



# CITYSIDE

**AUGUST 2022**

## **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT RETURNS ON AUGUST 2**

Ames Police Department is partnering with Hope in Christ Back to School (HICBTS) to host the annual National Night Out gathering. The event will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug 2, at Friendship Baptist Church, 2400 Mortensen Road. Parking will be available at the Hansen Agriculture Center, 2508 Mortensen Road.

National Night Out encourages residents to celebrate community crime prevention efforts, strengthen community connections, and build neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. The event will have activities for people of all ages, including school supplies



*Police officers talk to participants at last year's National Night Out.*

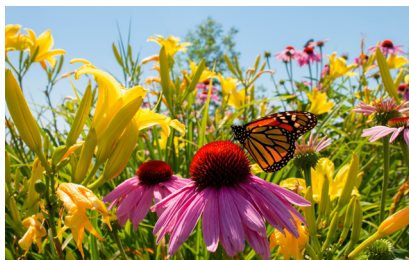
giveaway, food and treats, tours of emergency vehicles, and much more.

“The safety of our community depends on both law enforcement and the neighbors we serve working together,” said Ames Police Community Resource Officer Kurt Kruger. “This is a great opportunity for neighbors and officers to get to know each other.”

More information at [www.CityOfAmes.org](http://www.CityOfAmes.org) and on the City of Ames and Ames Police Facebook and Twitter pages. For questions, contact Community Resource Officer Kurt Kruger at 515.239.4532.

## **SMART WATERSHEDS OFFERS NATIVE LANDSCAPING REBATE**

Have you considered replacing some of your lawn with native landscaping? Do you have an area that's difficult to mow because of a steep slope or is frequently shady or wet? That part of your property might adapt well to native vegetation.



The use of native plants in landscapes provides a connection to our prairie heritage. Once established, native plants are aesthetically pleasing and require little watering, fertilizing, or mowing. The reduced maintenance can lead to significant cost savings when compared to labor-intensive turf grass.

Native landscaping attracts songbirds, dragonflies, butterflies, and other desirable species. It also helps restore soil quality over time and helps landscapes absorb more rainfall, reducing the amount of runoff from urban spaces.

The City of Ames Smart Watersheds Program has a rebate for up to \$350 for areas converted to native landscaping. The minimum area required is 100 square feet, so you can start small if you like.

Other rebates offered include incentives for lawn soil quality restoration, native trees, native grass turf, rain gardens, composters, and rain barrels. For more information and rebate forms, go to [www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartWatersheds](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartWatersheds). City of Ames utility customers are eligible to apply.

## **CITY NEWS TO USE**

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Water Art Entries Sought
- Rummage RAMPage Schedule
- Moving? Don't Forget Your Pets
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### **CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

To get the latest information on street construction occurring throughout Ames, check our website. A summary of projects and a map is available at [www.CityOfAmes.org/construction](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/construction).



## ART CONTEST ENTRIES SOUGHT

Entries continue to be accepted for the 2022 City of Ames Water Treatment Plant Public Art Contest and Exhibition through 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9. Each year, this exhibit is used to obtain public art for the water treatment plant. Artists may enter up to three two-dimensional pieces of art for the contest and exhibition. The focus for each piece must be related to this year's theme, "The Future of Water."



*"Raccoon at Sunset" by Gary Hoard was voted Best in Show for 2021.*

Water and Pollution Control staff will jury the entries from submitted photos. Artists whose work is selected for exhibition will be notified by Sept. 23. Art selected will be on display from Oct. 17 through Nov. 4, 2022, at the Water Treatment Plant, 1800 E. 13th Street.

For a complete list of contest rules and an entry form, go to [www.CityOfAmes.org/ArtContest](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/ArtContest). For more information, email [ArtContest@CityofAmes.org](mailto:ArtContest@CityofAmes.org) or call 515.239.5150.

## MOVING SOON? DON'T FORGET YOUR PLANTS AND PETS

Graduating, moving, or leaving over a school break are all very exciting changes, but these events may pose some logistical questions. How are you going to move your aquarium?



Who will watch your pet if you move? Does your new apartment

allow snakes? There are many decisions to be made, but this one is always wrong: never dump your tank into a waterway or release your pet into the wild. Most pets released to the wild do not survive, and many suffer before they die. If they do manage to survive, they can wreak major havoc! Releasing non-native plants or animals into natural areas can harm the environment and the economy.

Many plants used in aquariums become invasive species if introduced into a natural system. Some of the most notorious invasive

species in the United States were originally sold as pets or plants for water gardens and aquariums.

Prospective pet owners should make sure they will be able to accommodate all life stages of a pet before buying or adopting it. If your circumstances change, the responsible choice is to find your pet a new home.

If you are not able to place your pet with another caring owner, contact the Ames Animal Shelter (515.239.5530), a natural resource agency, or even a pet store near you.

## Rummage RAMPage is Back!

The City of Ames, in partnership with the ISU Office of Sustainability, is again hosting Rummage RAMPage, a community garage sale designed to keep reusable items out of the waste stream.

### 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

### Ames Intermodal Facility

129 Hayward Ave.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Council meetings are in City Hall City Council Chambers, 515 Clark Ave.

6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 9

6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16 (workshop)

6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23



**THE COMMUNITY CENTER** (gymnasium, weight room/cardio rooms) will be closed for one week in August for annual maintenance. View the facility calendar at [www.CityofAmes.org/prcalendars](http://www.CityofAmes.org/prcalendars) for updates!

## REGISTRATION DEADLINES

With fall right around the corner, registration deadlines for the following programs are below:

- **Adult Fall Softball (men's & co-ed leagues):** Aug. 4
- **Co-Ed Adult Sand Volleyball (6v6 & 4v4):** July 31
- **Youth Soccer (grades 1-6):** Registration closes Aug. 12; skills assessment Aug. 15
- **Kiddie Kickers (ages 5-6):** Aug. 31
- **Start Smart Soccer (ages 3-5):** Aug. 31
- **Youth Volleyball (grades 3-6):** Aug. 14
- **Dance and Gymnastics (ages 2-6+; variety of levels):** Aug. 31
- **Tennis Lessons:** New sessions begin in August. Open to all levels of tennis players.
- **Fall Fitness Sessions:** Begin Aug. 22

### TAE KWON DO

The fall session begins Aug. 22. This popular martial arts class is open to individuals (ages 5

and older) and enhances self-confidence, balance, flexibility, and physical endurance. Beginner,

intermediate, and advanced classes will be offered Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday evenings.

VIEW ALL OFFERINGS AT [WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG](http://WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG)

## FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER

Conquer the Current: 8-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 6. Complete two miles against the current in the Lazy River.

Furman Aquatic Center offers end of season passes valid Aug. 1 to Sept. 5, which can be purchased during your visit or by calling 515.239.5350. The facility calendar can be accessed at [www.CityofAmes.org/prcalendars](http://www.CityofAmes.org/prcalendars).

## AMES/ISU ICE ARENA

**Hiring! Shift leaders for all hours of operation (includes early mornings and late evenings) and cashiers are needed. Apply online at [www.CityOfAmes.org/Jobs](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/Jobs)**

Host your next event (skating, hockey, and broomball) at Ames/ISU Ice Arena.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Taylor Bassett at 515.292.6835 or email [taylor.bassett@cityofames.org](mailto:taylor.bassett@cityofames.org) to reserve the ice today!



## HOMWOOD CLUBHOUSE



Join us on Sunday, Aug. 7, at Homewood Golf Course to celebrate Youth Day! Golfers 17 and younger play FREE if accompanied by a paid adult between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Book your tee time today by calling the clubhouse at 515.239.5363 or at [www.AmesParkRec.org](http://www.AmesParkRec.org)

## BROOKSIDE WADING POOL

Brookside Wading Pool (1325 Sixth St.) is open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. through Aug. 14. Daily admission is \$1.

## CANOE, KAYAKS, & PADDLE BOARD RENTALS

JAX Outdoor Gear rents canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddle boards from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through Sept. 5, at Ada Hayden Heritage Park, weather permitting. Rental rates for 30 and/or 60 minutes are as follows: canoes, \$13/\$15; kayaks, \$13/\$15; stand-up paddle board, NA/\$17.

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION: [WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG](http://WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG)  
PARKS & RECREATION: 515.239.5350 | COMMUNITY CENTER: 515 CLARK AVENUE

# ENERGY Q&A

**Q: As summer temperatures climb, how can I keep my home cool this season while using less electricity?**

**A:** Many Ames Electric Services customers are asking the same question about how to reduce electric usage and keep their utility bills in check during summer months. Having locally produced power increases our ability to provide electricity during these high-demand months, but conserving energy is always a smart idea. This summer is projected to be a hot one and even small steps can help make a dent in utility demand.

**Install a programmable thermostat.** Cooling is usually a home’s largest summer electric load. A programmable thermostat saves you money by reducing the energy for cooling when nobody is home, especially unoccupied hours that fall during peak usage periods. Sign up for Ames Electric Services’ Prime Time Power and your air conditioner will automatically cycle off for 7.5 minutes of every 30 only during “critical peak” events. (These occur fewer than 10 times a year). You’ll get a \$5 credit on your utility bill every summer month.

**Delay appliance usage or increase efficiency of appliances used during peak.** Most dishwashers have a 4- or 8-hour delay button. Using washers and dryers during non-peak hours can be harder to plan because you need to transfer clothes and fold them. If you can’t change the timing of your laundry chores, you can make it more energy efficient by washing with cold

water and hang drying outside whenever possible.

**Replace all light bulbs with LEDs.** There’s no downside to LEDs! They’re affordable, they come in various color temperatures, they will save you money on your electric bill, and they last longer. Using LEDs and nothing but LEDs is the best option available – economically and environmentally – for energy conservation.



**Make dinner on the grill.** Cooking dinner on a hot summer evening is a double whammy if you have an electric stove or oven. You use electricity to run cooking appliances, which heats up the kitchen, which makes your air conditioner work harder. On hotter days, consider grilling out in a shady portion of your yard. (And if you don’t have a good shade tree on your property, check out the Native Tree Rebate through Smart Watersheds!)

**Joel Zook, Energy Services Coordinator**  
515.239.5177 | [Joel.Zook@cityofames.org](mailto:Joel.Zook@cityofames.org)

## RENEWABLE ENERGY NUMBERS

**0.5%** ELECTRICITY GENERATED FROM SUNSMART COMMUNITY SOLAR FARM OR 336,512 kW

**3.3%** ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY REFUSE DERIVED FUEL (RDF) FROM THE RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT OR 2,092,078 kW

**12.1%** ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY WIND OR 7,756,290 kW

**25** LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF 5,456 TOTAL

**4,090 kWh** OF VEHICLE CHARGING AT PUBLIC ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS RESULTING IN 12,270 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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