



# CITYSIDE

**AUGUST 2023**

## **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT RETURNS ON AUGUST 1**

Ames Police Department is partnering with Hope in Christ Back to School (HICBTS) to host the annual National Night Out. The event will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 1, 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



*Members of the Ames Resident Police Advisory Committee (ARPAC) attended last year's event.*

of all ages, food and treats, tours of emergency vehicles, and much more. In addition, backpacks and school supplies will be distributed to those in need for the upcoming school year.

“We are all stronger when we work together to solve complex problems in our community,” said Ames Police Community Resource Officer Nate Rivera. “National Night Out provides an opportunity to get to know your neighbors and the officers who protect our community.”

Get more information at [www.CityOfAmes.org](http://www.CityOfAmes.org) and on the City of Ames and Ames Police Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages. For questions, contact Ames Police Community Resource Officer Nate Rivera at 515.239.4532.

## **ENJOY AMES' EXTENSIVE COLLECTION OF PUBLIC ART**

Did you know the Public Art Commission (PAC) manages over 100 sculptures installed throughout the community? You'll find unique works of art in city parks, Downtown, and in many Ames neighborhoods. Outdoor public art encourages conversation, sparks imagination, and transforms spaces.

Here are some tips to ensure these works can be enjoyed for years to come.

Take photos! Check out the art from different angles, in different seasons, and at different times of the day. Ask others what they think about the art. In most cases, the name of the artist and the sculpture are on a plaque nearby. Check out what other works the artist has produced.

The art selected for outdoor display is durable, but can be damaged if abused. Avoid climbing or hanging on sculptures unless there's a

sign saying that kind of play is welcome. Some pieces are very heavy or have intricate parts that can be broken by excessive handling. It's also important not to attach items like posters or fabric to sculptures, as these can damage the finish.

To report damaged sculptures or for questions, contact the City Manager's Office at 515.239.5101 or [publicartcommission@cityofames.org](mailto:publicartcommission@cityofames.org).



*“Parent and Child” metal sculpture is on display at Moore Memorial Park.*

## **CITY NEWS TO USE**

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Old Water Plant Demolition
- Water Art Entries Sought
- Moving? Don't Forget Your Pets
- Parks and Recreation Notes
- Energy Q&A

### **RUMMAGE RAMPAGE**

Rummage RAMPage, a community garage sale designed to keep reusable items out of the waste stream, is set from July 28 to Aug. 5. Learn more at [www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRAMPage](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRAMPage)



## OLD WATER PLANT DEMOLITION INCLUDES RECYCLING OF MATERIALS

When the new Ames Water Treatment Plant, 1800 E. 13th St., began supplying water to residents in 2017, the former plant was officially retired. For nearly a century, the Ames Municipal Water Plant at 300 E. Fifth St. had been continually operating, and the building was at the end of its useful life. As part of the demolition process, the City set goals to minimize construction waste sent to area landfills. LinnCo Inc., of Sartell, Minn., the contractor hired to complete the demolition, is required to recycle 90 percent (by weight or volume) of the total waste generated by removing the former plant. LinnCo Inc. is achieving that goal through salvaging reusable materials for backfill, resale, or storing for future use. Additionally, the City is reusing brick from the water tower structure in upcoming renovations and projects to maintain the historic connection to the old water plant.



*Demolition work at the former Ames Municipal Water Plant includes recycling of debris.*

## ART CONTEST ENTRIES SOUGHT

Entries continue to be accepted for the 2023 City of Ames Water Treatment Plant Public Art Contest and Exhibition through 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 8. 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. The focus for each piece must be related to this year's theme, "The Importance of Drinking Water."



*"Stay Close to Mama," by Tana Tesdall, was the 2022 Best in Show winner.*

Water and Pollution Control staff will jury the entries from submitted photos. Artists whose work is selected for exhibition will be notified by Sept. 22. Art selected will be on display from Oct. 16 through Nov. 3, 2023, 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 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. The knowledgeable personnel in these places can help you find the right place for your pet.

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8

6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15 (workshop)

6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 22



WITH FALL RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, REGISTER FOR THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS!

FOR INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, VISIT  
[WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG](http://WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG) OR CALL 515.239.5350.

**ADULT FALL SOFTBALL (MEN'S & CO-ED LEAGUES):**

Season is late August-October. Register by Aug. 6.

**CO-ED ADULT SAND VOLLEYBALL (6V6 & 4V4):** Variety of leagues based on skill level. Season is mid August-September. Register by July 31.

**FALL PICKLEBALL LEAGUE:** Competitive, recreational, and senior leagues. Season is late August-September. Register by Aug. 15.

**YOUTH SOCCER (GRADES 1-6):** Register by Aug. 14. Skills assessment Aug. 16. Volunteer coaches needed!

**KIDDIE KICKERS (AGES 5-6):** Instructor-led skills and drills to prepare kids for game play. Begins mid-September-October. Register by Sept 1. Volunteer coaches needed!

**PARENT/CHILD START SMART SOCCER (AGES 3-5):** Fun games and drills every Tuesday, September-October. Register by Aug. 30.

**YOUTH VOLLEYBALL (GRADES 3RD-6TH):** Teams participate in the Central Iowa Recreation League, late August-October. Register by Aug. 15.

**DANCE & GYMNASTICS (AGES 2-6+, VARIETY OF LEVELS):** Participants can register for a variety of dance and gymnastics classes, mid September-October. Register by Sept 4.

**TENNIS LESSONS (YOUTH & ADULT):** Session begins Sept. 9. Register by Sept. 1.

**GROUP FITNESS CLASSES:** Session begins Aug. 21. View the schedule and 60+ classes at [www.AmesParkRec.org](http://www.AmesParkRec.org).

## FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER

**CONQUER THE CURRENT:** Saturday, Aug. 5, 8-10:30 a.m. Complete 2 miles against the current in the Lazy River. Register by July 17 to guarantee shirt size.

**FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER END OF SEASON PASSES:** Valid Aug. 1-Sept. 4. Purchase during your visit or by calling 515.239.5350. View the facility schedule at [www.CityofAmes.org/prcalendars](http://www.CityofAmes.org/prcalendars).



## AMES/ISU ICE ARENA

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

**ICE RESURFACER EXPERIENCE (18+):** Friday, Aug. 25, 6-8 p.m. Learn about ice resurfacing and drive on the ice.

**FAREWELL SUMMER SKATE:** Celebrate the end of summer, Aug. 22, 3:15-4:45 p.m. Receive \$1 off with school supply donation. Teachers skate free.

**RENT THE ICE!** Host your next event at Ames/ISU Ice Arena. Contact Taylor Bassett at 515.239.5110 or [taylor.bassett@cityofames.org](mailto:taylor.bassett@cityofames.org) for more information and to reserve the ice today!

**EXTREME OUTDOOR BOOTCAMP:** Workout outdoors every Thursday beginning Aug. 24, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

**BELLY DANCE:** Learn the beautiful art form of belly dance. Open to ages 12+. Aug. 3-Sept. 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**YOUTH GOLF DAY:** Sunday, Aug. 6, Homewood Golf Course. Golfers 17 and under play FREE if accompanied by a paid adult, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Book your tee time today, 515.239.5363 or [www.AmesParkRec.org](http://www.AmesParkRec.org).

**TAE KWON DO (AGES 5+):** Beginner, intermediate, and advanced classes offered. Session begins Aug. 22. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday evenings.

**CHALLENGER SPORT SOCCER CAMP (AGES 3-16):** Coached by international and U.S.-based staff, this camp will improve your child's soccer skills while providing a unique cultural experience. Designed for all ages and ability levels. Join us for the weeklong camp, Aug. 7-11. Register online at [www.ChallengerSports.com](http://www.ChallengerSports.com).

**YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT:** Friday, Aug. 25, Homewood Golf Course. All proceeds will benefit the Parks and Recreation Youth Scholarship Fund. Four-person best shot, \$400 per team, 9 a.m. check-in, 10 a.m. shotgun start. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For more information, contact Nate Pietz at [nate.pietz@cityofames.org](mailto:nate.pietz@cityofames.org) or call 515.239.5363.

**BROOKSIDE WADING POOL:** Open through Aug. 13, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., \$1 daily admission.

## COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center (gymnasium, weight room/cardio rooms) will be closed Aug. 7-9 for annual maintenance. View the facility calendar at [www.CityofAmes.org/prcalendars](http://www.CityofAmes.org/prcalendars) for updates!

## CANOE, KAYAK, & PADDLE BOARD RENTALS

JAX Outdoor Gear rents canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddle boards at Ada Hayden Heritage Park on Saturdays and Sundays (11 a.m.-5 p.m.) through Sept. 3, weather permitting. Rental rates for 30 and/or 60 minutes are as follows: canoes \$13/\$20; kayaks \$13/\$20; stand-up paddle boards N.A./\$20.



# ENERGY Q&A

**Q:** *What are some things I should consider when taking care of my lawn this summer? Are electric lawn mowers a viable option for homeowners?*

**A:** Electric lawn equipment offers a triple win – it creates less noise, almost no pollution, and is a low-cost, no-hassle way to keep your lawn and garden looking fresh. There are a wide variety of options in the market from push or riding mowers to any type of trimmer, cutter, edger, or blower you can think of. Most equipment manufacturers offer a standard, interchangeable battery that can be used to operate multiple tools within their offerings.

One of the most noticeable things about most electric equipment is that it is far quieter than its equivalent gasoline-powered counterparts. I like to tell people that while having electric lawn equipment is great, an even better thing is having neighbors with electric lawn equipment.

The pollution reduction benefits of a switch to electric outdoor lawn equipment are two-fold. By eliminating fuel completely from your yard, you eliminate any local air pollution that mowers and other gasoline powered equipment produce. Two-cycle equipment is especially dirty and smelly for you as an operator. Additionally, switching from gasoline-powered equipment to electric can reduce the resulting greenhouse gas emissions by over 75 percent. Gasoline burned from lawn

equipment might not be a huge source of emissions overall, but every bit can help.

Last of all, both the annual maintenance and energy costs for electric equipment can be lower than gasoline models.

An electric mower eliminates the need for gasoline and oil – no more runs to the gas station before you mow. And while it doesn't cost a whole lot to buy gas for a mower, electricity is an even cheaper source of energy.



While electric power equipment may have historically had a higher upfront cost, there's now a wide range of products available at similar price points to their gasoline counterparts. A quick skim through the shelves of your hardware store or big box retailer will show you that much of the new equipment sales are electric. Ames Electric Services has a \$50 rebate, new in 2023, for battery electric mowers to help you make the switch. Go to [www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartEnergy](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartEnergy) for the rebate application and more information on Smart Energy rebates.

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

## RENEWABLE ENERGY NUMBERS

FOR MAY 2023

**39** LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF **5,825**

**26,070** MILES OF VEHICLE CHARGING AT PUBLIC ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS

### RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT RECYCLING:

- GLASS: **23.21 TONS**
- METALS: **126.37 TONS**
- FOOD WASTE DIVERSION: **1.62 TONS**
- REFUSE-DERIVED FUEL: **2,252 TONS**

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

CitySide is a publication of the City of Ames, Iowa.  
Find past editions: [www.CityOfAmes.org/CitySide](http://www.CityOfAmes.org/CitySide)

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