



CITYSIDE

JANUARY 2024

DROP-OFF RECYCLING EXPANDED AT RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT

For those who want more options for recycling, the Resource Recovery Plant (RRP) is expanding its drop-off capacity beginning in December. The facility has provided self-serve food waste and glass recycling at 420 E. Second St. on the north side of the building for several years. Expanded recycling offerings will include recycling bins for cardboard, metals, mixed paper, and plastic bottles with a twist off lids.

"Diverting recyclable materials away from Resource Recovery can pull significant amounts of reusable product from the waste stream. That's good for the environment," said RRP Superintendent Bill Schmitt. "RRP will serve as a centralized, one-stop location to bring recyclables. We will continue to maintain glass collection bins around the city, and we are exploring cardboard collection in other locations, also."

The drop-off bins are open 24/7 for easy, convenient, and year-round usage.

Reducing the amount of trash produced throughout Story County continues to be the top priority for the Resource Recovery System. When less waste is produced, residents

benefit through less fuel needed to process trash, less carbon produced through burning waste to create electricity, and less unburnable garbage sent to the landfill. In 1975, Ames opened RRP as the first-in-the-nation municipal waste-to-energy facility. This innovative system accepted garbage from Story County communities and converted it into refuse derived fuel (RDF). The RDF was injected into the boilers at the Ames Power Plant and burned with coal to produce electricity for Ames residents.



Many things have changed since 1975, including the Ames Power Plant transition from coal to natural gas. While that change reduced the carbon production of the plant by 40 percent, it made burning garbage less efficient. Finding new ways to reduce the amount of waste produced is an important goal of the Ames Climate Action Plan and contributes to reducing our community climate footprint.

WATCH THE WEATHER IF YOU PARK ON A SNOW ROUTE!



When the snow falls, it's important to move your vehicle if you park on a street that's part of the snow route. Snow routes are marked with red and white signs. All vehicles must be removed from snow routes when the snow ordinance goes into effect.

How do you know when the snow ordinance is in effect?

Pay attention to local media, check the City's website (www.CityOfAmes.org), or watch City of Ames and Ames Police social media! The snow ordinance goes into effect when snow accumulations are 2 inches or more, but the best way to know if the snow ordinance will be in effect is to watch the weather!

For questions or concerns about snow removal on city streets, call the Snow Desk at 515.239.5543 or email the Public Works Department at snowstreets@CityOfAmes.org. For concerns about sidewalks that aren't cleared, call the Snow Walks hotline at 515.239.5468 or email snowwalks@CityOfAmes.org.

CITY NEWS TO USE

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Volunteer for a City Board
- Recycle Christmas Trees
- Help Keep Fire Hydrants Clear
- Parks and Recreation Notes
- Energy Q&A

CITY OFFICES CLOSED:

City Hall and most City of Ames departments will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1, 2024, for New Year's Day.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Volunteer in your community and make a difference by joining a City board or commission. Boards and commissions make recommendations to the Ames City Council and assist the Council in carrying out various functions of local government. Every board and commission has a different focus and purpose. Please consider getting involved in one that matches your background or interests.

Several boards and commissions have vacancies occurring in the first part of 2024. The number following the name of the board or commission indicates the number of pending vacancies. The number in parentheses denotes how many incumbents may be reappointed.

Apply online at www.CityOfAmes.org/boardsandcommissions. Applications are also available in the City Clerk's Office. **Deadline to apply is 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 2, 2024.**

Commission/Board	Meeting Days/Times	Vacancies
Ames International Partner Cities Association	3 rd Thurs./5 p.m.	2 (1)
Ames Resident Police Advisory Committee	Quarterly/5:30 p.m.	3 (3)
Analysis of Social Services Evaluation Team	2 nd Thurs./5 p.m.	2 (1)
Building Board of Appeals	1 st Mon./4 p.m.	3 (1)
Campus & Community Commission	4 th Mon./6 p.m.	1 (1)
Civil Service Commission	4 th Thurs./8:15 a.m.	2 (2)
Commission On The Arts (COTA)	1 st Mon./5 p.m.	1 (1)
Electric Utility Operations Review & Advisory Board (EUORAB)	As needed	3 (3)
Historic Preservation Commission	2 nd Mon./6 p.m.	4 (2)
Human Relations Commission	4 th Thurs./5:30 p.m.	2 (1)
Library Board of Trustees	3 rd Thurs./7 p.m.	3 (3)
Parks and Recreation Commission	3 rd Thurs./4 p.m.	3 (2)
Planning & Zoning Commission	1 st & 3 rd Wed./7 p.m.	3 (2)
Property Maintenance Appeals Board	As needed	3 (2)
Project Share Committee	As needed	1 (1)
Public Art Commission	1 st Tues./5:30 p.m.	4 (1)
Transit Agency Board of Trustees	Monthly	2 (2)
Zoning Board of Adjustment	2 nd & 4 th Wed./6 p.m.	2
Total		44

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Don't let your Christmas tree end up in the landfill. The City of Ames provides free disposal of Christmas trees at the Parks & Recreation Maintenance Shop, 700 E. 13th St. Trees can be deposited during daylight hours through Wednesday, Jan. 31. All trees will be



recycled into wood chips, which will be used in Ames parks. The Parks & Recreation Maintenance driveway will be marked with a sign. The tree stand, tinsel, and all ornaments should be removed before leaving the tree for disposal.

KEEP HYDRANTS CLEAR FROM SNOW

As snow piles up along the curb, it does more than hamper visibility for drivers. Mounds of snow can obscure locations of fire hydrants. Ames firefighters ask residents to check fire hydrants located near their homes or businesses to ensure they are visible. In the case of an emergency, every



second counts. If the fire hydrant is covered, we need your help! Please clear a three-foot-wide area around the hydrant to ensure firefighters can locate it quickly during a fire. If you need assistance clearing the hydrant, call Fire Station No. 1 at 515.239.5109.

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.

6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 9
 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17 (CIP Workshop)
 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/CCMEETINGS

YOUTH & ADULT PROGRAMS

YOUTH DANCE - RECITAL SESSION (AGES 3-9): Teeny Ballet, Tiny Dancers, Dance Blast, Hip Hop, Ballet offered. Register by Jan. 1.

PARENT/CHILD DANCE (AGES 2-3): Learn basic dance moves through fun music and games. Parents will take an active role in this class. Register by Jan. 1.

YOUTH GYMNASTICS-RECITAL SESSION (AGES 5+): Gymnastics 1 and 2 levels are offered. Register by Jan 1.

YOUTH TUMBLING (AGES 2-5): Tumble bugs (parent/child), Tumbling Tykes, and Tumbling Tots. Register by Jan. 1.

YOUTH (GRADES 1-6) & ADULT (17+) TENNIS LESSONS: Professional led instruction. Register by Jan. 1.

PARENT/CHILD TENNIS LESSONS (AGES 3-5): Learn a new sport through fun games and activities. Register by Jan 1.

START SMART BASKETBALL (AGES 3-5): Parents partner with participants as they learn the basics of basketball. Register by Jan. 15.

K-2 BASKETBALL: Find the level that best meets the participants needs and skills - Mini Dribblers, Little Dunkers, and Big Shooters. Register by Jan. 15.

TAE KWON DO (YOUTH AND ADULT): Dragon, Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, Competition, and All Levels classes offered. Register by Jan 1.

ADULT WINTER INDOOR VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE: Women's, Men's, & Co-Ed Leagues offered. Season starts Jan. 22. Register by Jan. 7.

EUCHRE & CRIBBAGE LEAGUE: Euchre offered on Monday evenings and Cribbage on Wednesday mornings and/or evenings. League begins the week of Jan. 15. Register by Jan. 10.

SPECIAL EVENTS

ICE RESURFACER EXPERIENCE (AGES 18+):

Learn about ice maintenance and drive the ice resurfacer at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena. Class is Monday, Jan. 1, 3-4:30 p.m. Must have valid driver's license.



FREE CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLINIC: Sat., Jan. 13. Indoor practicum at Homewood Clubhouse 1-2 p.m. Outdoor practicum 2:15-3:15 p.m. at Carr Park. Participants responsible for equipment. Pre-registration is preferred.

FIFTH AND CLARK FRIDAYS - CONCERT SERIES:

The series continues Jan. 19 and Jan. 26 at the Ames City Auditorium. Shows start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5, students get 2-for-1 admission by showing their student IDs at the door.

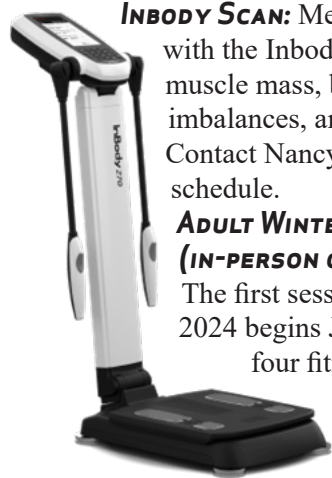


FITNESS & WELLNESS

INBODY SCAN: Measure your body composition with the Inbody 570. Measurements include muscle mass, body fat percentage, muscle imbalances, and much more! Fee is \$30. Contact Nancy Shaw at 515.239.5353 to schedule.

ADULT WINTER FITNESS CLASSES (IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL OPTIONS):

The first session of Fitness Classes in 2024 begins Jan. 3 - Feb. 11. Register for four fitness and/or yoga classes and attend unlimited classes! For a full list of classes view the Fitness & Wellness Guide



online at www.AmesParkRec.org.

HEALTHY FOOT: This class will help you alleviate or prevent pain with proper alignment and stretches. Meets Jan. 30 - Feb 20. Register by Jan. 26.

ADULT DANCE: New six-week session begins Jan. 22 of Beginner Line Dance and Beginner or Intermediate West Coast Swing Dance. No partner required! Register by Jan. 17.

YOGA BASICS: Welcome to Yoga! Four-week session begins Jan. 14.

PERSONAL TRAINING: Let our Nationally Certified Personal Trainers help you reach your 2024 fitness goals through one-on-one or semi-private training. Three-, five-, 10- and 15-session packages are available.

FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER

WATER SAFETY INSTRUCTOR (WSI): This comprehensive training prepares instructors to teach all level and age groups swim lessons. Must be 16 years old by the end of the course. Course available Jan. 6-7 or Jan. 8-11.

REGISTER, FIND MORE INFORMATION, OR VIEW FACILITY SCHEDULES AT WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG OR BY CALLING 515.239.5350.

ENERGY Q&A

Q Can an energy audit help me lower my home's energy usage?

Yes, a home energy audit can certainly help you lower your home's energy usage, and a free home energy audit is available for Ames Electric Services customers. A home energy audit is a thorough examination of your home's energy consumption patterns and the efficiency of its insulation, appliances, and heating and cooling equipment. An energy audit can be a great first step to identify and prioritize areas in your home that can be improved to make your home more comfortable and efficient.

During an energy audit, a professional energy auditor will typically do the following:

- Inspection and analysis: They will inspect your home's insulation, windows, doors, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, lighting, appliances, and other energy-consuming elements.
- Energy consumption assessment: They will analyze your past energy bills to understand your energy usage patterns.
- Blower door test: This test helps identify air leaks in your home, which can contribute to energy loss and higher utility bills.

- Thermographic scan: This involves using infrared cameras to detect temperature differences in various areas of your home, helping to pinpoint insulation issues.

After the audit, you'll receive a report with specific recommendations to improve your home's energy efficiency.

By following the recommendations from the energy audit, you can make targeted improvements to your home's energy efficiency, leading to lower energy consumption, a more comfortable home, and reduced utility bills.

The report will include information on potential energy efficiency rebates you may be able to use to help lower the upfront cost of some of these recommendations.



To request a home energy audit as well as our listing of energy efficiency rebates, go to www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartEnergy.

Joel Zook, Energy Services Coordinator
515.239.5177 | Joel.Zook@cityofames.org

RENEWABLE ENERGY NUMBERS FOR OCTOBER 2023

70 LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF **5,979**

41,541 MILES OF VEHICLE CHARGING AT PUBLIC ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS

225,491 KILOWATT HOURS OF ENERGY PRODUCED BY SUNSMART AMES SOLAR FARM

RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT

- REFUSE-DERIVED FUEL: **2,602 TONS**

RECYCLING:

- GLASS: **17.84 TONS**
- METALS: **130.42 TONS**
- FOOD WASTE DIVERSION: **5,250 POUNDS**

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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