



# CITYSIDE

July 2022

## RUMMAGE RAMPAGE PROVIDES NEW HOMES FOR USABLE ITEMS

The annual Rummage RAMPage is back for its sixth year! The community sale will be held from Friday, July 29, through Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Ames Intermodal Facility parking ramp, 129 Hayward Ave. The City of Ames, in partnership with the ISU Office of Sustainability, hosts this community garage sale designed to keep reusable items out of the waste stream.

The event grew from the desire to repurpose items often left on the curb during the annual move out and lease changeovers, and to keep these items out of the landfill. Rummage RAMPage works by selling items that are donated. Volunteers from local non-profit groups help run the sale and share in any profit. Rummage RAMPage has continued to grow each year, with the 2021 event

# RUMMAGE RAMPAGE

diverting more than 90,000 pounds of furniture and housewares from the landfill and raising more than \$40,000 for local non-profit agencies.

For more information, go to [www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRampage](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRampage) or contact Resource Recovery Plant Superintendent Bill Schmitt at 515.239.5137 or [bill.schmitt@cityofames.org](mailto:bill.schmitt@cityofames.org), or Ames Sustainability Coordinator/ISU Director of Sustainability Merry Rankin at 515.294.5052 or [mrankin@iastate.edu](mailto:mrankin@iastate.edu).

### Rummage RAMPage SCHEDULE

**Item Drop-off ONLY**  
Friday, July 29 noon - 6 p.m.

**Sales and Drop-off**  
Saturday, July 30, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sunday, July 31, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Monday, Aug. 1, noon - 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, Aug. 2, noon - 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, Aug. 3, noon - 6 p.m.  
Thursday, Aug. 4, noon - 6 p.m.  
Friday, Aug. 5, noon - 6 p.m.

**Half-Price Sales (no drop-off)**  
Saturday, Aug. 6, 8 a.m. - noon  
[www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRampage](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRampage)

## STORM DRAINS FEATURE ART

To raise awareness about water quality, the Ames Public Art Commission (PAC) has engaged resident artists to educate the community about the importance of protecting our watersheds and environment. PAC selected designs to paint on storm drains in Campustown and Downtown with a theme of keeping these waterways clean and free of pollutants.



## FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

Join City of Ames departments at the annual Fourth of July parade. Ames Police, Fire, CyRide, Electric, Water, Public Works, and the Ames Public Library Bookmobile are just a few of the many vehicles included this year. The parade begins at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 4.

Start your holiday off with the Independence Day fireworks at dusk on Sunday, July 3. Fireworks typically begin between 9:30 and 10 p.m., and will be launched from near Jack Trice Stadium.

## CITY NEWS TO USE

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Tree City Designation Moving this Summer?
- Water Art Contest
- Parks & Recreation News
- Energy Q&A

### FOURTH OF JULY CLOSINGS:

Most City of Ames departments and divisions will be closed Monday, July 4, in recognition of Independence Day. Offices will resume normal business hours on Tuesday, July 5.



## AMES NAMED "TREE CITY USA"

The City of Ames has again been recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources as a "Tree City USA" by demonstrating a commitment to caring for and managing public trees. To qualify for the Tree City USA award, a city must have either a city forester or an active city tree board, have a tree ordinance, spend at least \$2 per capita annually for its community forestry program, and have a tree planting and maintenance plan.

The City of Ames has been a recognized "Tree City USA" since 1983. The Tree City USA program is a national program that provides the framework for community forestry management for cities and towns across America. Ames has approximately 11,000 right-of-way trees, 3,500 park trees, and 700 to 800 acres of public-owned woodland areas. The Parks and Recreation Department and City Forester perform all the work necessary to maintain the health of these trees.

Trees absorb carbon dioxide, improve water quality through filtration and erosion control, provide temperature control and wind breaks, and support wildlife habitat necessary for biodiversity. For more information about trees in Ames, go to [www.CityOfAmes.org/trees](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/trees). For concerns about conditions, maintenance, or safety of trees at city parks or on city right-of-way, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 515.239.5341.

## Moving Soon? Call us Today to Update Your Utilities!

If a move is in your future, make a point to contact Utility Customer Services as soon as possible to have your utility service started, stopped, or transferred.



You may submit your start, stop, or transfer

request at [www.amesutilities.com](http://www.amesutilities.com) or by contacting the Utility Customer

Service office at 515.239.5120. The office is located in City Hall, 515 Clark Ave. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## AMES PUBLIC LIBRARY OFFERS SUMMER FUN!

Read Beyond the Beaten Path with Ames Public Library's 2022 Summer Reading Challenge! All ages can earn prizes by tracking their reading on the summer challenge game board.

The Library will also have a variety of special events throughout the summer featuring magicians, artists, animals, and more along with free lunches for kids and teens.

### Summer Book Sale

Be sure to stop by Ames Public Library's huge Book Sale from Thursday, July 7 through Sunday, July 10. You'll find great deals on used books, movies, and more!



Pay \$2 admission from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 7. Admission is free from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 8 and 9. The sale continues from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 10, with \$1 admission and take all you want for free! For more information, visit [www.amespubliclibrary.org](http://www.amespubliclibrary.org).

## 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.

Meetings: 6 p.m. July 12  
6 p.m. July 19 (workshop)  
6 p.m. July 26

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT [WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/CCMEETINGS](http://WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/CCMEETINGS)

# NOW HIRING!

## JOIN PARKS AND RECREATION

*Interested in a part-time job with flexible hours that allows you to work outdoors and within a team environment?*

VIEW ALL THE CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES ONLINE AT [WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/JOBS](http://WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/JOBS)

### DIGITAL BROCHURE

Summer is here! Check out all the Parks & Recreation opportunities in the digital brochures, online at [www.amesparkrec.org](http://www.amesparkrec.org).

### FACILITY CALENDARS

Facility calendars for Furman Aquatic Center, Ames/ISU Ice Arena, Community Center Gymnasium/Weight & Cardio Room can be accessed at [www.CityOfAmes.org/prcalendars](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/prcalendars).

### DRIVE THE ZAMBONI EXPERIENCE

Have you ever wanted to drive a Zamboni? Well, here is your chance! Join us for a great experience learning about ice resurfacing and taking the Zamboni for a test drive on the ice. The next class is on Wednesday, July 27, and is open to those ages 18 years and older with a valid driver's license. For more information, email [taylor.bassett@cityofames.org](mailto:taylor.bassett@cityofames.org).

### FREE CONCERTS AT BANDSHELL

The Ames Municipal Band performs free concerts at 8 p.m. every Thursday. Concerts will continue through July 28!

### FREE YOGA IN THE PARK

Classes continue at Bandshell Park (6th & Duff Ave.) from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturdays through July 30. (No class on July 2.) Classes are conducted by yoga instructors from various yoga studios in Ames. Wear comfortable clothing and bring your own mat or towel.

### HOMWOOD GOLF COURSE

Have you made it out to Homewood Golf Course this season? Join us for a round of golf or rent the clubhouse for your next meeting or social event. Reserve your tee time at [www.amesparkrec.org](http://www.amesparkrec.org). For group outings and rentals, call 515.239.5347 or email [nate.pietz@cityofames.org](mailto:nate.pietz@cityofames.org).

## REGISTER NOW!!!

- **Summer Camp (grades K-6):** Sessions July 11-14; 18-22; 25-29. Each session's activities vary, with different themes throughout the summer. Join us for the upcoming Heroes and Superheroes, Surf's Up, and Carnival sessions to end the summer!
- **Superhero Party at Furman Aquatic Center:** Party with a Superhero from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Saturday, July 16. Take pictures, create themed crafts, and swim in the splash pool. Donuts and juice will be provided. Registration is \$25 for one adult (ages 16+) and one child.
- **Log Rolling:** Open to all ages from 8:15 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays at Furman Aquatic Center. Staff will provide demonstrations and instruction.
- **Adult Water Polo:** Join the fast-paced game! Open to experienced and novice players from 8 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays at Furman Aquatic Center. Participants must be at least 16 years old and comfortable swimming in deep water.
- **Junior Lifeguard Program (July 11-15):** Program designed for 11- to 14-year-olds to provide a foundation of knowledge, attitudes, and skills for future lifeguards. This foundation consists of five key areas: prevention of drowning and diving accidents, physical fitness, emergency response, leadership, and professionalism.
- **Little Tennis (ages 3-5):** Parent/child class to learn the basics of tennis. A tennis pro will lead instruction. One parent per child. Session begins on July 5.
- **Youth Tennis (ages 6-16):** The program will emphasize specific skills and games for each age level using the USTA quick start format. Two sessions begin in July: July 11-21 and July 25-August 11.
- **Adult Tennis (ages 17+):** Learn or improve your tennis skills with the help of the Ames Racquet and Fitness Tennis Pros. Next session begins July 5.
- **Aqua Classes at Furman:** Deep Water Fitness and Total Aqua Conditioning offered at various times and days through the week. Next session begins on July 11!

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION: [WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG](http://WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG)

PARKS & RECREATION: 515.239.5350 | COMMUNITY CENTER: 515 CLARK AVENUE



# ENERGY Q&A

***Q. I understand that scheduled maintenance is very important to operating a dependable, reliable electric system. However, I have concerns about how long a scheduled outage could last and what I'm supposed to do if I get a notice. Can you provide any tips?***

A. Great question. Your apprehension is completely understandable. If customers get a letter in the mail, a text alert, or automated phone call saying a maintenance power outage is scheduled for their neighborhood, this is often followed by several thoughts. Is my food going to be OK? Will my dogs stay cool in the afternoon heat? Will my kids be able to cope without wifi and the electronic devices they use that depend on it? We know this is inconvenient and disruptive for the daily routine of our customers.

We're glad your question acknowledges the important role scheduled maintenance plays in keeping safe, reliable service for our customers today and into the future. The two primary reasons for maintenance outages is to replace aging infrastructure or to upgrade and modernize the distribution grid. We work hard to minimize the impacts to our customers, and that means we make every effort to keep scheduled maintenance outages to four hours or less.

According to Centers for Disease Control (CDC), unopened refrigerators can keep food safe up to four hours. The news



is even better for freezers. Freezers can keep food safe for 24 to 48 hours depending on how full the freezer is packed. (Full freezers can stay cold longer.)

Once customers have received notice of a scheduled outage, there are several things that can be done to make the experience go more smoothly.

- Shut off or disconnect all sensitive electronics before the outage to prevent damage or loss of data.
- Customers with an automatic garage opener or a community security gate should review the instructions and learn how to operate them manually.
- Customers with an alarm system should alert their security company of the outage. The outage will affect alarm systems and may affect private phone systems.

We understand no one likes to be without electric service, and we thank our customers for their patience and understanding while we make improvements.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY NUMBERS

**0.5%** ELECTRICITY GENERATED FROM SUNSMART COMMUNITY SOLAR FARM OR 308,337 kW

**2.6%** ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY REFUSE DERIVED FUEL (RDF) FROM THE RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT OR 1,507,607 kW

**13%** ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY WIND OR 7,596,539 kW

**14** LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF 5,431

**3,860 kWh** HOURS OF VEHICLE CHARGING AT PUBLIC ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS RESULTING IN 11,580 MILES DRIVEN

DEGREE DAY INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT [WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/ELECTRIC](http://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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