



CITYSIDE

APRIL 2023

Do You Need A PERMIT FOR THAT SPRING PROJECT? CHECK WITH US!

The sounds of saws sawing, nail guns nailing, and hammers hammering are telltale signs of spring. Not only is warmer weather on the way, this is the season of home improvement and DIY! Homeowners emerging from hibernation are often eager to start checking items off their to-do list. The Ames Inspection Division requests you take a minute to assess your project before beginning.

While many do-it-yourself projects around the home involve simple maintenance such as painting walls or fixing dripping faucets, other tasks such as deck maintenance, stairs, egress windows, and water heater and furnace replacements may require permits.

The permitting process is simple and can be done online through the Inspection permit portal at www.CityOfAmes.org/Inspections. We also have an experienced Administrative Services team to help customers over the phone at

515.239.5153 or in person on the second floor of City Hall, 515 Clark Ave.

“We have seen an increase in unpermitted work recently and much of the work has been required to be removed so that it can be inspected for compliance with the code. This process can be burdensome and expensive,” said Building Official Sara Van Meeteren. “Before starting, a simple call to the Inspection Division can help avoid a misstep. We are here to help you!”



Spring is great time to tackle home maintenance projects, but the first step should be contacting the Inspection Division for more information on the permitting process.

BLOCK PARTY TRAILER RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE NOW!

Block parties are a great opportunity for residents to interact, welcome new residents, and build neighborhood connections. The volunteers who originally organized the Street ‘N’ Greet Block Party Trailer believe that neighborhood block parties strengthen relationships within and between neighborhoods and help Ames be a more welcoming and inclusive community.

The Street ‘N’ Greet Block Party Trailer makes having a block party convenient and easy. The trailer is available free



Street ‘n’ Greet Block Party Trailer

of charge to Ames residents. Inside the trailer you’ll find street barricades, folding tables and chairs, canopy tent,

portable lighting, a sound system, outdoor games and activities for children and adults, and more.

The trailer is available for weekend block party events from April through October. The trailer is available for two events per weekend. Choose from Fridays (5 to 9 p.m.), Saturdays (10 a.m. to 9 p.m.), or Sundays (10 a.m. to 9 p.m.).

Submit an online reservation request to schedule the trailer at www.CityOfAmes.org/trailer.

CITY NEWS TO USE

IN THIS ISSUE:

- No Charge Yard Waste Day on April 29
- Rummage RAMPage Returns
- Water Pollution Control Facility Open House
- Ames Repair Cafe
- Parks & Recreation Notes
- Smart Business Challenge Highlights

- **EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22**
- Celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 22, with a variety of community events including those featured on Page 2. Also, watch for details on Stash the Trash planned for Saturday, April 29!



SPRING YARD WASTE DAY SET FOR APRIL 29

Story County residents can dispose of yard waste at no charge during the Spring No-Charge Yard Waste Day planned for Saturday, April 29, at GreenRU (formerly Chamness Technology), 400 Freel Drive. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



This yard waste drop-off day will include both yard waste and brush. Participants should enter the site from South Dayton Avenue, then west on Southeast Fifth Street, and north on Freel Drive. Drivers should exit the site north on Freel Drive. Please follow GreenRU’s rules for proper yard waste disposal. For more information, call GreenRU at 515.450.0450 and leave a message.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY OPEN HOUSE ON APRIL 22

Save the date for the 2023 Water Pollution Control Facility open house. On Saturday, April 22, the City wastewater facility will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Water Pollution Control Facility is located just southeast of Ames at 56797 280th St.

City staff will be giving walking tours of the facility and light refreshments will be



served. This will be the last chance to tour the facility until it completes Phase I of a \$77 million dollar conversion to a state-of-the-art nutrient removal facility. Watch for more information at www.CityOfAmes.org.

SAVE THE DATE: RUMMAGE RAMPAGE RETURNS

Mark your calendars for the seventh annual Rummage RAMPage, which begins with donations drop-off on Friday, July 28, and continues through Saturday, Aug. 5, as the final day of shopping.



The City of Ames, in partnership with the ISU Office of Sustainability and local non-profit

organizations, holds this community-wide garage sale to keep reusable items out of the waste stream. Items are donated for sale, and volunteers from local non-profit groups help run the sale and share in any profit. The event is held at the Ames Intermodal Parking Ramp, 129 Hayward Ave.

“This 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,” said Resource Recovery Plant Superintendent Bill Schmitt. “With the large number of lease changeovers at the end of July, the event provides an alternative for residents who are not only looking to dispose of household goods, but also acquire still-usable items that might be thrown in the trash or randomly dumped otherwise.”

AMES REPAIR CAFE PLANNED

Celebrate Earth Day with another Ames Repair Cafe hosted by the Ames Public Library from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 22. Volunteers will help repair broken items at no charge.

If they’re unable to repair your item, or parts are required, they’ll help you find a local repair shop that can help. If you have replacement parts, you can bring them with your broken item. Repair volunteers can also teach basic maintenance.

The Repair Café aims to reduce waste, share tools and resources, and help build self-reliance skills in our community. For questions or to volunteer, e-mail AmesRepairCafe@gmail.com.

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. April 11
6 p.m. April 18
6 p.m. April 25

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/CCMEETINGS

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

GOLF INSTRUCTORS NEEDED! Instructors teach youth and adults skill levels ranging from beginner to intermediate. Contact Nate Pietz at nate.pietz@cityofames.org or call 515.239.5363.

FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER IS HIRING!

Now hiring lifeguards, swim lesson instructors, water slide attendants, or admission/concession attendants!

View full job descriptions and apply at www.CityOfAmes.org/jobs.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

HOMEWOOD GOLF COURSE

OPENING DAY – APRIL 1 (WEATHER PERMITTING): Buy your season pass or punch card at the Clubhouse (401 E. 20th St.) or call 515.239.5363. Tee times are available to book starting March 19.

GOLF LEAGUES: Registration is open for Men's League (Mon.) and Couples' League (Tues.); begins first week of May; shotgun start at 6 p.m.

FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER OPENING DAY – MAY 27: Pool passes are now available for purchase at www.AmesParkRec.org and Community Center. Receive a 10% discount on passes purchased by May 1.

RED CROSS LIFEGUARD TRAINING COURSE (LIFEGUARD, FIRST AID, AND CPR/AED): Blended course with online and in-person class/pool work. Two classes, April 14-16 and 28-30. Passing of pre-skills required prior to the class. Instructor will notify times/dates for pre-skills. Must be 15 years of age.

ADULT SUMMER SOFTBALL (MEN'S & CO-ED LEAGUES): Register by March 31; games begin in April.

CO-ED ADULT SAND VOLLEYBALL (6v6 & 4v4): Games Mon.-Thurs. Register by April 30; ages 17+.

ADULT PICKLEBALL LEAGUE: Play two games per outing; Tuesday or Thursday evenings or Wednesday mornings. Register by April 30; begins May 9.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE (16+): Individual registration through May 1. League begins May 15.

START SMART SOCCER (PARENT/CHILD - AGES 3-5): Instructor-led drills and games. Session begins April 4.

KIDDIE KICKERS (AGES 5-6): Skills and drills paired with game play. Begins April 3.

LITTLE TENNIS – PARENT/CHILD (AGES 3-5): Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6 p.m. Begins April 25.

YOUTH & ADULT TENNIS LESSONS: Grades 1-6, or 16+. One-hour sessions on Saturday mornings. Begins April 29.

VOLLEYBALL SPRING CAMP (GRADES 3-6) – MARCH 26- MAY 7: Fun drills and games with AHS volleyball coaches and players.

CARROLL MARTY DISC GOLF OPEN TOURNAMENT – APRIL 22: Two-person best throw. Open to all skill levels and ages. Register by April 16.

EGG HUNT AT THE AMES/ISU ICE ARENA – APRIL 8: Hunt at noon with public skate immediately following!

YOUTH CURLING CLINIC (GRADES 3-12) – APRIL 10: Join us on your day off school from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. and learn all about curling! Public skate follows, from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m.

CURLING LEAGUE: Five-week league with season ending tournament. Saturday evenings; begins April 1.

DRIVE THE ZAMBONI EXPERIENCE – APRIL 22: Learn everything about ice resurfacing and drive the Olympia, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

SPRING FITNESS CLASSES (NEW SESSION STARTS APRIL 3): Over 60 group fitness classes offered weekly. Register prior to the start date!

WARM WATER AQUA AT ISU FORKER POOL: Morning session begins April 24.

BLISS: A Cirque-style performance featuring aerialist and circus performers. Ames City Auditorium, April 21, 7 p.m. Ticket information will be at www.CityOfAmes.org.

COMMUNITY CENTER DROP-IN ACTIVITIES: Open gym for basketball, volleyball, badminton, and pickleball. View the monthly schedules at www.AmesParkRec.org/precalendars.

MIRACLE LEAGUE – SPRING SEASON: Non-competitive baseball league for youth and adults (5+) with special needs. Begins May 6.



**TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG
PARKS & RECREATION: 515.239.5350 | COMMUNITY CENTER: 515 CLARK AVE.**

ENERGY SPOTLIGHT: SMART BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Ames Electric Services recently held its sixth annual Smart Business Challenge Luncheon at Reiman Gardens. This annual event, hosted by Mayor John Haila, celebrates the advancements local businesses make in their Challenge participation.

The Smart Business Challenge began in 2014 as a program to encourage and celebrate businesses that are taking action to become environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable. This can be as simple as installing low flow faucets to as complex as creating a system to recycle as much waste as possible in a production system.

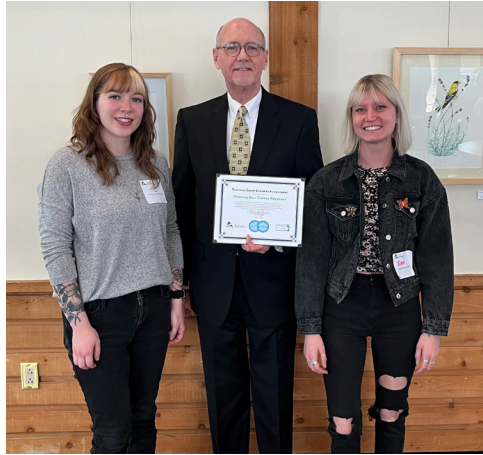
Platinum certifications celebrated this year include Hach (certified) and McFarland Clinic, Green Hills Community, The Loft, Duck Worth Wearing, Chevron REG, and Morning Bell Coffee Roasters (recertified). Recognition was also given to Café Diem (gold recertified); Championship Productions (silver certified), Ames Chamber of Commerce (silver recertified), and Trilogy Physical Therapy (new Challenge member).



CHEVRON/REG



GREEN HILLS COMMUNITY



MORNING BELL COFFEE



HACH

RENEWABLE ENERGY NUMBERS

FOR JANUARY 2023

55 LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF 5,722

23,580 MILES OF VEHICLE CHARGING AT PUBLIC ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS

RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT RECYCLING:

- GLASS: 26.16 TONS
- METALS: 124.64 TONS
- FOOD WASTE DIVERSION: 3.6 TONS
- REFUSE-DERIVED FUEL: 2,822 TONS

CITY TRUCKS USED MORE THAN 3,654 GALLONS OF PURE BIODIESEL IN DECEMBER, OFFSETTING CARBON BY 34.3 METRIC TONS.

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

CitySide is a publication of the City of Ames, Iowa.

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