



CITYSIDE

NOVEMBER 2024

RUMMAGE RAMPAGE HAS ANOTHER RECORD-BREAKING YEAR

The eighth annual Rummage RAMPage, a community rummage sale designed to keep reusable items out of the waste stream, narrowly topped the previous year in proceeds resulting in the largest total amount of money raised. The event was held over nine days and raised \$62,362 for local non-profit agencies. This edged the 2023 total of \$62,059. The event found new homes for 132,782 pounds of furniture and housewares, which represents a decrease of more than 20,000 pounds from 2023. In addition, 51 non-profit groups either helped in advance or sent volunteers to staff the event. These groups share the proceeds based on the hours of donated labor.

The event spanned two weekends to better meet the needs of those moving into new apartments.

RUMMAGE RAMPAGE

Over the eight years of the event, more than 865,000 pounds of material have been diverted from the landfill and \$284,816 has been raised for area non-profit agencies. Rummage RAMPage has developed a huge community following, and the event success is dependent on continued community support of donations, purchases, and volunteers.

Because many leases in Ames terminate at the end of July, relocating Iowa State University students and community members often discard items that may still be usable. During these weeks, the City of Ames Resource Recovery Plant (RRP) often sees an influx of couches, wooden furniture, clothing, and more as renters attempt to meet their move-out requirements.

Due to the success of the event, organizers are already planning to hold Rummage RAMPage 2025. The dates have been set for Friday, July 25 through Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025.

FULL-TIME SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR HIRED

Nolan Sagan has joined the City of Ames as the first full-time Sustainability Coordinator. Sagan was previously with Spire Energy in Kansas City, Mo. He began his new position in July.



Nolan Sagan

The Sustainability Coordinator supports the City Council goal of valuing environmental

sustainability and focuses on initiatives that help meet the goals of the Climate Action Plan (CAP). In addition to serving as a resource for City departments, Sagan will track, evaluate, and present the City's progress on sustainability activities and provide recommendations. Additionally, he will identify, prepare, and administer grants that support the City's community-wide CAP. He will be involved in sustainability outreach and education, available to speak to groups, and serve as a resource to promote community greenhouse gas reduction.

Learn More about Heat Pumps

The first sustainability outreach event with new Sustainability Coordinator Nolan Sagan will focus on heat pumps and winter heating. Join heating and cooling experts from 4 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at an open house at the Ames Public Library, 515 Douglas Ave. This event will provide participants the opportunity to ask questions and get information about energy-efficient heat pumps and how residents can use incentives to lower the cost of a new heating system.

CITY NEWS TO USE

IN THIS ISSUE:

- New Mobile Response Trailer
- No-Charge Yard Waste Days
- Town Budget Meeting Set
- Ames Public Library Book Sale
- Parks & Recreation Notes
- Energy Q&A

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

City Hall and most City of Ames offices will be closed on Monday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day, and Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29, for Thanksgiving.



MOBILE COMMAND TRAILER TO ASSIST IN EMERGENCIES, OUTREACH

The City of Ames has added a mobile command trailer to its fleet of emergency response vehicles. The 27-foot trailer will be used for public safety situations and community outreach events. The unit was manufactured by JHB Group of Richmond, Ill., and cost \$214,233.



- Mobile and Adaptable: The unit can be quickly deployed to different locations as needed.

The trailer will function as a mobile command center during designated events and be deployed as needed for emergencies. It is designed to provide assistance during large gatherings, sporting events, and community festivals.

The trailer will be towed to locations using existing City vehicles and is equipped with a generator to power the trailer. The unit includes air conditioning and heat and can become a mobile hotspot.

Key features of the trailer include:

- Multi-Event Versatility: Designed to manage various scenarios, from sports events and local gatherings to emergency situations, offering a centralized command and control hub.
- Advanced Communication Systems: Features the latest in communication technology to ensure seamless coordination among various emergency response teams.
- Enhanced Safety Measures: Outfitted with state-of-the-art safety equipment to support efficient and effective incident management.

NO-CHARGE YARD WASTE DAYS



Story County residents can dispose of yard waste at no charge during Fall No-Charge Yard Waste Days. The scheduled Saturdays are Oct. 19 (leaves and grass), Nov. 9 (leaves and grass), Nov. 16 (includes brush), and Nov. 23 (leaves and grass), at Chamness/GreenRU, 400 Freel Drive. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

BUDGET MEETING PLANNED NOV. 7

The City of Ames budget process kicks off in the fall with the annual Town Budget Meeting. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 7, in the City Council Chambers, second floor, 515 Clark Ave.



A brief overview of the City's budget, including revenue and expenses, will be presented. This is followed by a time for residents to give input and ask questions regarding the coming year's budget.

The meeting is streamed live at www.CityOfAmes.org and on the City's Facebook and YouTube pages. Viewers may call in questions to 515.239.5214 or submit questions through the live Facebook or YouTube broadcasts in the comments section.

AMES PUBLIC LIBRARY HOSTS NOVEMBER BOOK SALE

Find great deals on thousands of used items, including books, movies, music, and more at the Ames Public Library fall book sale! The library is located at 515 Douglas Ave.

- Thursday, Nov. 14, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Admission \$2; Free admission and early entry starting at 5 p.m. for donors to the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation at the \$20 level and above.
- Friday, Nov. 15, and Saturday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free admission.
- Sunday, Nov. 17, from noon to 5 p.m. Last day! Admission \$1, and everything is free! (Auditorium only.)

Presented by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation. Proceeds from the book sale are used to enhance library programs and services.

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, Nov. 12

6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26

**PARKS AND RECREATION HOLIDAY HOURS:
 HOMEWOOD CLUBHOUSE – CLOSED NOV. 11 AND NOV. 27-DEC. 1
 COMMUNITY CENTER – CLOSED NOV. 28**

**FOR MONTHLY FACILITY SCHEDULES,
 GO TO WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG/PRCALENDARS.**

UPCOMING CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

YOUTH (GRADES 1-6) AND ADULT TENNIS LESSONS:

Learn from the professionals inside the Ames Fitness Center South Tennis Bubble. Session begins Nov. 16.

LITTLE TENNIS (AGES 3-5):

Parents will partner with their children to learn the basics of tennis in a fun learning environment! The next session starts Nov 19.



EUCHRE LEAGUE:

Offered Monday nights from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Homewood Golf Course Clubhouse. Begins Nov. 4.

CRIBBAGE LEAGUES:

Wednesday mornings (10-11:30 a.m.) or evening (6-7:30 p.m.) at Homewood Golf Course Clubhouse. Begins Nov. 6.

SIXTY FORWARD FITNESS CLASSES:

A variety of Fitness and Yoga Classes will be offered at the new Sixty Forward Center beginning Nov. 11. Classes are geared towards those 60+. Contact Nancy Shaw for more information, nancy.shaw@cityofames.org



cityofames.org.

ADULT FITNESS CLASSES:

New session begins Nov. 11. Classes include TRX/Tramp, Yoga, Cycling, Boxing Bootcamp, and more! In-person and virtual class options are available. Full list of class offerings can be found at www.AmesParkRec.org.

SWIM LESSONS:

First session is Sept. 29-Nov. 17 at Iowa State University State Pool.

BABYSITTER'S TRAINING COURSE:

Class provides youth with the knowledge and skills necessary to care for children and infants safely and responsibly. Class is Sat., Oct. 12, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Homewood Golf Course Clubhouse. Registration closes one week prior to the date of the class.

FIRST AID/CPR/AED:

Certification class will be held Sat., Nov. 9, 8:30-11 a.m. at Homewood Golf Course Clubhouse. Registration closes one week prior to the date of the class.



AMES/ISU ICE ARENA

SKATESGIVING 5K: Before the big feast, join us at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena for a Skatesgiving 5k, Nov. 28. 8 a.m. Register by Nov. 12 to guarantee a t-shirt. Cost \$30.

HOMEWOOD CLUBHOUSE

HOMEWOOD CLUBHOUSE RENTALS: Host your next social outing, meeting, or party at the Homewood Clubhouse!

ROOM	OCCUPANCY	FEE	AVAILABILITY
Community Room	80 people	\$105/hour	Year Round
Pro Shop	24 people	\$53/hour	Nov. 1 – March 31
Community Room and Pro Shop	104 people	\$132/hour	Nov. 1 – March 31



**TO REGISTER OR TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS,
 CALL THE COMMUNITY CENTER AT 515.239.5350 OR VISIT WWW.AMESPARKREC.ORG.**

ENERGY Q&A

My home’s furnace is starting to show its age. What should I keep in mind when looking for a new heating system? Are there rebates or other incentives available to help?

It’s great that you are thinking about this proactively. The best time to install a heating system is when your current HVAC unit is nearing end of its useful life but before it needs major repairs. Furnace and A/Cs can last 15-20 years, so around 14 years is good time to be thinking about an upgrade. As many as 80% of HVAC upgrades nationally are done in a replacement emergency. By considering your options now, you’re going to be in a better place to choose the right heating and cooling for your home.

A great way to heat your home in the winter and cool your home in the summer is with a heat pump. Heat pumps are more energy efficient than systems like gas furnaces, oil heat, and central air. Homes with heat pumps use less energy and save money on utility bills.

In addition to heating your home all winter, heat pumps also keep it cool in the summer. It’s a two-for-one deal: an air conditioner and a heating system in a single appliance. In the summer, a heat pump works exactly like a traditional air conditioner, cooling your home by moving the heat from the inside to the outside. In the winter, heat pumps kick into

reverse, pumping heat in from the outside air. Some heat pumps are designed to provide all the heating needs for your home. These models come with backup electric heat. Other heat pumps are paired with gas furnaces – in the same way one-way air conditioners are installed. In this configuration, the heat pump provides heating during all but the coldest part of the year. The furnace will kick in when outdoor temperatures drop to 10 to 20 degrees.

If you install a heat pump instead of an AC/furnace combo, you can reduce your heating-related fossil fuel use by 40% or more. Heating and cooling our homes accounts for more than 10% of U.S. carbon emissions. Because heat pumps are two to three times more efficient than most fossil-fuel heating systems, upgrading to a heat pump is an easy way to make a big difference in the fight against climate change. Ames Electric offers a Smart Energy rebate of up to \$1,000 for whole-home heat pumps. In addition, most households will qualify for a 30% tax credit, up to \$2,000, to buy and install a heat pump.

Finally, if you’re interested in learning more about heat pumps, consider attending the heat pump open house on Nov. 19 at the Ames Public Library. (See Page 1 of this newsletter for details!)

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

RENEWABLE ENERGY NUMBERS FOR AUGUST 2024

13 LED STREETLIGHTS INSTALLED FOR A TOTAL OF **6,304**

41,103 MILES OF VEHICLE CHARGING AT PUBLIC ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS

324,285 KILOWATT HOURS OF ENERGY PRODUCED BY SUNSMART AMES SOLAR FARM

RESOURCE RECOVERY PLANT

- REFUSE-DERIVED FUEL: **2,746 TONS**

RECYCLING:

- GLASS: **20.54 TONS**
- METALS: **145.51 TONS**
- FOOD WASTE DIVERSION: **3.75 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	:

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