



March 2017

West Des Moines eNewsletter



Tom Hadden, City Manager

On February 21, the City Council approved the proposed budget for FY 2017-18. The adoption of the budget is the most important action taken by any City's elected officials each year.

The Council approved maintaining the property tax levy rate for residents at \$12.00 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation. The tax levy was lowered from \$12.05 to \$12.00 in 2015, and has not increased since July 1, 2007. West Des Moines has the third lowest tax rate among Iowa's ten largest cities.

The FY 2017-18 budget is comprised of basic operating expenditures totaling approximately \$72.9 million, business/proprietary expenses of \$37.7 million, debt service expenditures of \$21.5 million and capital improvement expenditures of \$116.1 million. These expenditures amount to a total budget of nearly \$248.2 million. I want to thank our elected officials for their leadership and their commitment to West Des Moines. I also want to thank our employees for their outstanding work on behalf of our residents.

The Spring/Summer issue of WDM Magazine

The latest issue of the WDM magazine has arrived! This issue features useful information about Library, Human Services and Parks & Recreation programs, yard waste collection, Spring Cleanup (June 5-9), an update on the emerald ash borer, and much, much more. City employees work very hard on this publication, and it was rewarding to discover that 85 percent of residents who responded to our 2016 Citizen Survey were satisfied with the quality of our magazine.

If you would like to receive additional City news via email, please sign up for our [eNotification](#) system and choose the news you want to receive!



Connect with us!

www.wdm.iowa.gov



WDM EMS launches first Stop the Bleed program in Iowa

A news conference was recently held in the Council Chambers at City Hall to announce a new partnership to bring the first Stop the Bleed program to Iowa. This national initiative was launched by the Department of Homeland Security to train and equip people who find themselves in an emergency with a person experiencing serious bleeding.

The West Des Moines Emergency Medical Services Department, UnityPoint Health-Des Moines Trauma Services, Mercy Des Moines Trauma Services and The Iowa Clinic will work to equip residents with the knowledge and tools (tourniquets, bandages and gloves) to stop life-threatening bleeding.

Jeff Dumermuth, Chief of Emergency Medical Services for WDM, said the group's goal is to offer training to citizens and businesses in West Des Moines as part of their public education initiatives. "We hope the skills that control bleeding will become as widely known as the skills of CPR and using an automated defibrillator," he said.

The initial organizations participating in the program are Guide One Insurance, Jordan Creek

Town Center, West Des Moines Community Schools, the City of West Des Moines, Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Company and Des Moines Area Community College's West Campus. Staff at these locations will participate in a 20-30 minute class on stopping bleeding.



Richard Sidwell, MD, Trauma Surgeon with The Iowa Clinic and Iowa Methodist Medical Center/Blank Children's Hospital, said the program will improve the public's awareness and increase access to bleeding control kits.

"This awareness and training can truly mean the difference between life and death," he said.

While the Stop the Bleed partnership is currently focused on West Des Moines, officials hope to expand the program throughout the area.

If you're interested in learning more or participating in the Stop the Bleed program, contact West Des Moines Emergency Medical Services at (515) 273-0768.



Discount on aquatic season passes ends March 31

Seasons passes for WDM aquatic centers are on sale now! Residents and nonresidents can purchase passes through March 31 at a 10% discount.

New pass holders will need to get photos taken when passes are purchased from the Parks and Recreation Department in City Hall, the WDM Community Center, 217 5th Street, or at our aquatic centers this summer (lines may be long).

Returning pass holders with a current photo on file do not need a new photo.

For more information, visit our [website!](#)



www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg

**NEW
REGISTRATION
WEBSITE**

Swim
Lessons

Family
Programs

Summer
Camps

Nature
Programs

Adult &
Senior
Programs

Have you registered for WDM Parks & Recreation programs since our new software launched in November? If not, go online to sign up today!

- ◆ Set up a **NEW** primary account contact
- ◆ Add family members at the time you register for programs
- ◆ View course schedules and sign up online

Spring/Summer 2017 Registration

WDM Residents: Begins March 7 at 8 a.m.

Non Residents: Begins March 21 at 8 a.m.

It won't be long now ... Spring is on the way

Yard Waste Collection begins April 3

The season for yard work is almost upon us! Curbside yard waste collection starts the week of **April 3** and continues through November. Yard waste cannot be disposed of in your normal garbage. Residents have the option to use Compost It! bags, stickers or carts. The Compost It! name pays for the cost of collection.

Bags

If you put yard waste into a Compost It! brand bag, no sticker is required. Do not exceed 40 lbs. of material per bag. Bags are sold for \$8.00 per bundle of five, and you can find them at most grocery and hardware stores.

Stickers



If you're using a generic compost bag, attach a Compost It! Sticker and make sure the sticker is visible to the hauler from the street. Compost It! stickers should also be attached to brush bundles. Bundles cannot exceed 18 inches in diameter or four feet

in length. Stickers are sold for \$1.25 and are also available at most grocery and hardware stores.

Carts

If you regularly have a lot of yard waste, a Compost It! cart could be the solution for you. The cart is 96 gallons and can hold the equivalent of three yard waste bags. If you purchase more than 65 bags a year, or simply don't want to hassle with bags, the cart is a nice alternative.



Carts are available for a \$105 annual service fee, plus a one-time cart purchase of \$60 (\$80 with delivery) to begin the program.

To enroll, call Public Services at 222-3480 or renew your service at www.WherItShouldGo.com.

For more information and to find out what is accepted and what is not accepted, call 244-0021 or visit www.WherItShouldGo.com.



2017 Solid Waste Events for WDM Residents

**Annual Spring Cleanup is June 5 – 9
on your regular trash collection day**

April 3	Yard Waste Pickup begins on your normal trash collection day
April 8	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off * 8 a.m. – 12:00 (noon), West Des Moines Public Services
April 15	Scrap Tire Drop-off, 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., West Des Moines Public Services
May 25	National Public Works Week Celebration, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Valley Junction Farmer's Market
June 5 – 9	Annual Spring Cleanup – on your regular trash day. Watch for details!
September 9	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off * 8 a.m. – 12:00 (noon), West Des Moines Public Services
December 1	Yard Waste Pickup Ends
Jan. 2–12, 2018	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.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Options:

Metro Northwest Drop-Off – 4105 SE Beisser Drive, Grimes
2nd Saturday in the months of March thru December, 8 a.m.– noon

Metro Hazardous Waste Drop-Off – 1105 Prairie Drive SW, Bondurant
Tuesday–Friday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month, 8 a.m. to noon

House-Side Collection – learn more at www.WhereltShouldGo.com/houseside

Visit www.WhereltShouldGo.com for more information.



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 the Public Services Department at 222-3480.

Community Compliance Corner: Tips for Property Owners

- 1) Satellite dishes must be attached to the house or apartment or be placed in the backyard. If you need to place your dish in the front or side yard, you must get approval from the City of West Des Moines and pull a permit.
- 2) Garbage, recycling and extra ticketed items should only be placed out in the right of way after 5 p.m. the night before pickup. Carts should be removed within 24 hours after scheduled pickup.
- 3) Vehicles on any private property (including single family homes, apartment complexes, commercial properties or others) must be currently licensed, operable and parked on an approved hard surface.
- 4) Yard waste is not collected during the winter, but collection will begin again the week of April 3rd. Residents should not place yard waste in the right of way until collection officially begins. Large piles of branches and other yard waste should be hauled to the Metro Park East Landfill.
- 5) Not sure how to get rid of something? Just visit www.WhereltShouldGo.com.



Snow events require all vehicles to be parked on private property and off City streets during the entirety of the Snow Emergency Parking Ban.

Sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours from the end of the snow event.

And now, a word from your Snowplow Drivers

When there's snow and ice ...

We know it's not easy to keep your vehicle off the streets.

We know no one likes Parking Bans!

So THANK YOU for helping us plow the snow by keeping your vehicles off City streets.

We appreciate your patience and your cooperation!

We live in the Midwest, so even though it's March, we could still have snow.

Please continue to check for a Snow Parking Ban when it snows:

- ★ Call the Snow Hotline at 273-0766
- ★ Check the website: www.wdm.iowa.gov
- ★ Sign up for [eUpdates](#) to automatically receive emails when snow emergency parking bans are issued.
- ★ Like the City of West Des Moines - City Manager's Office on Facebook
- ★ Follow @cityofwdm on Twitter

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

It's not too early to mark your calendar for the WDM Firefighter Association's Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 15, at 10:30 a.m.

This year's event will take place at the DMACC West Campus, 5959 Grand Avenue, WDM.

Don't miss out on the fire trucks, face painting and photos with our special guest ...

the Easter Bunny!



Free computer classes

West Des Moines Human Services offers free introductory computer classes on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Topics include an introduction to email, working with files and folders, introduction to word processing and using the Internet.

The next 4-week session begins Tues., March 7. Space is limited, so if you're interested in learning more or registering, please call 222-3663.



Help us with our Clothing Closet

Human Services is in need of volunteers to help with our Clothing Closet at 139 6th Street in Valley Junction. The Clothing Closet provides free clothing and housewares to eligible, low-income households on a monthly basis.

Volunteers accept and sort donations of clothing and housewares, assist clients and keep the room clean and organized.

Opportunities are available Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Evening opportunities also are available on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Call 222-3663 for more information.

Tutors needed to assist with ESL

Did you know that English as a Second Language classes are offered at West Des Moines Human Services on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon? Beginner-level classes provide instruction in conversational English during 8-week sessions.

Volunteer tutors are needed to assist with the classes and provide small group and one-on-one instruction for adult learners. Knowledge of a second language is not necessary to volunteer.

Call 222-3663 for more information or to register as a student or volunteer.