



July  
2019

## West Des Moines eNewsletter

### Become a Master Recycler

Want to be the best recycler on your block? Here is the guide to MASTER the art of recycling and help the Curb It! recycling program thrive throughout the Metro!

#### ★ Follow the recycling guidelines

Although it's tempting to toss every kind of plastic, paper, and metal in the green cart, some items are simply not recyclable. For something to be accepted in the Curb It! program, it must be able to be sorted and sold.

Metro Waste Authority is constantly looking for new opportunities, but there are just some items that don't have buyers ... yet. If you need a refresher of what can be recycled, check out the recycling guide at [www.WherItShouldGo.com](http://www.WherItShouldGo.com).

#### ★ Keep It clean

Give your items a quick rinse before tossing them in your recycling cart. This helps keep recyclables free from contamination and ensures products are desired by businesses that want to purchase recyclables for new uses.

#### ★ Buy products made from recycled material

A great way to support recycling is to buy items made from post-consumer products. Purchase power is one of the most influential ways to show companies you want to support a sustainable recycling program.

You make all the difference in your recycling program. Once you master these guidelines, pass them on to your neighbors and friends. Together, we can create a positive impact on the recycling world!

**BACK**  
TO BASICS



KNOW  
where  
IT SHOULD  
GO

### Independence Day Reminder ...

City Hall and most City offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4.

Garbage collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week, with Friday's collection delayed until Saturday.



Connect with us! [www.wdm.iowa.gov](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov)

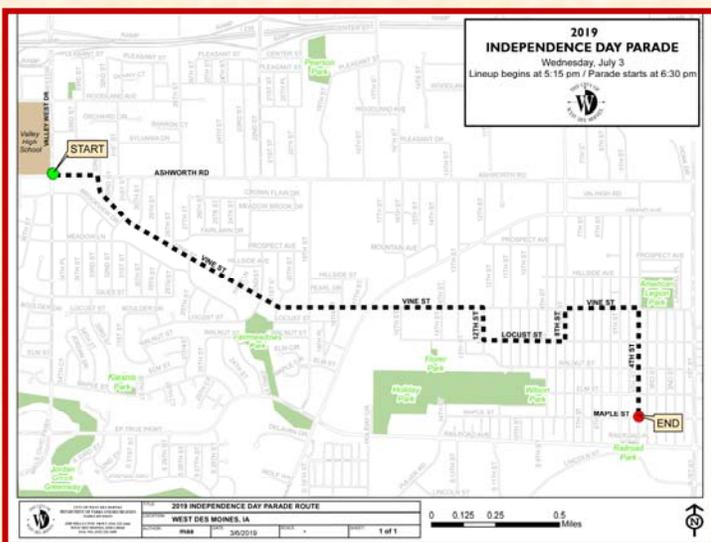




# What you need to know to enjoy Independence Day in West Des Moines!

## Wednesday, July 3

**Parade:** The Parade begins at 6:30 p.m. This year's route starts at Valley West Drive (35th Street) and Ashworth Road and heads east; turns south on Vine Street to 12th Street; turns south on 12th to Locust; turns east on Locust to 8th Street; turns North on 8th street to Vine; turns east on Vine to 4th Street; turns south on 4th Street and concludes at Maple Street.



## Wednesday, July 3, at Valley Junction

**All Iowa Bash!** Join the fun at a celebration of the United States and all things IOWA. This event features live music, food and fun for the entire family in Historic Valley Junction. The celebration will be held from 3 to 11 p.m. in the 300 block of 5th Street.

## Thursday, July 4

**Holiday Classic Horseshoe Tourney:** The fun goes from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Holiday Park, 1701 Railroad Ave. Sponsored by the WDM Horseshoe Pitchers Association. Pre-register by July 3. If you have questions, please call 681-1937.

**WDM Community Band:** Concert starts at 7 p.m. by the Coneflower Shelters in Raccoon River Park, 2500 Grand Avenue. Bring your lawn chairs & enjoy some patriotic favorites.

## Also on Thursday, July 4: **FIREWORKS!**

**Fireworks start at dusk over Blue Heron Lake in Raccoon River Park.**

It's a good idea to bring bug spray with DEET and wear long-sleeved clothing to prevent mosquito bites.

Although the City sprays the park before the holiday, it's not always effective in eliminating pests from all areas of the park.

## **PLEASE REMEMBER:**

**For your safety, the use of consumer fireworks in West Des Moines is not allowed at any time.**

## It's that time of year again for mosquitos!

Mosquito populations are thriving in Iowa this year due to all the rain we received over the last few months.

In a community like West Des Moines where significant open spaces and waterways exist, spraying is not an effective method of control. In lieu of spraying, the City utilizes helicopters and ground crews to apply larvacide pellets.

Staff also treat slow draining catch basins with abatement materials designed for a slow release of larvacide killer.

The City also sprays park areas before large groups gather during holiday weekends. The rest of the year, the focus is on minimizing the larvae population.

When high numbers of mosquitoes are present, the CDC recommends repellent with DEET and

long-sleeved clothing as the most effective methods of prevention.



Since mosquito spraying creates health concerns for some residents, the City always sends news releases to the media prior to spraying.

Various bike trails and park areas within West Des Moines will be treated for mosquitoes in the evening by ground spraying units on July 3 (weather permitting) prior to the July 4 holiday.

So if you plan on enjoying the great outdoors this summer, be sure to dress appropriately and take along the bug spray (EPA-registered insect repellents that contain DEET)!

## Mosquito control tips for around your home

Mosquitoes can breed in as little as one inch of standing water, which means there are several places around the home that might support them. Residents should follow these tips to eliminate breeding sites that essentially guarantee a yard full of biting pests:

- ◆ Clear all debris from gutters and keep your yard free of any toys, pet containers, empty flower pots, old tires or buckets where water can collect and stand.
- ◆ Reduce breeding sites by mowing your grass regularly.
- ◆ Drill holes in the bottom of trash cans and recycling bins to allow water to drain.
- ◆ Fill in any depressions, ditches or other spaces around your house where water tends to gather on wet days.
- ◆ Wear light-colored clothing because it is less attractive to some mosquito species. If the fabric is tightly woven, it can give some protection against biting.



Join us on Saturday,  
August 3, 2019!

10K, 5K & Kids Fun Run



The rematch is on ... for the next *Summer Breeze – Battle of the 'Burbs!*

The City of West Des Moines won in 2018, but the mayors of Clive, Waukee and West Des Moines will be duking it out again this year on **August 3** to win the WWF-style award belt on behalf of their City.

When you sign up, you'll have the option to designate a City to run for. Although the City with the most participants will be the winner, everybody wins because **100% of the registration fees benefit our local communities.**

This day of rivalry and fun is quickly becoming a favorite of runners with views of Clive Lake and the Country Club community. A Kids Fun Run also ensures a family-friendly event.



Sign up for the 10K, 5K or Kids Fun Run by visiting:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/IA/CLIVE/SummerBreezeRunBOB>.

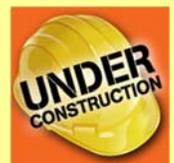
Age Groups will be split by men and women for both the 5K and 10K.

Those supporting WDM should wear **ORANGE**, our City designated color, for this competition.

*C'mon, WDM.  
Let's win this again!*



## Construction Updates



If you would like to learn more about Engineering and Parks & Recreation projects under construction, just visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/constructionupdates](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/constructionupdates).

# Triathlon event at Raccoon River Park

The City of West Des Moines will be hosting two kids' triathlons in **Raccoon River Park** this July. The RipRoar Kids Triathlon will take place **Saturday, July 13**, and the Flatland Kids Triathlon will take place **Sunday, July 14**.

**The Flatland triathlon will involve closures of Grand Avenue that may impact traffic.**

On Saturday, July 13, Grand Avenue will remain open, but the park will be heavily impacted by triathlon activities.

On Sunday, July 14, Grand Avenue will be closed from approximately 6:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from River Ridge Drive to South 35th Street. For the

duration of these triathlons, access to Raccoon River Park will be via South 11th Street. Parking may be limited while the triathlons are taking

place in the park, which is expected to be until approximately 1:00 p.m. each day. The boat ramp and beach in Raccoon River Park will be closed during the triathlons from approximately 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. each day.

Thank you for your patience as West Des Moines hosts

these events. If you have any questions, please call Ryan Jacobson in the West Des Moines City Clerk's Office at 222-3603 or email him at [Ryan.Jacobson@wdm.iowa.gov](mailto:Ryan.Jacobson@wdm.iowa.gov).



## School supply donations needed

West Des Moines Human Services will be holding its annual school supply distribution for qualifying low-income West Des Moines residents on August 14 and 15.

Last year, 468 kids received backpacks and school supplies due to the generosity of the community.

Please consider donating supplies or making a cash contribution which allows items to be purchased in bulk.

Supplies needed include: folders, notebooks, colored pencils, markers, crayons, calculators, supply boxes, glue, scissors, rulers, paper, pencils, erasers, pens, backpacks, etc.

All donations may be dropped off by August 13 to

the Human Services office at 139 6th Street. For more information, call Mindy Hotovec, Human Services, at (515) 222-3663 or visit us online at: [www.wdm.iowa.gov/SchoolSupplies](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/SchoolSupplies).





# Grilling Fire Safety

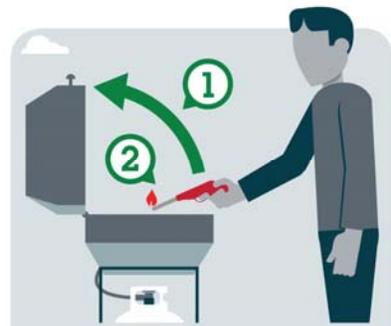
Stay fire safe this summer! Follow these grilling safety tips.



Only use your grill outside. Keep it at least 3 feet from siding, deck rails and eaves.



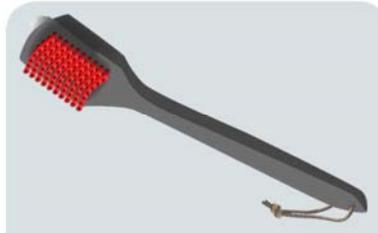
Keep a 3-foot safe zone around your grill. This will keep kids and pets safe.



Open your gas grill before lighting.



Keep an eye on your grill, fire pit or patio torches. Don't walk away from them when they are lit.



Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.



Place the coals from your grill in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled.

**Stay fire safe this summer!**  
For more information and resources, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov).



# 2019 Solid Waste Events for WDM Residents

→ September 14	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off * 8 a.m. – 12:00 (noon), West Des Moines Public Services
November 30	Yard Waste Pickup Ends
Dec. 30, 2019 – Jan. 10, 2020	Winter Yard Waste & Christmas Tree Collection

\* No paper shredding service will be provided by the City due to the variety of privately sponsored paper shredding events in our area. Yard waste and annual spring cleanup events are available to all West Des Moines residents who are eligible for solid waste collection (single family homes up to and including 4-plex units). Questions? Call Public Services at 222-3480.

## Community Compliance Corner



Our City Community Compliance Specialists are busy responding to issues brought to their atten-

tion by residents and things they observe out of compliance with City Code.

By far, the most violations this year have been about grass and weeds. Weeds or vegetation allowed to grow to a height greater than ten inches, on the average, must be removed.

In some instances, a resident may not be aware they are in violation of City Code. In these cases, a notice is posted or mailed, advising the property owner of the violation, how to resolve the issue, and a time period to bring the property into compliance to avoid abatement.

We appreciate that it takes diligence and working together to keep our community beautiful. If you would like to report an issue, contact us using **YourGOV** (see details below).



**At your fingertips 24/7, citizens can report non-emergency issues and service requests!**

You can find **YourGOV** on:

### The Internet

Visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/government/public-services/yourgov](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/government/public-services/yourgov) to start using YourGOV.

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