



CITYSIDE

MARCH 2022

LIVING THE DREAM: CLASS ALLOWS PARTICIPANTS TO DRIVE ZAMBONI

Have you always dreamed of being in the driver’s seat of the ice resurfer (Zamboni) at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena? Now your dream can become a reality.

Ames Parks and Recreation is offering the “Drive the Zamboni Experience” in the form of a two-hour class. Each participant will first get background and insight into ice maintenance through a classroom session. This will be followed by climbing aboard the Zamboni for a spin around the ice.

This first-time ever opportunity will be held on Saturday, March 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena. The cost is \$95. Participants must be age 18 or older with a valid driver’s license.

The experience even includes a commemorative photo and t-shirt!

How to register: visit www.amesparkrec.org, call the Community Center at 515.239.5350 or the Ice Arena at 515.292.6835, or register in person at either facility. Spots are limited!



SPRING HYDRANT FLUSHING BEGINS IN MARCH

The Ames Public Works Department plans to begin flushing rust from water mains beginning Wednesday, March 23, weather permitting, and continuing for approximately two weeks. Each year, this program provides Ames residents with the safest and highest quality water possible.

Flushing serves the following purposes:

- Dislodges and removes mineral deposits and sediments from the water mains
- Verifies the proper operation of fire hydrants and valves
- Helps identify weaknesses in the water system



- Checks for closed valves and weak flows in the water system

During the flushing process, Ames residents may experience rust in the water, even when crews are not working in the immediate area.

To avoid rust, follow these tips:

- Turn on cold water first to check for rust. This avoids drawing it into your hot water heater.
- If the water looks rusty, run the tap for one to two minutes until it clears.

If rust discolors clothing in a washing machine, rust remover is available at the City Hall information desk, 515 Clark Ave.; Ames fire stations; the Water Treatment Plant, 1800 E. 13th St.; or by calling 515.239.5550.

Specific information about the times, dates, and locations of the crews will be posted at www.CityOfAmes.org.

CITY NEWS TO USE

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Project Share Helps Those in Need
- Ames Parks and Recreation Update
- Energy Q&A

TRY AMES ON THE GO!

Use the Ames on the Go app for the fastest, easiest way to submit non-emergency reports such as pot holes, signage issues, or dark streetlights to the City of Ames. The app is available at iTunes and Google Play stores, as well as at www.CityOfAmes.org.



PROJECT SHARE USES DONATIONS TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

The Ames Electric Services Project Share program continues to be a success because of the compassion and generosity of our customers. This winter season, through December 31, 2021, we have been able to provide \$4,900 in assistance to 34 households. 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.

A committee appointed by the Ames City Council determines the permissible uses of the funds donated to the Project Share program. The committee has adopted guidelines to ensure that every dollar contributed is used to assist low-income customers.

The purpose of the Ames Electric Services Project Share program is to solicit and accept contributions which are used to assist our low-income customers.



All expenses incurred administering the program are covered by Ames Electric Services as a donation in-kind. Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA) assists the City of Ames in the administration of the program by determining eligibility of applicants for Project Share funds.

Please Consider a 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

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.

Budget hearings: 5:15 p.m. Feb. 1,2,3

Meetings: 5:15 p.m. Feb. 8

6 p.m. Feb. 22

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/CCMEETINGS

ADOPT A FLOWER GARDEN PROGRAM

Did you know volunteer gardeners plant and maintain approximately 50 flower gardens throughout Ames parks, with flowers and materials donated by Holub Garden & Greenhouses?

Volunteers are responsible for spring planting and maintenance throughout the growing season. City staff provide guidance on

plant selection and maintenance, and assist with watering. The program attracts both experienced and novice gardeners. Look for the volunteer gardener's name near each garden sign. For more information or to inquire about gardening opportunities, contact Joe Newman at 515.239.5341 or joe.newman@cityofames.org.



Now Hiring

Would you like a job where you can have fun and be a part of a team? Join Ames Parks & Recreation! Apply for various positions with the Ice Arena, Aquatics, Community Center, and youth and adult activities by visiting www.CityOfAmes.org

Homewood Golf Course



Homewood Golf Course Opening Day is Friday, April 1, and that's no joke! Season passes and punch cards are now available at Homewood Clubhouse, Community Center, and online at www.AmesParkRec.org.

AMES AUDITORIUM EVENTS



THE REMINDERS: The Reminders (Hip-Hop Duo) will be performing March 5 and hosting workshops March 1, 4 and 5. This is a performance the whole family can enjoy!

VIRTUALLY ANYWHERE CONCERT SERIES: The series continues live and virtually every Friday night in February and March at 7 p.m.

ISU TAKEOVER: Several student bands will be performing with an eclectic mix of talented student musicians at 7 p.m. on March 25. This event is being co-sponsored by the student organization GENRE.

*Purchase your tickets now at the Community Center or online at www.AmesParkRec.org!

UPCOMING CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

YOUTH AND ADULT ACTIVITIES

- ADULT SUMMER SOFTBALL** (men's & co-ed leagues)
- TENNIS LESSONS** (youth & adult)
- YOUTH SPRING SOCCER CO-ED LEAGUE** (grades 1st-6th)
- KIDDIE KICKERS** (ages 5-6)
- START SMART SOCCER** (ages 3-5)
- *Volunteer coaches are needed for youth soccer! If interested or for more information, contact Ben Flaherty at ben.flaherty@cityofames.org

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- ADULT SAND VOLLEYBALL**
- ADULT PICKLEBALL**
- FIRST AID/CPR/AED CLASS**



NEW FITNESS & WELLNESS

- HEALTHY FOOT CLASS**
Barefoot class
- TAE KWON DO BEGINNER CLASSES**
For ages 5 & up
- AQUATIC CLASSES**
Beginning in March!
- PERSONAL TRAINING**
Personalized plans
- FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER**
Opening day will be Saturday, May 28! Pool passes purchased by May 1 will receive a 10% discount.

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

ENERGY Q&A

Q: How does the City of Ames help businesses become more sustainable?

A: Great question! Ames Electric Services, in cooperation with the Office of Sustainability at Iowa State University, administers a program in Ames aimed at helping businesses become more aware of sustainability issues and formulate a plan to achieve improvement. Businesses are encouraged to become sustainability leaders through participation in the “Smart Business Challenge.”

The Smart Business Challenge began with the citywide sesquicentennial celebration in 2014 and has continued. Ames Electric Services continues to reach out to businesses to participate in this comprehensive program. The goal is to support sustainable practices in Ames through special opportunities including energy and water conservation, transportation efficiency, waste reduction, improved indoor and outdoor environmental quality, carbon footprint reduction, and community engagement.

Every January, Ames Electric Services hosts an annual Smart Business Challenge Recognition Luncheon which acknowledges businesses who’ve made strides in energy conservation. The event provides information about other City conservation programs and includes an energy conservation

keynote speaker. The most recent event focused on the City’s efforts at becoming a low carbon community through developing a community-wide Climate Action Plan.

Businesses involved with the Smart Business Challenge are recognized for the work they are already doing and encouraged

to attain greater levels of sustainability. The result is a better customer experience and the implementation of a business energy plan that saves money while helping the environment.

Business leaders may find it difficult to invest in conservation and sustainability when focusing on growing the business. Participating in the Smart Business Challenge is free and includes an energy audit and the assignment of a dedicated team to help the business through the process. For more information, visit www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartBusinessChallenge.



AT-A-GLANCE ENERGY NUMBERS FOR DECEMBER 2021

2.2% ELECTRICITY THIS MONTH WAS GENERATED BY REFUSE DERIVED FUEL (RDF) FROM THE RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT (OR 1,354,748 kWh)

17.1% ELECTRICITY THIS MONTH WAS GENERATED BY WIND ENERGY (OR 10,452,850 kWh)

0.3% ELECTRICITY THIS MONTH WAS GENERATED BY SOLAR ENERGY (OR 186,596 kWh)

47 LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF 5,272

9,000 VEHICLE MILES DRIVEN BY ELECTRIC VEHICLES (EVs) USING PUBLIC EV CHARGING STATIONS

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

INFORMATION

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

CitySide is a publication of the City of Ames, Iowa
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 Questions?
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