



CITYSIDE

DECEMBER 2021

MEDICAL RESPONSE UPGRADE

Nobody wants to find themselves calling for an ambulance, but when help arrives, everyone wants the best care. On October 1, the Ames Fire Department began responding to medical calls as a conditional Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) service provider. This allows responders to carry specialized equipment and provide advanced medical care after arriving on scene. As more firefighters are trained, the City should receive full EMT service provider designation by January 2022.

The upgraded level is determined by the Iowa Department of Public Health and requires achieving identified standards. Through a collaboration with Mary Greeley Medical Center, Ames firefighters are receiving additional training, equipment, and supplies.

"The ongoing partnership between the City and Mary Greeley benefits residents when Ames firefighters – who are often first on the scene – are able to provide those life-saving skills that we weren't able to perform before," said Fire Chief Rich Higgins. "We are excited to offer this higher level of care."

IMPROVING SAFETY FOR ALL

Does the new traffic light at 13th Street and Clark Avenue look different to you? It should! This light was installed to assist pedestrians crossing 13th Street, a major arterial with four lanes of traffic. Pedestrians push the button to stop vehicles along 13th Street and proceed north or south. The Public Works Traffic Division continues to explore ways throughout the community to assist multimodal travelers in navigating the city safely and efficiently.



"There may be impediments in getting people to where they want to go regardless of their form of transportation," said Traffic Supervisor Brad Becker. "We look for ways to improve safety so people can feel comfortable with whatever method they use to get around Ames."



ARE YOU ON A SNOW ROUTE? THINGS TO KNOW WHEN IT SNOWS!

Winter weather is just around the corner and that means snow is not far behind. If you park on a snow route, you will want to know when the snow ordinance is in effect. Snow plowing

begins after two inches of snow accumulates on the major streets in Ames, and two inches of snowfall also activates the City's snow ordinance.

When the snow ordinance is in effect, drivers parked along snow routes – marked with red and white signs – need to move their vehicles to avoid ticketing and/or towing. Vehicles may return to the street when it has stopped snowing, no additional snow is forecast, and the

street has been plowed from curb to curb. Because this happens at different times throughout the city, there is no official announcement that the ordinance is over.

Notification about the snow ordinance will be shared with local media, the City's website (www.CityOfAmes.org), City Channel 12, and the City of Ames, Ames Public Works, and Ames Police social media platforms.

CITY NEWS TO USE

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Project Share Seeks Donations
- Franklin Park Improvements
- Parks & Recreation Notes
- Energy Q&A

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

- Most City of Ames offices will be closed Thursday, Dec. 23 and Friday, Dec. 24.
- Additionally, most City offices will be closed on Friday, Dec. 31, 2021, for New Year's Day 2022.



PROJECT SHARE PROVIDES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR UTILITIES

A simple way to share the warmth with those in need is to make a monthly pledge or a one-time contribution to Project Share.

Project Share is a program developed by Ames Electric Services to assist low-income customers with winter utility bills. A committee appointed by the Ames City Council determines the permissible uses of the funds donated to Project Share. The guidelines established by this committee ensure that 100 percent of every contribution is used to assist low-income customers. Last year, Ames Electric Services contributed \$4,575 in staff time



and materials toward the cost of administering this program. Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA) shares in the administration of the program

by determining the eligibility of households for Project Share funds.

Project Share's success is the result of our customers' compassion and generosity. Through

your support, Project Share has provided \$481,882 in assistance to 3,977 households since the program's inception in 1990. Last winter alone, Project Share provided \$22,820 in assistance to 161 households. With your continued generosity, more Ames households will stay safe and warm this winter.

Contribution to Project Share

I wish to make a monthly contribution to Project Share. I understand this amount will be listed on my monthly utility bill and that I can cancel my pledge at any time by contacting the City of Ames Utility Customer Service office.

\$1/month \$2/month \$5/month \$10/month other \$___/month

I wish to make a one-time contribution to Project Share rather than making a monthly pledge. I have enclosed a \$_____ donation to Project Share.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please return this form with your utility bill payment or mail to: Ames Electric Services, Attn: Project Share Committee, P.O. Box 811, Ames, IA 50010-0811.

FRANKLIN PARK GETS NEW LOOK

A west Ames neighborhood park has been upgraded with new amenities and playground equipment. Franklin Park, 147 S. Franklin Ave., features a new shelter with electricity, drinking fountain, grills, picnic tables, trash cans, and a two-bay set of swings. Final aspects of the project, which will be completed in the spring of 2022, include a shared use path through the park that includes lights.

"Investing in parks strengthens neighborhoods because parks quickly become the gathering spot that connects neighbors," said Ames Parks and Recreation Director Keith Abraham. "In addition to facilitating social connections, parks encourage outdoor play and physical activity in a safe space."

Nearly a century ago, Franklin Park was part of federal property used as a forestry and conservation corps camp. The land was later acquired by Iowa State University and leased to the City of Ames as parkland. In 2017, the City of Ames purchased the land from the university.



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Council meetings are held in the City Hall Council Chambers, 515 Clark Ave., and streamed via the City website, Facebook and YouTube

6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14

6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21 (workshop)

6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG

RENTALS

HOMWOOD CLUBHOUSE



The new Homewood Clubhouse is a year-round facility that features a large room available to rent for meetings, birthday parties, holiday parties, graduations, and more.

ROOM OCCUPANCY RATE

Community Room: 80 people (\$100/hour)

Pro Shop: 24 people (\$50/hour)

Both Rooms: 104 people (\$125/hour)

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL

Nate Pietz, nate.pietz@cityofames.org,
or call 515.239.5363



AMES/ISU ICE ARENA

Have your next party at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena! Group discounts offered during public skates, or rent the whole facility for your own private party! Make sure you ask about our food/birthday packages! Skate rentals are available during facility rentals.

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL

Taylor Bassett, taylor.bassett@cityofames.org,
or call 515.292.6835



UPCOMING CLASSES

WELLNESS

GROUP FITNESS

The first winter session of all group fitness classes will begin Monday, Jan. 3, 2022. Ames Parks & Recreation offers more than 50 group fitness classes weekly! This includes: cycle, TRX, zumba, step interval, strength, older adult classes, aqua classes, yoga, and so much more!

TAE KWON DO

Ames Parks & Recreation winter session of Tae Kwon Do begins Tuesday, Jan. 11. This popular martial arts class is open to individuals age 5 and older. Tae Kwon Do enhances self-confidence, balance, flexibility, and physical endurance. Beginner, intermediate, and advanced classes will be offered Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday evenings at the Ames Middle School.

YOUTH AND ADULT ACTIVITIES

START SMART (AGES 3-5)

Participants will learn basic basketball skills through fun drills and games. Parents will partner with their children and be led through activities by instructors. The program will be held in the Community Center gym on Saturday mornings starting Jan. 22, 2022.

TENNIS LESSONS (GRADES 1-6)

Participants will get the chance to learn the basics of tennis from the professionals inside the Ames Fitness Center South Tennis Bubble. Winter break camp is held weekday mornings Dec. 27-30.

Saturday sessions begin Jan. 8, 2022.

Spots are limited!

ADULT VOLLEYBALL WINTER SEASON

Men's and women's leagues offered Mondays-Thursday evenings, with coed on Friday nights and Sunday afternoons. Prizes awarded for regular season champions, as well as end-of-season tournament champions. League games will start the week of Jan. 24, 2022, at the Community Center gym. Registration ends Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022.

HOW TO REGISTER & MORE!

To find out more information or to register for any Parks & Recreation activity, visit www.AmesParkRec.org. or call 515.239.5350

STAY IN TOUCH WITH ALL PARKS &
RECREATION OFFERINGS BY
FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!
FACEBOOK: AMES PARKS & RECREATION

ENERGY Q&A

Q: I've been noticing more and more gas-powered tools and machines for a home now being offered in all-electric models. Any thoughts about switching to electric versions as a way to decrease my carbon footprint?

Many machines and appliances previously limited to fossil fuels are now available in electric models. Replacing a gas-powered tool with an electric counterpart is an easy way to go green. As the weather turns cooler, why not consider an electric snow blower? A shovel is the ultimate zero-emissions snow removal tool, but if you're not up to the required workout or don't enjoy the cold, going electric may fit your needs.

Electric snow blowers are smaller, lighter, and quieter than their gasoline counterparts. They also have zero direct emissions, fewer overall emissions, and much less maintenance. Best of all, no more gasoline mixing, spilling, and storage in your garage, and no hassle of draining the tank at the end of season. While the technology for electric machines and appliances is improving and works for most urban applications, the

performance and battery endurance are limited. Electric blowers can move 8-12 inches of snow in a 'mid-size' area (less than 60-foot-long driveway). So, if you're only moving snow on sidewalks and/or a short driveway, this could be a good option for you. When you're looking for a blower, pay attention to the quality and size of the battery. Some batteries only last for 15 minutes, while others can work hard for an hour or more. If you're considering a corded model, be sure to get an extension cord intended for low temperature use.

If you run a snow removal business or have very large areas to maintain, an electric blower probably won't work for you yet, but keep an eye on the improved capabilities each year!

Electric lawn mowers, however, are available for nearly any lawn - even commercial ones! But let's save that discussion for spring.

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

AT-A-GLANCE ENERGY NUMBERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

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

3.5% ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY REFUSE DERIVED FUEL (RDF) FROM RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT (1,899,000 kWh)

11.7% ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY WIND POWER (6,283,858 kWh)

0.4% ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY SOLAR POWER (231,806 kWh)

7,470 MILES DRIVEN BY ELECTRIC VEHICLES USING PUBLIC EV CHARGING STATIONS

FLEET MAKEUP:

21 Autos	50% use alternate fuel: (2) full electric (5) hybrid and (5) E85
59 Pickups	50% use alternate fuel: (29) use E85 gasohol
57 Vans and SUVs	50% use alternate fuel: (11) hybrids and (19) use E85
44 Heavy-duty Diesel Trucks	100% use alternate fuel: (31) 20% biodiesel (14) 80% biodiesel
11 Light-duty Gas Trucks	0% all use E10 gasohol

FLEET BIODIESEL PROJECT -

12 trucks used more than **1,431** gallons of biodiesel this month, reducing carbon by **13.5** metric tons.

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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