level 2 Charger: 240V outlet like that used to serve an electric clothes dryer or oven (most commonly NEMA 14-50)

As always, feel free to call me at 515.239.5177 to chat about EVs and charging solutions for your specific situation!

Kayley Barrios Lain, Energy Services Coordinator
 515.239.5177 | Kayley.Lain@cityofames.org

AT-A-GLANCE ENERGY NUMBERS

FOR JULY 2021

1.1% ELECTRICITY THIS MONTH WAS GENERATED BY REFUSE DERIVED FUEL (RDF) FROM THE RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT (679,583 kWh)

7% ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY WIND POWER (4,335,670 kWh)

0.5% ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY SOLAR POWER (334,590 kWh)

7,194 MILES DRIVEN BY ELECTRIC VEHICLES USING PUBLIC EV CHARGING STATIONS

61 LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF 5,033

DEGREE DAY INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/ELECTRIC

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Power Out	515.239.5240
Street Light Out.....	515.239.5500
Utility Bills.....	515.239.5120
Energy Questions	515.239.5177
Tree Too Close to Electric Line?	515.239.5500
Digging? Contact Iowa One Call.....	811
Storm Water Concern.....	515.239.5160
Rusty Water.....	515.239.5551

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