



CITYSIDE

APRIL 2024

CONSIDERING LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS? WE'VE GOT A REBATE FOR THAT!

Spring is the season to start planning gardens and consider landscaping options. The City of Ames offers incentives to make environmentally friendly choices when implementing those plans. There are several rebates available that encourage harvesting rainfall, planting native flowers, aerating lawns, reducing stormwater runoff, and composting. These options can not only beautify your property, they can also save money.

landscaping, soil and lawn quality restoration, rain gardens, rain barrels, and composters are eligible. These solutions reduce stormwater runoff into the city storm sewer system and improve the water quality and the health of our waterways and lakes. As an added bonus, many of the initiatives



can reduce the amount of outside water needed and that can lower utility bills!

Rebates are available whenever you're ready to make the commitment. For example, spring is a great time for planting native trees but after the heat of summer passes, autumn offers another opportunity. Each program has specific rebate eligibility requirements, so make sure you check the website for details.

The City's SmartWatersheds rebate program provides a cost share for eligible practices. Currently native trees, native

For more information and applications go to www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartWatersheds or call the Ames Public Works Department at 515.239.5160.

SAVE THE DATE: RUMMAGE RAMPAGE RETURNS

Mark your calendars for the seventh annual Rummage RAMPage, which begins with donations drop-off on Friday, July 26, and continues through Saturday, Aug. 3, 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.

"With the large number of lease changeovers at the end of July, this 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," said Resource Recovery Plant Superintendent Bill Schmitt.

Rummage RAMPage 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. The event has continued to grow each year.

In 2023, this event diverted 154,843 pounds of furniture and housewares from the landfill and raised more than \$62,000 for local non-profit agencies. The first orientation meeting for interested non-profit organization is planned for May. Go to the City website for updates at www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRampage.



CITY NEWS TO USE

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Street 'N' Greet Block Party Trailer
- Stash the Trash/Stream Clean-Up
- Ames Repair Cafe
- Parks & Recreation Notes
- Smart Business Challenge Highlights

- **NO-CHARGE YARD WASTE**
- A Spring No-Charge Yard Waste Day is planned soon. Watch our website for more information on the date!



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 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 staff will contact you regarding the requested date and event details for your block party.

Please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 515.239.5341 with questions.

STREAM CLEAN-UP; STASH THE TRASH IN APRIL

The Resource Recovery Plant is facilitating the annual Stash the Trash community spring clean-up. A large trash receptacle roll-off will be available April 20-21 at Reiman Gardens to encourage more participation. Stash the Trash is a volunteer initiative to improve the appearance of the city and appropriately dispose of waste. Pick a park or green space to clean and bring your garbage to the drop site.



The annual Stream Clean-Up is planned for Saturday, April 20, with a rain date of Saturday, April 27. Ames Public Works has partnered with Prairie Rivers of Iowa, Story County Conservation, and the Outdoor Alliance of Story County to hold this event. Look for more details at www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartWatersheds.

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 27. 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 9
6 p.m. April 16
6 p.m. April 23

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/CCMEETINGS

ONLINE REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION FOR
PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOUND AT
WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG OR BY CALLING 515.239.5350.

HOMWOOD GOLF COURSE

HOMWOOD GOLF COURSE: Opening day is Monday, April 1 (weather permitting). Purchase season passes and punch cards! Book tee times beginning March 18.

GOLF LEAGUES: Register for Men's League (Mondays) and Couples/Pairs League (Tuesdays). Begins the last week of April; shotgun start at 6 p.m.

HOMWOOD IS HIRING!

Golf Instructors needed for youth and adult lessons.

Contact Nate Pietz,
nate.pietz@cityofames.org
or 515.239.5363.



AQUATICS

FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER: Opening Day is Sat., May 25. Passes are 10% off until May 1.

FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER IS HIRING! Hiring Lifeguards, Lesson Instructors, & Admission/Concession Attendants! Apply at www.CityOfAmes.org/Jobs.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING COURSE (AGES 15+): Blended course with online coursework and in-class portion. Offered April 12-14 and April 26-28. Pre-skills required prior to the class.

BABYSITTING TRAINING COURSE (AGES 11+): Saturday, March 30, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

ADULT & PEDIATRIC FIRST AID/CPR/AED COURSE: Sunday, April 7, 9-11 a.m. and Wednesday, May 15 5:30-7:30 p.m..

WATER SAFETY INSTRUCTOR COURSE (AGES 16+): Three-day course, June 3-5, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

LIFEGUARD INSTRUCTOR/TRAINER REVIEW CLASS: Saturday, April 6, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m..

YOUTH & ADULT SPORTS

NEW! FLORAL WORKSHOP (ARTIFICIAL SPRING WREATH): Get ready for spring decorating! Instruction and all supplies provided by Grace Fiore Co. Get creative and participate in some flower therapy! Space is limited!

ADULT SUMMER SOFTBALL (MEN'S & CO-ED LEAGUES): Team registration deadline, March 29. Games begin the week of April 23.

CO-ED ADULT SAND VOLLEYBALL (6V6 & 4V4): Register teams by April 28. Games begin the week of May 13.

ADULT PICKLEBALL LEAGUE: Morning and evening leagues. Register teams by May 1. Matches begin the week of May 7.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE (16+): All skill levels welcome. Individual registration deadline is April 29. Matches begin May 13.

START SMART SOCCER (PARENT/CHILD - AGES 3-5): Instructor-led drills and games! Sessions begin April 2. Register by March 26.

KIDDIE KICKERS (AGES 5-6): Instructor-led skills and drills, with team play. Session begins April 1. Register by March 24.

YOUTH (GRADES 1-6) & ADULT TENNIS LESSONS (AGES 16+): Develop skills and learn the basics from tennis professionals. Register by April 19. Session begins April 27.

LITTLE TENNIS-PARENT/CHILD (AGES 3-5): Parents pair with their children to learn the basics of tennis. Register by April 15. Session begins Apr. 30.

VOLLEYBALL SPRING CAMP (GRADES 3-6): Instruction by Ames High School coaches and players each Sunday afternoon, March 24-May 5. Register by March 15.

AMES/ISU ICE ARENA NON-SCHOOL DAY CLINICS (GRADES 3-8): Youth Curling Clinic 11 a.m.- noon, and Youth Broomball Clinic, 3 - 4 p.m. on April 8.

DESTINATION STORY TIME AT AMES/ISU ICE ARENA: April 5, 10-11 a.m. Free story by Ames Public Library, then meet and skate with the ISU Men's Hockey Team (\$2.50).

ICE RESURFACER EXPERIENCE (AGES 18+): Learn about ice resurfacing and drive the Olympia, Sat., April 13, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

SPRING FITNESS CLASSES: New Session starts April 1! Over 60 group fitness classes offered weekly.

YOGA BASICS: Workshop designed for beginners. Offered Sun., April 7, 6-6:45 p.m.

HEALTHY FOOT: This class can help alleviate or prevent foot problems every Tuesday, April 2-23, 9:15-10:15 a.m.

CARROLL MARTY DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT (SATURDAY, AUGUST 27): Doubles Best Throw and Competitive Singles divisions. Register by April 20.

AMES CITY AUDITORIUM



AMES CITY AUDITORIUM: Thrash of the Titans will perform "A Tribute to the Big 4 of Metal," on April 13 at 7 p.m. Performance will feature the music of Metallica, Megadeth, Slayer, and Anthrax. For ticket information contact 515.239.5365.

ENERGY SPOTLIGHT: SMART BUSINESS CHALLENGE

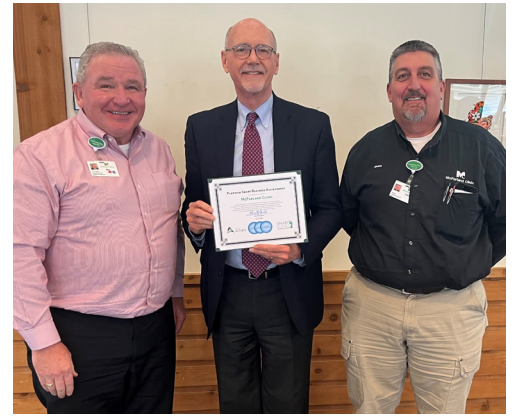
Ames Electric Services recently held its seventh annual Smart Business Challenge Luncheon at Reiman Gardens and celebrated 10 years of the Challenge. This annual event, hosted by Mayor John Haila, celebrates the advancements local businesses make in their Challenge participation.

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); Barilla, Mary Greeley Medical Center, 3M, and Worldly Goods (recertified); and Morning Bell Coffee Roasters and McFarland Clinic (third recertification).

Recognition was also given to Hastings & Gartin Law Group (gold recertified),

Iowa Home Crafters (silver certified), Jax Outdoor Gear (gold recertified), KHOI Community Radio (silver recertified), Ron's Auto (silver recertified), and Jon Wilson Photography (new Challenge member).



McFARLAND CLINIC



BARILLA



NELSON ELECTRIC

RENEWABLE ENERGY NUMBERS FOR JANUARY 2024

62 LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF **6,102**

28,761 MILES OF VEHICLE CHARGING AT PUBLIC ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS

70,100 KILOWATT HOURS OF ENERGY PRODUCED BY SUNSMART AMES SOLAR FARM

RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT

- REFUSE-DERIVED FUEL: **1,367 TONS**

RECYCLING:

- GLASS: **19.70 TONS**
- METALS: **73.75 TONS**
- FOOD WASTE DIVERSION: **12,000 POUNDS**
- CARDBOARD: **6.48 TONS**
- MIXED PAPER: **1.77 TONS**

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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