



April
2017

West Des Moines eNewsletter



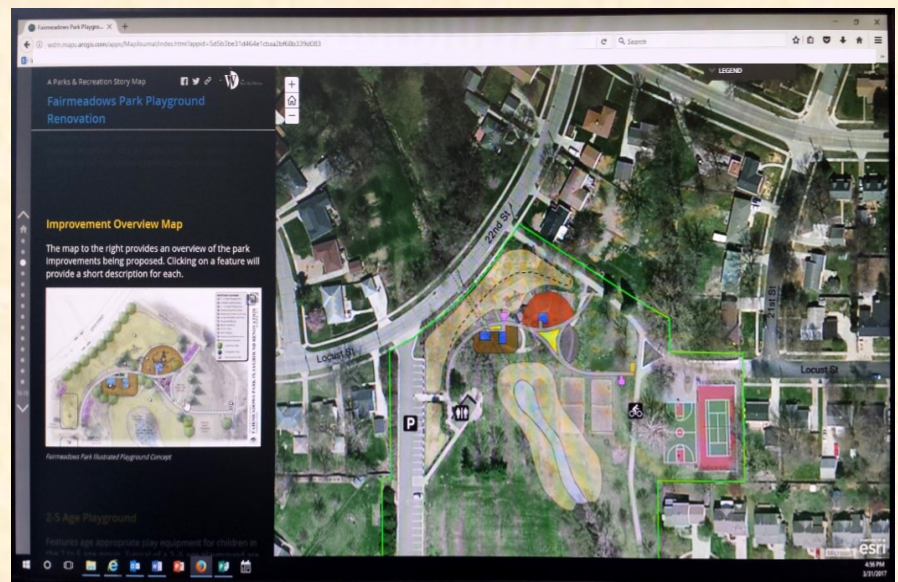
Tom Hadden, City Manager

Although we haven't seen the sun for a few days, rest assured that we're going to see it and all this rain will green things up in a hurry! When April arrives, Iowans typically turn their attention to working in their yards, spring cleanup activities and visiting our beautiful parks and trails for some much needed outdoor recreation.

Our Parks and Recreation staff also enjoy springtime activities, and I want to highlight Fairmeadows Park, which is in the process of undergoing major improvements as we complete a storm sewer replacement project that took place last winter. As with many of our neighborhood parks, residents have expressed a lot of interest in what's happening, so we decided to try a new method of providing information on our website, and that method is called "story mapping."

The screenshot below shows you a story map that allows you to scroll through information and view maps and photos that explain all the changes we'll be making in the park. Fairmeadows was a great project for this because the replacement of the storm sewer pipe required the removal of several park facilities including outdated playground equipment, sidewalks, the west volleyball court and park lights.

All of our renovation efforts will be great improvements for park users, so please check out our construction timeline and visit our interactive Fairmeadows Park story map at www.wdm.iowa.gov/Fairmeadows.



Connect with us!

www.wdm.iowa.gov



Student APWA Chapter tours WDM Public Services

The City of West Des Moines Traffic Operations Center (TOC) in the Public Services Department generates significant interest from other municipalities and organizations.

Our most recent visitors included a lively group of 18 students who joined us for an after hours tour of our operations. These students all belonged to the American Public Works Association (Student Chapter) located at Iowa State University.

Principal Traffic Engineer Jim Dickinson had the pleasure of showing the students our traffic monitoring cameras and discussing how this technology benefits the City. While one group spent time in the TOC, Operations Specialist Matt Dolan took another group on a tour of our equipment and facilities.



Help us celebrate the Grand Opening of Art on the Campus

You are invited to join the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission and the Parks and Recreation Department as we celebrate the Grand Opening of the 2017 temporary Art on the Campus exhibit.

Come and enjoy family friendly entertainment, complimentary food and drink, a chance to meet the artists and a first look at this year's exhibit!

Thursday, April 27
4:30—6:00 p.m.
WDM City Hall
FREE



EARTH MONTH

Plastic Bag Swap



Bring Your Plastic Bags to City Hall and Receive a FREE Reusable Bag!

Do you have dozens and dozens of plastic bags stashed around your house that you forget to take back to the store? If so, you're in luck. Metro Waste Authority presents the **Earth Month Plastic Bag Swap!**

During the month of April, simply bring a bagful of plastic bags to City Hall, place them in the designated Earth Month Plastic Bag Swap container and receive a Metro Waste Authority reusable tote bag for FREE (one bag per household while supplies last).



Our collection container is located in the Parks and Recreation

Department on the first floor of City Hall, 4200 Mills Civic Parkway.

In addition, you can help West Des Moines win a beautiful park bench from [Plastic Recycling of Iowa Falls](#), made from durable 100% recycled plastic.



Communities across the Metro are participating, and the bench will be awarded to the city that collects the most plastic bags (all bags are recycled locally) during the month of April.

Do your part to stop plastic bags from littering our neighborhoods and waterways, get yourself a nifty reusable bag and help our city win!

For more information, visit:

www.WherItShouldGo.com/bag-swap

Earth Day Family Fun in West Des Moines!

Saturday, April 22
10 a.m. to 12:00 (noon)
WDM City Hall
Free!

Join us for some great outdoor activities ... kayaking, canoeing, fishing or just relaxing in REI's outdoor lounge with a cup of coffee or cocoa.

Free tree saplings will be handed out to celebrate Earth Day!

When you changed your clock, did you change your batteries?

The West Des Moines Fire Department is reminding everyone that the transition to daylight savings time is the perfect time to change your smoke detector batteries.

The rule of thumb is to replace your batteries once every year when you set your clocks for daylight savings time.

It's a fact that fresh batteries decrease the chances of batteries failing in case of a fire. In addition to changing your batteries, it's also important to

check your smoke detector monthly to ensure that it's working properly.



Statistics show that about 3 out of 5 homes do not have working smoke detectors despite the fact that detectors cut in half the chances of someone dying in a fire.

So take a moment and make sure you change those batteries! If you have elderly relatives or neighbors, it's a good idea to check and see if they could use a helping hand.

Residential Scrap Tire Collection

Saturday, April 15, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WDM Public Services, 560 South 16th Street



Not sure what to do with those old tires collecting dust in your garage?

This event is a great opportunity for WDM residents to dispose of old car and truck tires. Each household may drop off a maximum of five tires. Rims must be removed.

The City of West Des Moines is once again partnering with Metro Waste Authority to offer a Residential Tire Collection. Just go to the last driveway on the east side of South 16th Street (in the cul-de-sac area of the street). Tires will be accepted at the gate. This tire collection is open to West Des Moines residents only. Questions? Call Public Services at 222-3480.

If you're not able to make this free event, you have options! Metro Waste Authority has year-round drop-off containers at several locations. Visit www.WhereltShouldGo.com or call 244-0021.

Tires NOT accepted at this event include:

Solid tires (lawnmower, forklift or golf cart tires)

Tires generated by businesses

Farm, tractor or bicycle tires

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

We're just a little less than two weeks away from the WDM Firefighter Association's Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 15, at 10:30 a.m.

This year's event takes 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!*



Your GOV



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

You can find YourGOV by using one of the following:

The Web

Visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/government/public-services/yourgov to start using the YourGOV web-based request portal.

Apple iPhone™

Download the free YourGOV iPhone app by visiting the iTunes App Store.

Android™ enabled smartphones

Download the free YourGOV app at Google Market or the Amazon App Store.

Our Clothing Closet needs your help!

With the change of seasons, the Clothing Closet at West Des Moines Human Services is in need of spring and summer clothing and shoes.

The closet also is in need of gently used toys and small household items including towels, blankets, sheets and kitchen items.

Donations may be dropped off Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.,

at Human Services, 139 6th Street, in West Des Moines.



Donations also accepted on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Donation receipts are available. Please call 222-3663 if you have any questions.

Saturday, April 8, from 8 a.m. to 12:00 (noon)

Scrap Appliance & Metal Drop-off

This event is a great opportunity to recycle unwanted items!
 West Des Moines residents may bring their scrap appliances or metal
 to the gated area at the Public Services facility located at 560 S. 16th Street.
Items that will be accepted for free include:

Air Conditioners	Dishwashers	Ice Makers	Saws
Batteries, Lead Acid	Dryers	Metal—most anything	Speakers
Blenders, Mixers, Toasters	DVD players	Metal shelving	Stereo Systems
Calculators	Exercise Equipment	Microwaves	Stoves
Cameras, Camcorders	Fans	Mowers—Riding	Vacuums
Cell Phones	Fax Machines	Mowers—Walk Behind	VCRs
Chillers	Freezers (no food)	Phones	Video Game Systems
Computer Towers, Servers	Furnaces	Pots, Pans, Electric Skillets	Washers
Condenser Units	Garage Doors & Openers	Printers	Water Coolers
Copiers	General Scrap Metal	Refrigeration Units	Water Heaters
Dehumidifiers	Humidifiers	Rooftop AC Units	Water Softeners (no salt)

These items will NOT be accepted:

Anything with food in it	Garbage	Paint	Wood
Chemicals	Light Bulbs	Plastics	Yard Waste

Televisions and computer monitors are accepted for a fee (cash or check only):

TVs (regular-sized) and Computer Monitors - \$15.00 each

Console and Big Screen TVs - \$30.00 each



Please Note: Residents participating in the City-provided solid waste collection may dispose of TVs and monitors of any type by putting each item at the curb by 6 a.m. on their normal collection day with the appropriate stickers.

No paper shredding will be provided by the City due to the variety of privately sponsored paper shredding events in our area.

H&W Recycling is partnering with the City of West Des Moines in this collection event. If you have questions, please call the Public Services Department at 222-3480.

Spring is here — and so is yard waste collection!

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 to the bag 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

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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.