



July
2020

Independence Day activities in WDM

Due to concerns about COVID-19 and social distancing, the Independence Day Parade originally planned for Friday, July 3, 2020, in West Des Moines has been cancelled.

The West Des Moines Community Band Concert scheduled for Saturday, July 4, 2020, at Raccoon River Park, also has been cancelled.

Fireworks will NOT be held this year at Raccoon River Park. A limited version of the fireworks display originally scheduled for Raccoon River Park will now be held at approximately 9:30 p.m. on July 4 at the City/School Campus by City Hall, 4200 Mills Civic Parkway.

Parking lots on the campus (see yellow areas marked on the map to the right) will be open to spectators at 7:30 p.m. All attendees are urged to practice social distancing.

[For more information, visit the City's Independence Day website page.](#)

City Hall and most City offices will be closed on Friday, July 3, for the holiday.

Garbage collection will not be delayed this year.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!

Please remember that for your safety, fireworks cannot be discharged in the City of West Des Moines at any time.

Please leave the fireworks to the professionals and enjoy the display coordinated professionally by the WDM Fire Department.

Thank you!!



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www.wdm.iowa.gov



Spring Cleanup will now take place the week of July 20

Annual Spring Cleanup will now take place in West Des Moines on a resident's regular garbage collection day during the week of July 20 - 24. The event was originally scheduled for the first week of June but it was postponed due to COVID-19.

Spring Cleanup is an opportunity for residents to dispose of items that don't fit in their garbage carts.

Acceptable items include mattresses, couches, carpet (small rolls), end tables, fans, lamps and grills (with propane tanks removed).

Items not accepted include appliances, propane gas tanks, air conditioners, water heaters, dehumidifiers, building materials, concrete, tires, vehicles/major auto parts, yard waste, hazardous waste, paint, oil, medical waste or poisons.

Officials are asking residents to set out only as much as will fit in the bed of a pickup truck.

If it's reasonable that two individuals can lift it, crews will collect it.

Bagged or boxed items will not be collected

since these items can be placed in carts year-round or on the curb during a normal collection day with a \$1.00 "extra trash" sticker. Crews will pick up items in the original box (such as an artificial Christmas tree

West Des Moines **JULY 20 -24**
SPRING CLEAN-UP **2020**

Place items like this at your curb by 6:00 AM on your garbage collection day:

Only residents on city services eligible

in its original box).

Spring Cleanup service is available to all West Des Moines residents eligible for City provided solid waste collection.

Per City ordinance and similar to other solid waste collection, Spring Cleanup items should be placed out for collection no earlier than 5 p.m. the day before the scheduled pick-up day and by 6 a.m. the day of collection. [Select this link for details on Spring Cleanup.](#)

Prepare for mosquitos this summer

If conditions are favorable, the Public Services Department will ground fog for mosquitos in certain parks (not in neighborhoods) prior to the July 4 Holiday.

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).



Scrap Tire Drop-off event rescheduled for August 1

The annual **City Scrap Tire Drop-off** event, postponed due to COVID-19, has been rescheduled for Saturday, August 1, at the WDM Public Services facility, located at 560 S. 16th St.

- ◆ Maximum of five (5) tires per household (no rims)
- ◆ No scrap tires generated by any business
- ◆ No large semi trailer, farm or tractor tires
- ◆ No solid tires such as lawnmower, forklift or golf cart tires
- ◆ No tires containing hazardous materials



New Cardboard Drop-off Site at Southwoods School



Don't forget about the new **FREE** cardboard drop-off at Valley Southwoods Freshman High

School, 625 S. 35th Street, in West Des Moines.

Simply remove the packing material from each box, flatten it and then slide it right in the big green recycling container.

The container only accepts cardboard (the brown material commonly used in the smiling boxes from Amazon). Those in the recycling business call it corrugated, and you can recognize it by the wavy ridges in the middle. The flat thin material used to

make your favorite cereal box is actually paper – not cardboard.

The City is partnering with Metro Waste Authority and the WDM School District to bring this convenient resource closer to home since leaving material next to your cart won't get it picked up.



Construction Updates



If you would like to learn more about Engineering and Parks and Recreation projects under construction, just visit our [website](#). You can also view drone footage of construction projects by [visiting Engineering Services YouTube Channel!](#)

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Update

For several years now, the City has informed and educated private property owners about the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) insect and the impact this invasive species has on Ash trees.

The information provided to everyone highlighted the need for property owners to make a decision about whether to remove their Ash trees or have them chemically treated.

At this point, it's apparent just how prevalent the EAB is throughout our community. Most untreated Ash trees are showing symptoms ranging from the initial dieback in the upper canopy to completely dead trees.



Trees killed by EAB become dangerously brittle and are prone to failure without warning.

WDM's City Code, 7-10-7E, references Public and Private "Dead, Diseased, or Insect Ridden Trees and Shrubs" that are deemed a nuisance and constitute a hazard to neighboring private property and/or public safety. The removal of such trees can be ordered by the City.

Property owners with infected Ash trees that are determined to constitute a hazard may soon expect to receive a notification from the City regarding required removal of such trees.

The importance of cleaning sanitary sewers

You City crews perform routine cleaning operations on public sanitary sewers throughout the year to remove tree roots and debris from the sanitary sewer system.

This process improves sewer performance, reduces the chance of sewer backups and other related problems, and enables optimal viewing conditions for televising the sewer line and scheduling any necessary repairs.

The cleaning process causes a vacuum in the sewer, which will not affect most homes. However, some homes may experience problems if they have inadequate or partially blocked drain vents. The vacuum may cause P-traps (the s-shaped bend in the pipe under sinks and drains) to be sucked dry. Residents who notice a sewer smell are advised to run a small amount of water in their drains to refill these traps. You may also no-

tice a bubbling or gurgling noise during cleaning operations. If so, please feel free to cover floor and shower drains, pull stoppers on sinks and tubs, and close toilet lids when not in use.

If you have any questions, or if an issue develops, please feel free to contact Public Services at (515) 222-3480.



City to host Flatlands Kids Triathlon on July 12

The City of West Des Moines will be hosting the Flatland Kids Triathlon in Raccoon River Park on Sunday, July 12.

The RipRoar Kids Triathlon, which usually takes place the day before, has been cancelled this year.

The Flatland Triathlon will involve closures of Grand Avenue that may impact residents and motorists.

On Sunday, July 12, Grand Avenue will be closed from approximately 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. from River Ridge Drive to South 35th Street. (See map below.)

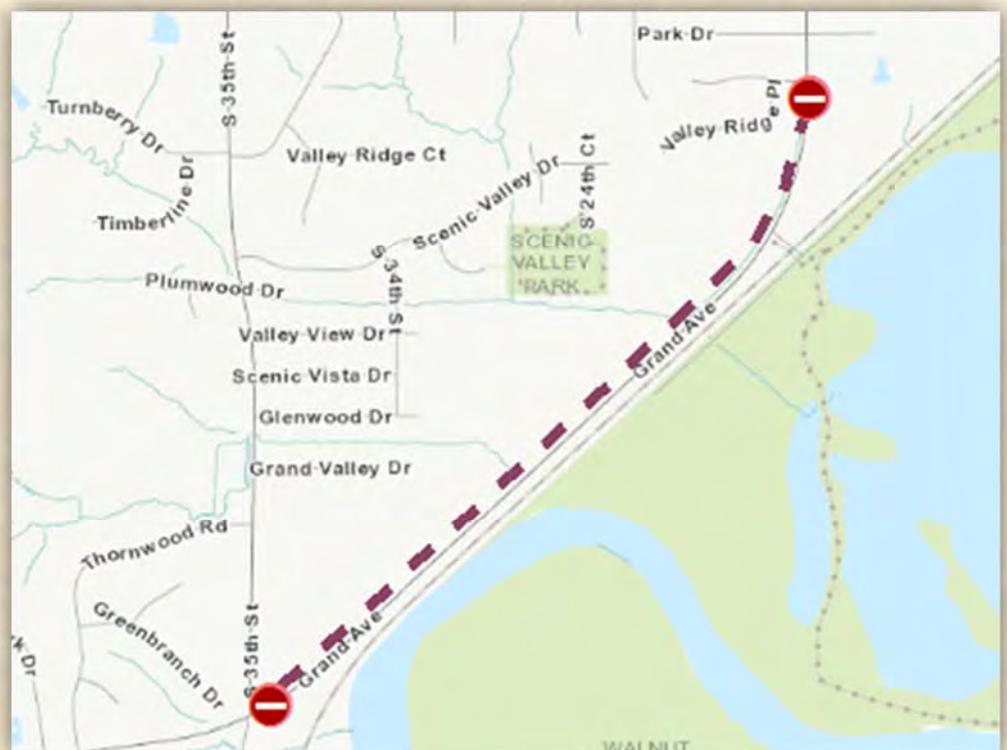
For the duration of this triathlon, access to Raccoon River Park will be via South 11th Street.

Parking may be limited while the triathlon is taking place in the park, which is expected to be until approximately 2:00 p.m. that day.

The boat ramp and beach in Raccoon River Park also will be closed during the triathlon from approximately 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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.

Thank you for your patience as West Des Moines hosts this event!



Emergency assistance funds available

The City of West Des Moines has been allocated \$192,295 of Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

The City will use the majority of these funds to provide assistance with rent, mortgage and/or utilities for vulnerable residents from low and moderate income households who may be subject to eviction, foreclosure or utility disconnect because of job loss related to COVID-19.

In order to qualify, applicants must meet all the following terms for eligibility:

- The household must live within the city boundaries of the City of West Des Moines.
- The household is unable to make rent/mortgage and utility payments specifically due to the effects of COVID-19. Household income and expenses will be reviewed to

verify the household is unable to make the payments through other means. No payments from CDBG funds will be made for months prior to April 2020.

- The head of household applying for assistance must be a citizen or national of the United States or a noncitizen who has eligible immigration status.
- Total household income must be less than 80% of the Area Median Income. The household income will be verified based on the last 30 days of paystubs, unemployment payments and bank statements.

To apply for this program or if you have questions, call the West Des Moines Human Services Department at (515) 222-3660, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Residents also may email questions to Human Services at Human-Services@wdm.iowa.gov.

Number of Persons in Household	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
Maximum Total Gross Household Income	\$49,950	\$57,100	\$64,250	\$71,350	\$77,100	\$82,800	\$88,500	\$94,200

Free Medical Clinic at West Des Moines Human Services

The Valley Junction Free Medical Clinic has re-opened on Tuesday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. with curbside services offered from the north entrance of the West Des Moines Human Services building (on Maple Street).

The clinic provides basic medical care and management of chronic medical conditions to uninsured or under-insured individuals; all on-site services are provided free of charge.

The clinic is a member of Free Clinics of Iowa, the largest network of free medical clinics in the state of Iowa and a donor-supported, not-for-profit organization.

Free Clinics of Iowa member clinics provide basic healthcare services through volunteer physicians and nurses. Please call 222-3660 for more information.

2020 Solid Waste Events for WDM Residents

**Spring Cleanup will now take place from July 20–24
on your regular collection day**

August 1	Tire Drop-off 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., West Des Moines Public Services, 560 S. 16th Street
September 12	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off 8 a.m. – 12:00 (noon), West Des Moines Public Services, 560 S. 16th Street
November 28	Yard Waste Pickup Ends
Dec. 28, 2020 – Jan. 8, 2021	Winter Yard Waste & Christmas Tree Collection

Metro Waste Authority is adding residential trash drop-off to the services offered at the Metro Northwest Transfer Station in Grimes

Beginning Saturdays in May, residents can bring typical household garbage, and large items, such as mattresses or furniture, to the Northwest Drop-off. This means items that would usually require a large item or extra trash sticker can now be brought to the drop-off instead for a fee. **With Spring Cleanup postponed until July, this provides a convenient location to dispose of trash and large items.**

The northwest location also offers compost for purchase by the bag and free recycling drop-off, including cardboard. To ensure safety, hazardous waste will not be accepted at this time. In addition, appliances, tires, yard waste, and construction and demolition materials are not accepted and must be taken to the landfill.

Metro Northwest Transfer Station in Grimes is located at 4105 SE Beisser Drive, just a half-mile west of IA-Hwy 141. Once at the site, look for a small brick building in the center. Pull across the scale and up to the window for a quick chat with staff who will get you on your way. For rates and information, visit www.WherelItShouldGo.com or call (515) 244-0021. Hours on Saturday are from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

