



January
2024

West Des Moines eNewsletter

Join us as we celebrate MLK Day on January 15

The City of West Des Moines and the WDM Human Rights Commission are honored to host a special MLK Day celebration on Monday, January 15, 2024!

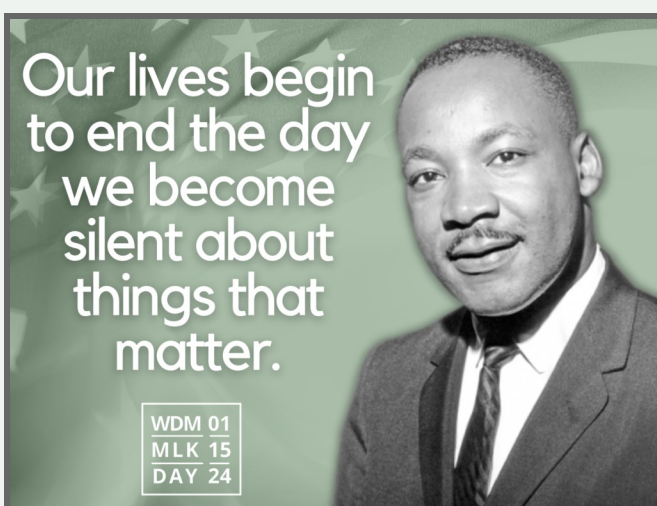
This free MLK Day event will be held at the Mid-American Energy Company RecPlex, 6500 Grand Avenue, from 3 to 5 p.m. All individuals and families are welcome to attend. This year's keynote speaker is Rich Salas, Ph.D., Chief Diversity Officer and Assistant Professor for the Behavioral Medicine and Bioethics Department at Des Moines University.

You're also welcome to join us for a pre-event Multi-Cultural Reception hosted by the Greater Des Moines Partnership from 3 - 3:45 p.m. [Registration is required.](#)

A Meals from the Heartland Community Service Project also will be held from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

at 357 Lincoln Street. [Registration required.](#)

In addition, the WDM Historical Society will be giving free tours of the Jordan House Museum (and book giveaways!) from 1–3 p.m. on Sunday, January 14. [For more information, visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/MLKDay.](#)



City Hall & most City offices will be closed for the holidays on January 1 and January 15.

Garbage, recycling & yard waste collection will be delayed one day after New Year's Day.

Collection will not be delayed for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday.

Connect with us!

www.wdm.iowa.gov



Coming soon ... Winter Collection!

The Compost It! program's winter collection will occur Jan. 1-12 on your regular collection day.

Yard Waste Collection

Leaves, small twigs and branches, lawn clippings and any garden vegetation can be collected curbside during winter collection.

Be sure to:

Tag it: Brush bundles and store-brand bags require a green Compost It! sticker for collection. Brush bundles can be no larger than 4 feet long by 18 inches in diameter.

Bag it: Put loose yard waste such as lawn clippings, leaves, and garden vegetation in Compost It! bags or store-brand bags with a green Compost It! sticker. [Compost It! bags and stickers are sold at many local retailers.](#)



Wheel it: If you've enrolled in the Compost It! cart service, toss everything in your cart and take it to the curb on your normal collection day.

Live Christmas Tree Collection

Your live tree can also be collected curbside during winter collection!

Just set your tree out

before 6 AM on your regular collection day with one Compost It! sticker attached. When you set it at the curb, the sticker is the only decoration your tree can have. All ornaments, lights, and wires need to be removed. Wreaths and garlands are not accepted.

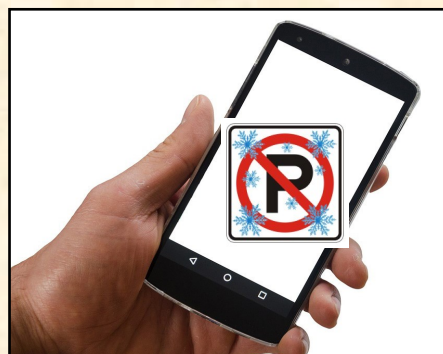
[For more info, visit Metro Waste Authority's website](#) or call (515) 244-0021.

How do I know if there's a Parking Ban?

It's easy to find out!

- Get **text** and **email alerts!**
 - ➔ [Sign up for text messages](#)
 - ➔ [Sign up for e-mails at www.wdm.iowa.gov/eNotifications](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/eNotifications)
- Visit www.wdm.iowa.gov. Look for the banner (at the very top of the page) and the News article at the bottom of the main page.
- Call the Snow Hotline at **(515) 273-0766** (Available 24/7, just like the website)!
- Follow the City of West Des Moines – City Manager's Office on Facebook @cityofwdm.

- ◆ **Please note: Now that residents can sign up to receive text messages, X (formerly Twitter) @cityofwdm will no longer be used to communicate snow parking bans, effective January 1, 2024.**



When it snows, there's a good chance for a parking ban

Our snowplow operators are ready to hit the roads when the snow begins to fly! Make sure you pay attention to weather forecasts because if snow is a possibility, it's likely we'll issue an emergency snow parking ban.

During a parking ban, vehicles must be removed from all City-owned parking areas.



Vehicles are subject to being towed and/or a \$50 ticket if they are not removed during a parking ban!

Remember these important things about winter weather events:

- ◆ Park your vehicle off the street if there's a parking ban
- ◆ Clear your sidewalk within 24 hours after the end of a storm
- ◆ Mailbox – make sure it's accessible for mail delivery
- ◆ Don't place your garbage cart on top of snow piles
- ◆ Give those snowplows plenty of room!

Community Compliance works year-round to keep our community beautiful and safe by responding to violations of City Code



Accumulations of snow and ice must be removed within (24) hours following the end of a winter event. [View the full Code on Snow and Ice on Sidewalks \(7-1-5:D\).](#)



It is **unlawful** to deposit snow and/or ice from a private property onto any public street, avenue, alley, public square or traveled area within the City. [View Code 7-1-5:F for complete details.](#)

SeeClickFix



Report a code violation or any non-emergency issue using the City's online service desk, [SeeClickFix, which is available on our website](#) or by downloading the app on your Android or iPhone.

Carbon Monoxide Safety



Did you know?

More than 150 people in the U.S. die every year from accidental nonfire-related carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide or CO is a colorless and odorless gas. CO poisoning can occur when a fuel-burning appliance or machine, such as a furnace, heater or generator, is not working or vented properly. Breathing in CO at high levels can be fatal.

Learn what you can do to protect your family from the dangers of CO.

- ✓ Install and maintain CO alarms inside your home to provide early warning of CO.
- ✓ Install CO alarms in a central location outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of your home.
- ✓ Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows and vents.
- ✓ Make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow and other debris.

For more information and free resources, visit

www.usfa.fema.gov





Now hiring for seasonal aquatics staff

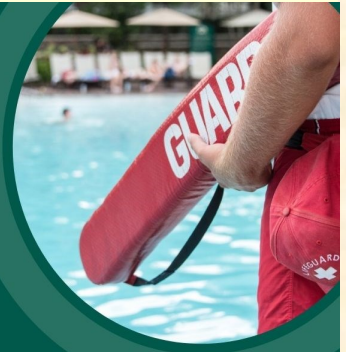


It's hard to believe, but we're hiring aquatics staff for 2024! Plan now to spend your summer with us at our aquatic centers.

- ◆ Lifeguards start at **\$15.00/hour**
- ◆ Aquatics Cashiers: **\$12.67/hour**
- ◆ Swim Instructors: **\$16.50/hour**
- ◆ Swim Lesson Supervisors: **\$18.00/hour**
- ◆ Assistant Pool Managers: **\$18.00/hour**
- ◆ Pool Managers: **\$21.00/hour**

NOW HIRING! SUMMER AQUATIC STAFF

Lifeguard → Starting wage: \$15/hr!
 Aquatics Cashier
 Swim Instructor
 Swim Lesson Supervisor
 Assistant Pool Manager
 Pool Manager



WDM.IOWA.GOV/JOBS

For positions requiring certification, the City pays for your training and you are paid for the hours you spend to become certified.

So take the plunge and join our team!

New! Dog park passes and archery permits now available

Applications for Dog Park Passes and Archery Facility Permits are now available online.

In addition, you can visit West Des Moines City Hall (4200 Mills Civic Parkway) or the Nature Lodge located at Raccoon River Park (2500 Grand Avenue) to gather your permit and/or pass.

The Raccoon River Park Dog Park is a 10-acre fenced play area that is open daily for dogs of all kinds and sizes.

The Raccoon River Park Archery Facility is the first of its kind in Iowa and a great facility for permit holders.

[Visit Archery Facility Permits](#)

[Visit Pet Licenses & Dog Park Permits](#)

CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
**PET LICENSES
 &
 DOG PARK PERMITS**

CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
**RACCOON RIVER PARK
 ARCHERY FACILITY PERMITS**



2024 Solid Waste Events for WDM Residents

Spring Cleanup is June 3 – 7 on your regular trash collection day!

April 1	Yard Waste Pickup begins on your normal trash collection day
April 13	Scrap Tire Drop-off, 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. West Des Moines Public Services East, 560 S. 16th Street
May 23	National Public Works Week Celebration, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Valley Junction Farmer's Market
June 3-7	Spring Cleanup – on your regular trash day. Watch for details! No appliances accepted (see June 8 event).
June 8	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off, 8 a.m. – 12:00 (noon), West Des Moines Public Services East, 560 S. 16th Street
September 7	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off, 8 a.m. – 12:00 (noon), West Des Moines Public Services East, 560 S. 16th Street
November 30	Yard Waste Pickup Ends
Dec. 30, 2024 – Jan. 11, 2025	Winter Yard Waste & Christmas Tree Collection

Yard Waste and Annual Spring Cleanup events are available to all WDM residents who are eligible for solid waste collection.

For Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Options, visit Metro Waste Authority's website.


For more information, [visit www.wdm.iowa.gov](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov) or call WDM Public Services at (515) 222-3480.

Get a 2024 Curb It! magnet

curb it! 2024 *missed collection?* 515.244.0021

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Recycling Week **GREEN LID** **BLACK LID**
Holiday Schedule **DELAYED TO NEXT DAY**

 Metro Waste Authority
www.WherItShouldGo.com 515.244.0021

Kick off your New Year with a new **2024 Curb It! magnet**, available at City offices after January 1. The magnet shows which week to put out your cart, as well as the holidays when collection is delayed.

Questions? [Visit www.WherItShouldGo.com](http://www.WherItShouldGo.com) or call (515) 244-0021.

Join the WDM Library's Winter Reading Challenge

Do you have a stack of good books you've been meaning to dig into? Are you hoping to start the new year with a new book or a fresh reading goal?

We invite you to curl up with some good books this January! Readers of all ages may log their reading online during our Winter Reading Challenge that runs January 1 – 31, 2024.

You don't need to log books or minutes – just log if you read something! Readers who complete 10 days' worth of reading will be entered into a drawing for a gift certificate to Valley Junction that can be used at any business in the district.

[You can register at wdmlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365](https://wdmlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365) or via the Beanstack app for [iOS](#) or [Android](#).

Reminder: The library will be closed for the upcoming holiday:

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, January 15, 2024



Music from Multi-Award Winning Songwriter Jordan Messerole

Thursday, January 4: 6:30 - 8:00 PM (All ages)

Messerole masterfully blends the sounds of his guitars with thoughtful lyrics, an engaging stage presence, and often rack harmonica to tell gritty American tales that are bound to evoke emotion from all of his listeners. No registration.



Model Train Display!

Saturday, January 13: 9:00 - 5:00 PM & Sunday, January 14, 2:00 - 4:00 PM (All ages)

Stop by the WDM Library to see the DesMoiNTrak's N-scale working layout. This event is open to adults and children of all ages. Make sure to stop by the Children's Department for a fun train craft before you leave! No registration needed.



Great Books Showcase

Wednesday, January 31: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

"Can you suggest a great book?" This is a question librarians get all the time. Consider this event our answer! Whether you're a mystery fan or want to find out about the hottest cooking trends, you'll find something new and fresh in our book previews. No registration required.

Last call to register for English Language Learner Classes



Registration for free English Language Learner (ELL) classes at West Des Moines Human Services closes on January 12.

These classes are designed to teach adults of limited

English how to read, write, and speak the English language.

The classes focus on the fundamental elements of the language: spelling, vocabulary, verb tense, and grammar.

The goal is to help students communicate more successfully in English in their everyday life.

The level of instruction is determined by an assessment test taken prior to the first class.

[For more information about ELL classes, please email HumanServices@wdm.iowa.gov](mailto:HumanServices@wdm.iowa.gov) or call (515) 222-3663.

WINTER/SPRING SESSION:

- Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon
- January 9 to May 23
- No classes the week of March 11–15

[Learn more about ELL classes](#) or [register for ELL classes online](#).

Des Moines Parent Family Favorite Awards

We are thrilled to announce that the WDM Parks and Recreation Department has been voted the winner and runner-up in three distinguished categories in the **2023 Des Moines Parent Family Favorite Awards!**

Our team is dedicated to providing exceptional experiences and services for families in our community. From beautiful parks and playgrounds to exciting recreational programs, we strive to create a welcoming environment for everyone to enjoy.

We are committed to continuing our efforts in delivering top-notch facilities, programs, and events that meet the needs of families in West Des Moines. Your continued support means the world to us.

We look forward to serving you and making more unforgettable memories together!



DES MOINES PARENT
AWARDS
2023
FAMILY FAVORITE

THANKS FOR THE VOTES!

THE CITY OF
West Des Moines
Parks and Recreation
Department

WINNER
BEST PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

WINNER
BEST PARK - RACCOON RIVER PARK

RUNNER-UP
BEST PLAYGROUND - RACCOON RIVER PARK