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# WDM magazine

Issue 65 | Winter/Spring 2025

YOUR GUIDE TO NEWS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE CITY OF WEST DES MOINES

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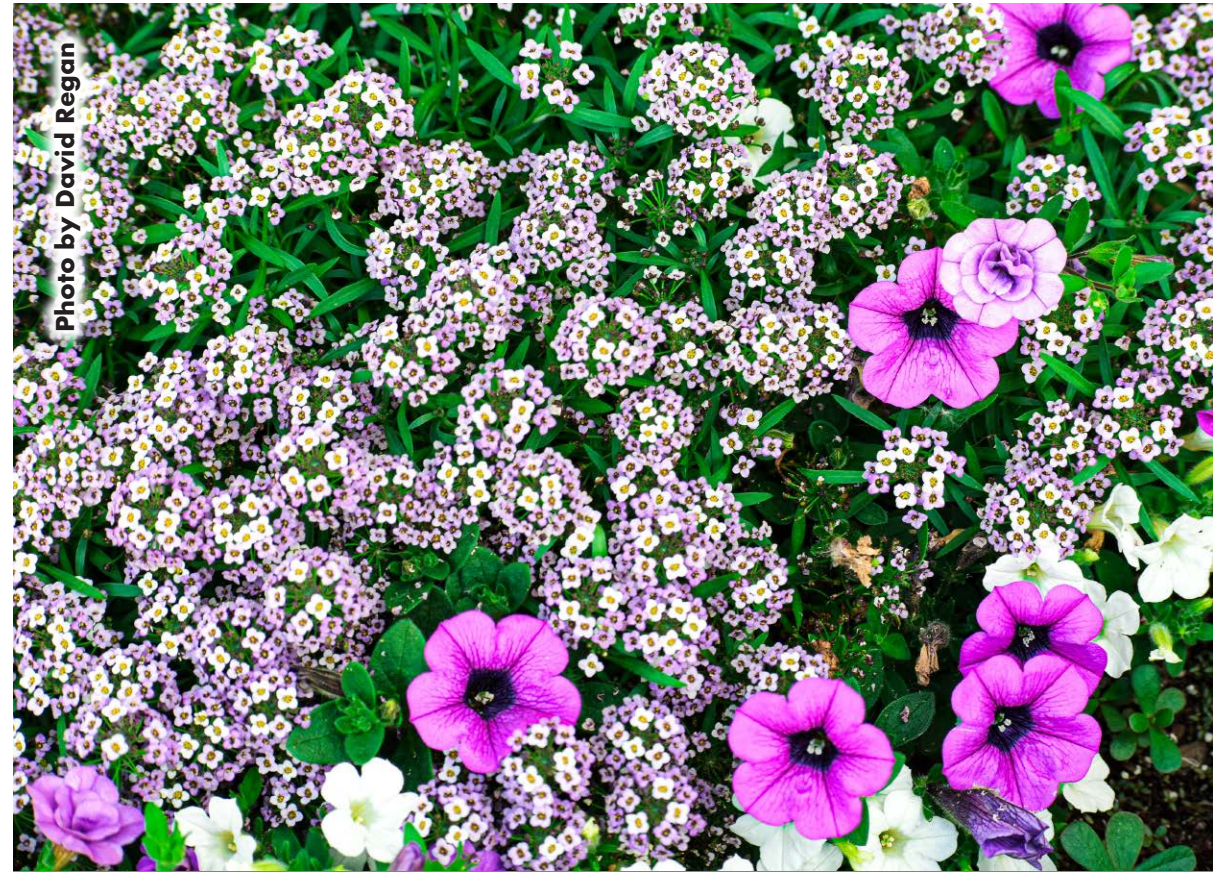


Photo by David Regan

2

Eye on WDM  
Photo Contest  
Winners

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Winter in WDM

pl

WDM Parks  
& Recreation



# EYE ON WDM WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

Thank you for entering this year's Eye on West Des Moines Photo Contest. The judging has been completed and the winners have been determined.

We will be offering this contest again next year, so keep shooting those pictures and send us your entries as you collect them!

For complete details and rules, interested photographers can call **(515) 222-4329** or email **Trevor.Hoth@wdm.iowa.gov**.

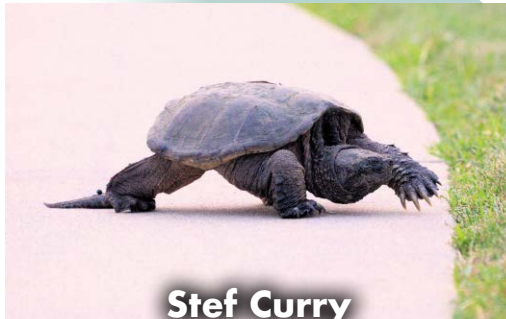
## BEST OF SHOW WINNER



**David Regan**

## CATEGORY WINNERS

### LIVING - WILDLIFE



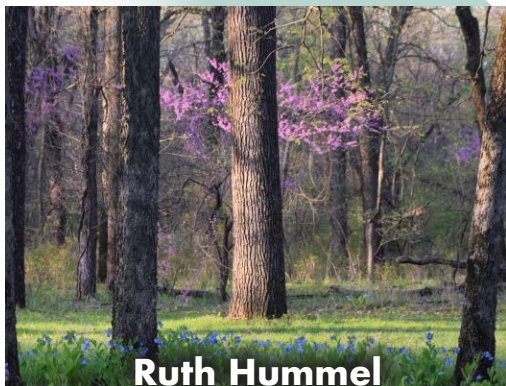
**Stef Curry**

### LIVING - PLANTS



**Kent Kehlenbeck**

### SEASONS IN WDM



**Ruth Hummel**

### LIVING - ACTIVITIES/EVENTS



**Stef Curry**



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**WEST DES MOINES CITY HALL**  
4200 Mills Civic Parkway  
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265  
(515) 222-3600

## WELCOME TO THE WDM MAGAZINE...

The City of West Des Moines' premier communication sent to over 41,000 homes and businesses throughout the City.

The WDM Magazine is published three times per year to highlight city news and information as well as community events and programming available through WDM Parks and Recreation, the WDM Library, and WDM Human Services.



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# THE MAYOR'S COLUMN



## Five things every resident should know:

1. Every piece of land is planned to be something someday. That cornfield isn't going to always be a cornfield. If you're going to buy a house, reach out to Development Services (for land use/zoning issues) and Engineering Services (for streets, storm water, drainage and sanitary sewer issues).

You also may go to the city's website to see what is in store for a particular piece of land before you make a decision to buy. Visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/residents/maps-gis/interactive-gis](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/residents/maps-gis/interactive-gis) to see the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map, FEMA Flood Hazards Map, and zoning and development activities. Remember, the Comp Plan is a living, breathing document that may change over time, but it would be smart to familiarize yourself with it.

2. A street that dead ends into a cornfield is planned to go through that field someday. It won't be your kids' basketball court forever even if it's been that for the last 15 years.

3. My real estate agent told me no one can build behind me, it's a flood plain. If someone brings in fill dirt and builds the land up to one foot above the hundred-year flood plain, they are allowed to build on that site. See the Comprehensive Plan.

4. Wood burning fire pits are legal in West Des Moines as long as they are used to cook hotdogs or marshmallows! Wrong! This is one of the biggest myths. You CANNOT use fire pits that produce smoke for recreational fires even if you are using the fire pit to make food. This is due to air quality regulations within Polk County the city must follow. For enforcement purposes, because our city spans four counties, this has been expanded to include all of our city, regardless of the

county in which you reside. Gas fire pits are okay to use as a listed cooking device provided you immediately extinguish the device when the food is done cooking.

5. I'm angry at my property tax bill. I'm going to give the city a piece of my mind. The city is but one piece of your property tax bill. The county assessor assesses your property value based on comparable sales. The hotter the market, the higher your assessed value. The city has nothing to do with that. That said, home values can't grow more than 3% statewide. When they do, a rollback is applied statewide, reducing the percentage of the property that is taxable. Last year, 54% of your property value was taxable. This year, only 46% is taxable.

Just because your assessed value went up doesn't mean the same thing for your property tax bill. The city taxes your property as does the county, the school district, DMACC, Broadlawns and others. All these entities have the ability to adjust their levy rate up or down as necessary to balance their budget.

While the city tax is less than a third of your bill, we have been reducing our city levy rate as often as we can. When I took office, the city levy rate was \$12.05 per thousand. Now it is \$10.85 per thousand.

We've got more work to do, but I'm proud of the work we've done thus far. If every other taxing entity joined the city in our efforts, this could make a decent dent in your property tax bill.

Mayor Russ Trimble

# FROM THE CITY MANAGER



City government requires residents, vendors and contractors to obtain permits and licenses for certain items. Why do we do this? Our efforts are all about safety. Everyone benefits when things are done correctly and according to City Code.

Although it may seem like an inconvenience, obtaining a permit or license will help you avoid big headaches in the future.

Just last August, an apartment complex in West Des Moines experienced a fire in one of the units, but fortunately, a sprinkler system extinguished the flames. Our building codes require all new construction to be outfitted with sprinklers to keep you safe, and in this case, the sprinklers worked exactly as designed and kept the fire from spreading throughout the entire building.

We also require solicitors to have a permit so we know who is out canvassing in our neighborhoods. When someone knocks on your door with an offer you can't refuse, it's always good to ask to see their laminated card that shows they have a permit from the City to solicit. Then you'll know you're dealing with someone who has passed a round of vetting by the City. We ask solicitors for their criminal history so we can take into account any felony or misdemeanor convictions before issuing them a permit to go door-to-door in West Des Moines.

The City also requires mechanical, electrical, plumbing and building permits as well as block party, special event and sound permits.

If you get a new furnace or air conditioner, we require installers to schedule an appointment with an inspector. This helps us make sure your new equipment was safely installed and followed City Code. If you install it yourself, we also want you to schedule an inspection to make sure your work is up to Code.

In addition, contractors need to apply for permits to do their work for you if you get a new fence, swimming pool, shed or garage, build a new deck or have some remodeling done on your home. If you end up doing the work yourself, you also need to make sure you're aware of our permitting process.

How do you find out what permits are necessary and how to get them?

You can always call our main phone number at City Hall (515-222-3600) and ask to be transferred to the appropriate department for your request, or you can visit our website at [www.wdm.iowa.gov](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov) and click on "Get a Permit" right under the sliding photos on the main page.

Thanks for working with us to make safety a priority in West Des Moines!

Tom Hadden

# MAYOR



**Russ Trimble**  
Phone: (515) 554-8746  
Russ.Trimble@wdm.iowa.gov

# WDM CITY COUNCIL



**Kevin Trevillyan**  
First Ward  
Phone: (515) 240-8786  
Kevin.Trevillyan@wdm.iowa.gov



**Greg Hudson**  
Second Ward  
Phone: (515) 518-0529  
Greg.Hudson@wdm.iowa.gov



**Doug Loots**  
Third Ward  
Phone: (515) 273-0691  
Doug.Loots@wdm.iowa.gov



**Renee Hardman**  
At-Large  
Home: (515) 556-9248  
Renee.Hardman@wdm.iowa.gov



**Matthew McKinney**  
At-Large  
Phone: (515) 208-0033  
Matthew.McKinney@wdm.iowa.gov

## KEY CITY STAFF



**City Manager**  
Tom Hadden  
(515) 222-3610



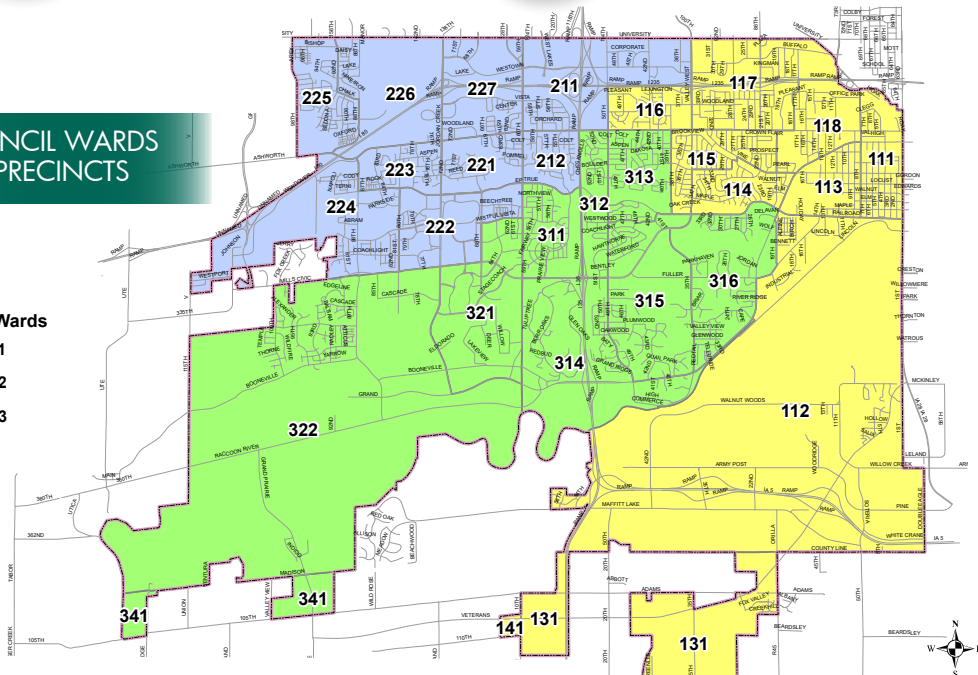
**Deputy City Manager**  
Jamie Letzring  
(515) 222-3610



**City Attorney**  
Greta Truman  
(515) 222-3673

## COUNCIL WARDS & PRECINCTS

- Council Wards**
- 1
  - 2
  - 3



To see a larger map, visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/WardMap](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/WardMap).

# BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



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The WDM magazine is produced by the City of West Des Moines, JM Impressions and MITTERA.

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# HUMAN SERVICES & INCLUSION NEWS



AUDREY KENNIS

The recent merger of the Human Services and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion departments demonstrates the City's commitment to taking comprehensive measures to better serve our residents. In June, our team met to identify current needs and innovative solutions to help streamline services. It's clear that the demands on our community are growing, and this merger will help us address the complexity and diversity of those needs more effectively.

In FY24, West Des Moines Human Services saw a staggering 32% increase in the number of individuals served through our Food Pantry, marking our highest year on record. In our 45-year history, the demand for assistance has never been higher, and we're breaking records month over month. We've also seen a huge increase in the usage of the Free Medical Clinic, emergency financial assistance, clothing closet, holiday assistance, and youth programming. This surge is pushing us to reevaluate our services, programs, and capacity. We are ordering more food, needing more volunteers, and having to reconfigure our space to accommodate the growing demand. Although we have limited resources and space, we are committed to finding scalable solutions to ensure that we can continue to support our most under-resourced residents.

To achieve this, we need your support. Here in West Des Moines, we are proud to be a community of choice and a Community of Care. We are the only city in the state that has a Human Services Department - that speaks volumes to our identity and shared values. For nearly five decades, Human Services has

supported low-income families, older adults, individuals with disabilities, and immigrant and refugee populations. However, we could not do this without the help of dozens of volunteers and many donors who support our programs each year. I have witnessed the power and generosity of the human spirit, and I'm confident that we have the power and capacity to come together and solve the challenges ahead.

West Des Moines is well-positioned to serve as a national leader and model to other cities.



A Community of Care is not just about what you do for your community but also what your community does for you. Every day of the week, city staff show up to ensure you have access to critical services. Now, we're asking you to show up and help us build a healthy, inclusive, and compassionate community. Demonstrating care doesn't have to be expensive or time consuming. Help a neighbor in need, donate a bag of gently used clothes, host a food drive at your workplace, adopt a family for the holidays....no gesture is too big or too small. Regardless, we need your voice and support to demonstrate who we are, a Community of Care!

In the months ahead, we're asking you to join us on our Community of Care journey. Each month we will highlight ways that care shows up in the West Des Moines community. Follow along, participate when you are able, donate to causes you feel passionate about and help support our Community of Care initiative.

To learn more about how you can get involved visit: [WDM.IOWA.GOV/WDMCARES](http://WDM.IOWA.GOV/WDMCARES)

## 2024 Art on the Campus People's Choice Award Winner



"Fire" by Sadagat Aliyeva: Des Moines

**About the Artist:** Sadagat Aliyeva was born and raised in Baku, Azerbaijan. In 2004, at the age of 38, she moved to Des Moines, Iowa with her family. Faced with adjusting to a new country and language, Aliyeva immersed herself in her passion for drawing and refined her skills in the graphic design program at Des Moines Area Community College. In early 2021, Aliyeva followed her calling and quit her full-time job to focus on her art. She loves sharing her authentic experiences through poetry, fairytale-like stories, and whimsical illustrations. Aliyeva's digital creations are inspired by inspirational quotes, nature, and the beauty of human existence. Her illustrations aim to uplift and inspire people, especially women. Aliyeva is also a pioneer of the Bicultural Iowa Writers' Fellowship. Her stories, poems, and illustrations have been published in the anthologies "We the Interwoven" and "Spark." Since early 2022, she has actively exhibited her art in Des Moines and the surrounding area.



**About "Fire":** "Fire" is a two-dimensional digital painting printed on metal. The idea of the artwork was born from the universally famed poet Rumi's famous quote, "Set

your life on fire..." The painting was created to inspire viewers to live intentionally and practice self-love.

You can learn more about Sadagat and her art at [www.instagram.com/madebysadagat](http://www.instagram.com/madebysadagat).

## 2024 WDMurals Best in Show Award Winner

"The Beauty in our Backyard" by Tevka Lackmann: Norwalk



**About the Artist:** Tevka Lackmann is a multimedia artist, whose work ranges from small canvases to large murals. She is versed in a breadth of mediums, though specializes in paint: from watercolor, to acrylic, to oil. Her work is focused primarily on conveying the beauty of the natural world around us, as well as advocating for those on it. She is known for her use of bold brushstrokes and unconventional use of color. She is a self-proclaimed "Whimsical Realist"—she uses her art as a means to convey a sense of wonder and bring vibrancy to the everyday.



### About "The Beauty in our Backyard":

When given the prompt "Our Stories", I thought about how growing up in Iowa has shaped who I am today. I have been an avid bike trail user my whole life - from picking berries out of a burley bicycle stroller at age three to riding centuries with my family. I grew up catching bugs, swimming in the lake, and running barefoot through the grass. My respect and reverence for the world around me have only grown since. I hope the viewer feels the same sense of joy and curiosity about their surroundings from this piece. I included imagery I associate with Iowa: iconic downtown views, native flora and fauna, and a good deal of outdoor recreation. I wanted there to be something everyone could relate to or at least appreciate. This piece aims to convey the sense of surprise and wonder that the natural world gives me. I hope it inspires the viewer to get out there and keep exploring!

You can learn more about Tevka and her art at [www.instagram.com/drawinchick](http://www.instagram.com/drawinchick).

### HOW IS PUBLIC ART FUNDED?

Annual funding for public art in West Des Moines comes from hotel-motel tax revenue dedicated by the City Council for that purpose.

If you are interested in serving on the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission, please contact the West Des Moines City Clerk at (515) 222-3603 to request an application.



# WINTER IN WEST DES MOINES



West Des Moines has an estimated population of over 70,000 (which doubles during the daytime), more than 870 street lane miles, and high expectations from the motoring public. The City's snow and ice control policies and procedures are vital in keeping roadways safe in the winter. The City's responsibility is to conduct winter maintenance activities expediently, efficiently, and safely.

## Priority for Snow Removal

1. Major arterial streets
2. Collector streets
3. Residential streets
4. Unimproved streets, alleys, public sidewalks, trails, and public parking lots



**\$50 Ticket and/or Tow**

**A snowplow can't clean the street with a car parked here!**

## Snow Emergency Parking Ban

If there's snow, there is likely a **Snow Emergency Parking Ban** to accomplish the efficient removal of snow.

If a prediction for snow or winter weather conditions exists, check the City's website at [www.wdm.iowa.gov](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov) for a news alert. You may also sign up for email or text message alerts, check the City's Facebook page, or call the **Snow Hotline at 515-273-0766** to see if there is a Snow Emergency Parking Ban in place. All are available 24/7.



Vehicles must be removed from all City-owned parking areas when a Snow Emergency Parking Ban is in effect. Vehicles parked in these areas are subject to being towed and/or a \$50 ticket. The parking ban is effective from its proclamation through 5:00 p.m. the following day, unless it is extended by an additional proclamation due to the length of the storm or volume of snowfall.

**Now** is the perfect time to **make a plan** for when a Snow Emergency Parking Ban is in place and parking is not allowed on the street.

*"I saw a snowplow go down my street and thought I could park there now!"*

Depending on storm and road conditions, plows may make additional passes down your street. Please follow the expiration date and time from the Snow Emergency Parking Ban to avoid a ticket or tow.

## If your vehicle is towed during a Snow Emergency Parking Ban, follow these steps:

- Go to the Police Dept., 250 Mills Civic Pkwy (Open 24/7)
- Provide ID showing the vehicle is yours or you were the driver
- Ask for an impound release (no charge)
- Go to Roy's Towing, 155 S. 13th St., WDM
- Pay Roy's Towing fees (towing/storage) and pick up your vehicle
- If a City ticket has been issued, you can either pay at City Hall (4200 Mills Civic Pkwy) or **pay online** through **Xpress Bill Pay**
- Be proactive in the future by keeping vehicles off the street during winter weather

## Pay Parking Ticket Online Using

**xpress BILL PAY**

If you received a parking ticket because your car was parked on the street during a snow parking ban, you now have the option to pay that ticket online. Search for 'Collections' on the City website at [wdm.iowa.gov](http://wdm.iowa.gov), and from there select the Online Payment Portal link to continue to **Xpress Bill Pay**. Then simply follow the prompts to pay your parking ticket online.

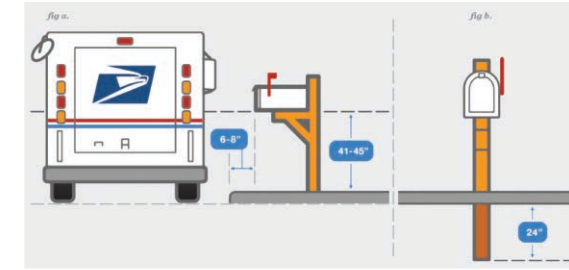
## Citizen Responsibilities

Snow can be beautiful, but it can also create hazards. When residents fail to clear sidewalks, falls and injuries may occur. Please place the snow on private property or adjacent to the right of way, not in the street. City ordinances prohibit snow from being placed in the street.



Residents are required by City Ordinance 7-1-5 to clear sidewalks (including those crossing alleys, crosswalks, and driveways) within 24 hours of the end of a storm.

A helpful hint for residents – clear your sidewalk *after* the snowplows have completely finished plowing the street to the curb. If your sidewalk is icy, please apply sand or applicable deicer product to alleviate the hazard, reduce pedestrian injury, and minimize your exposure to liability.



## Mailboxes

The City will plow the snow within the confines of curb line to curb line of a street. During extreme winter weather events there may be times when City plows cannot physically place the snow onto the public right-of-way (commonly referred to as the "parking"). During these times, the resident will be responsible for clearing the snow around their mailbox to ensure delivery of mail.

It is also the resident's responsibility to ensure that their mailbox is properly installed with the face of the door six to eight inches behind the face of the curb. The post should be at least 24" away from the face of the curb, and it should be adequately constructed to withstand snow clearing efforts but meet "breakaway" criteria. In the fall of the year, staff conduct pre-season inspections of mailbox placement throughout the community. If a mailbox is found to be out of compliance, staff will notify the resident with a door hanger so the proper corrections can be made before winter begins. Damage to mailboxes that have not been repaired or brought into compliance will not be eligible for a claim adjustment.



## FAQ'S ABOUT SNOW CONTROL

### Q. How do we know when the Snow Emergency Parking Ban is in effect?

There are many options to learn of a Snow Emergency Parking Ban:

1. Visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov). Look for the News article and banner at the very top of the page.
2. Email & text message alerts:
  - Sign up for e-mails at [www.wdm.iowa.gov/eNotification](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/eNotification).
  - To sign up for snow parking ban text messages, click the red link on the eNotification page to visit a sign-up page. Click SNOW EMERGENCY under the News Category.
3. Follow the City of West Des Moines – City Manager's Office on Facebook

### Q. Can't the City remove the snow they put in my driveway or sidewalks?

Unfortunately, we cannot. When you consider the vast number of driveways and sidewalks throughout the City, it would be very expensive for taxpayers to provide this type of service. While we try our best to minimize the amount of snow that is placed on these areas, it cannot always be avoided.

### Q. Who do I call to get the public to shovel their sidewalks?

City ordinance requires property owners to shovel their sidewalks within 24 hours after the end of a storm. You may report un-shoveled walks to Community Compliance at 515-222-3480 or by using the City's online service desk, SeeClickFix. Just look for the SeeClickFix logo at the bottom of our website.

### Q. May I shovel/plow/blow the snow from my sidewalk or driveway into the street?

No. City ordinance prohibits this activity due to the hazardous conditions it can create in the street. Violators may be fined. *See City Code Sections 7-1-4 and 7-1-5.*

## How Can You Help During a Winter Event?

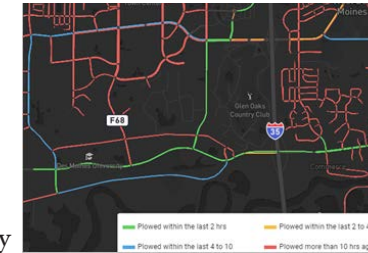
- Be sure your vehicle is off the street if it snows.
- While you're shoveling your sidewalk, dig out the fire hydrant too!
- Volunteer (if you're able) to help others remove snow.
- Give the snowplows plenty of room on the roadway.
- If you must venture out, check weather, road conditions, and traffic.

## Track-A-Plow – See What Roads Are Plowed

Many residents want to know: **“When will my street be plowed?”**

Information regarding this question is just a few clicks away on the City's website. “Track-A-Plow” uses Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) technology and the data feeds into a street system map that allows residents to see what roads on the City street system have been plowed.

The City of West Des Moines has established priorities for each classification of streets. Major arterial streets that must be kept open for emergency vehicles are the highest priority. Depending on storm



conditions, crews may have an opportunity to start plowing some residential streets before the storm ends. Ongoing weather and the number of vehicles obstructing plows on roads has a major impact on the effectiveness of

our operations. It takes several hours to complete the plowing of all City streets. If a storm ends in the morning, it will probably be later in the day before crews will be able to complete plowing residential streets and other priorities. ***Once again, the major roads in the City have priority and need to be plowed first.***

## WDM City Code

The following is the City's regulation on snow emergency parking bans which is being published in accordance with the City Code regulation:

### 6-6-7: SNOW REMOVAL:

No person shall park, abandon, or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley, or city owned off street parking area during any snow emergency proclaimed by the mayor, public works director, or their respective designees. A snow emergency parking ban shall continue from its proclamation through five o'clock (5:00) P.M. the following day. The mayor, public works director, or their respective designees may extend the duration of the parking ban if conditions require additional time to clear the snow and ice. Notice of an extension shall be posted in the same manner as a proclamation of snow emergency and shall contain the date and time the parking ban shall expire. Such a parking ban shall be of uniform application. The city shall publish information regarding the responsibilities of vehicle owners under this section in the fall and/or winter editions of the "WDM Magazine" distributed to city residents, as well as post such information on the city of West Des Moines website in the fall and/or winter of each year. When predictions or occurrences indicate the need, the mayor, public works director, or their respective designees, shall proclaim the snow emergency and direct the appropriate city employee to post said proclamation on the city of West Des Moines website and forward notice of the proclamation to at least two (2) radio and two (2) television stations that broadcast their signals into the city of West Des Moines. Such emergency may be extended or shortened as the emergency warrants or when conditions warrant. This section shall not be construed as suspending parking limitations or restrictions imposed by any other section of this title. In addition to enforcement of this section by police officers, code enforcement officials and public works employees have the authority to enforce the provisions of this section. The code enforcement officials and public works employees shall have the power to issue citation-complaints for violations of this section and impound vehicles found in violation of this section as provided in subsections 6-6-15A and G of this chapter. (Ord. 1844, 10-5-2009)  
West Des Moines City Code is available 24/7 on the City's website at [www.wdm.iowa.gov](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov).

## FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

### By phone:

Snow Hotline 515-273-0766  
Public Services 515-222-3480  
For Emergencies 515-222-3321  
Sidewalk Violations 515-222-3480

### iPhone or Android:

To report concerns: SeeClickFix

### Website:

Sign up for email or text alerts

### Facebook:

“Like” the City of West Des Moines — City Manager's Office page





# RESIDENT GUIDE

All City service requests may be directed to the Online Service Desk at

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/SeeClickFix](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/SeeClickFix)

**EMERGENCY** ..... 911  
**Non-Emergency Dispatch** ..... 515-222-3321  
**ADA Coordinator** ..... 515-440-4835  
**Ambulance Billing**  
• Quick Med Claims ..... 833-888-1302  
**Animal Control**  
• Request Service (Westcom Non-Emergency Dispatch) ..... 515-222-3321  
• General Questions ..... 515-222-3364  
• Pet Licenses ..... 515-222-3600  
**Aquatic Centers** ..... 515-273-0700  
**Birth Certificates** ..... See Vital Records  
**Building Safety/Inspections**.. 515-222-3630  
developmentsservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
Business License Info. .... 1-800-532-1216  
**Jordan Cemetery** ..... 515-222-3444  
Sales and Maintenance  
**Chamber of Commerce** ..... 515-225-6009  
www.wdmchamber.org  
**City Attorney** ..... See Legal Department  
**City Clerk** ..... 515-222-3603  
Business related licenses / voter registration application  
**City Council**..... 515-222-3610  
**City Hall** ..... 515-222-3600  
4200 Mills Civic Pkwy  
**City Manager**..... 515-222-3610  
**Claim for Damages** ..... 515-222-3600  
**Community Compliance (Code Enforcement)**..... 515-222-3480  
publicservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Community & Econ. Development**  
..... 515-273-0770  
ced@wdm.iowa.gov  
**County Websites**  
• Dallas County [www.dallascountyiaowa.gov](http://www.dallascountyiaowa.gov)  
• Polk County [www.polkcountyiaowa.gov](http://www.polkcountyiaowa.gov)  
• Madison County [www.madisoncounty.iowa.gov](http://www.madisoncounty.iowa.gov)  
• Warren County [www.warrencountyia.gov](http://www.warrencountyia.gov)  
**Death Certificates** ..... See Vital Records  
**Development Services**  
Building Division ..... 515-222-3630  
Planning Division ..... 515-222-3620  
developmentsservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Des Moines Area Regional Transit (DART)**  
Public Transportation ..... 515-283-8100  
dart@ridedit.com

**Driver's License**  
• Dallas County ..... 515-993-6992  
• Polk County ..... 515-244-1052  
• Madison County ..... 515-462-1542  
• Warren County ..... 515-961-1144  
**Election Office**  
• Dallas County ..... 515-993-6914  
• Polk County ..... 515-286-3247  
• Madison County ..... 515-462-3914  
• Warren County ..... 515-961-1020  
**Electrical and Gas Service**..... See Utilities  
**Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**  
..... 515-222-3652  
CPR and Public Access Defibrillation Classes  
ems@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Engineering Services** ..... 515-222-3475  
**Finance Department**..... 515-222-3600  
**Fire and EMS Administration**.. 515-222-3420  
318 5th Street • fire@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Hazardous Waste**  
Regional Collection Center ..... 515-967-5512  
**Holiday Aquatic Center**..... 515-273-0700  
**Housing Rehabilitation Program**  
..... 515-273-0770  
**Human Resources** ..... 515-222-3616  
www.wdm.iowa.gov/jobs  
**Human Rights Commission**... 515-222-3675  
**Human Services**..... 515-222-3660  
139 6th Street • humanservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
Energy Assistance, Food & Clothing Pantry,  
Homeless Prevention  
**Library** ..... 515-222-3400  
4000 Mills Civic Parkway • library@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Legal Department** ..... 515-222-3523  
4200 Mills Civic Parkway  
**Marriage Licenses** ..... See Vital Records  
**Mayor's Office**..... 515-222-3610  
**Metro Waste Authority** ..... 515-244-0021  
Garbage, recycling and yard waste pickup  
www.WhereItShouldGo.com  
**MidAmerican Energy Company RecPlex**  
6500 Grand Avenue ..... 515-440-4820  
**Motor Vehicle License Plates/Registration**  
• Dallas County ..... 515-993-5812  
• Polk County ..... 515-286-3030  
• Madison County ..... 515-462-1542  
• Warren County ..... 515-961-1111

**Neighborhood Services** (see Animal Control)  
**One Call Underground Utility Lines**  
811 or 1-800-292-8989  
**Parks & Recreation**..... 515-222-3444  
parkrec@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Parking Violations (non-moving)** .....  
515-222-3600  
**Passports** ..... 1-877-487-2778  
**Permits**  
• Oversize Moving Permit  
publicservices@wdm.iowa.gov ..... 515-222-3480  
• ROW/Excavation Permits (Sidewalk)  
Engineering Services ..... 515-222-3475  
• Street/Lane Closures  
publicservices@wdm.iowa.gov ..... 515-222-3480  
**Planning & Zoning** ..... 515-222-3620  
developmentsservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Police Administration**..... 515-222-3320  
police@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Police/Fire/EMS/Dispatch (Westcom)**  
• Emergency ..... 911  
• Non-Emergency ..... 515-222-3321  
250 Mills Civic Parkway  
**Post Office** ..... 515-255-6471  
430 5th St. WDM 50265 • usps.com  
**Property Tax**  
• Dallas County ..... 515-993-5808  
• Polk County ..... 515-286-3060  
• Madison County ..... 515-462-1542  
• Warren County ..... 515-961-1110  
**Public Services** ..... 515-222-3480  
publicservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Public Transportation** ..... See DART  
**Recycling – Curb It!**  
Metro Waste Authority  
Missed Pickup/Questions ..... 515-244-0021  
**Recreation Programs**..... 515-222-3444  
**Rental Housing Inspector**..... 515-222-3630  
developmentsservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Senior Citizen (Congregate) Meals**  
..... 515-274-0373  
Westside Community Center, 134 6th Street  
**Sewer Stoppages/Repair**..... 515-222-3480  
publicservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Shelter Rentals (Parks & Rec)** 515-222-3444  
**School Districts**  
• Norwalk  
515-981-0676 • norwalkschools.org  
• Van Meter  
515-996-2221 • www.vmbulldogs.com  
• Waukee  
515-987-5161 • www.waukeeschools.org  
• West Des Moines  
515-633-5000 • www.wdmcs.org  
**Social Security Offices** ..... 800-772-1213  
**Street Light Outages**

MidAmerican Energy ..... 1-888-427-5632  
**Street Repairs/Cleaning** ..... 515-222-3480  
publicservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Tickets Moving Violations**  
• Dallas County ..... 515-993-5816  
• Polk County ..... 515-222-3772  
• Madison County ..... 515-462-1542  
• Warren County ..... 515-961-1032  
**Parking Violations (non-moving)**  
**Finance** ..... 515-222-3600  
**Traffic Signals/Street Signs** . 515-222-3480  
publicservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Trash Collection** ..... 515-244-0021  
Metro Waste Authority • WhereItShouldGo.com  
**Tree Planting Permits** ..... 515-222-3417  
publicservices@wdm.iowa.gov  
**Utilities (MidAmerican Energy)**  
Gas & Electric ..... 1-888-427-5632  
EMERGENCY ..... 1-800-595-5325  
One Call Line Locator ..... 1-800-292-8989  
www.midamericanenergy.com  
**Valley Junction Activity Ctr.** ... 515-222-3440  
**Valley Junction Foundation**... 515-222-3642  
**Vehicle Registration**  
..... See Motor Vehicle License Plates/Registration  
**Vital Records**  
• Dallas County ..... 515-993-5804  
• Polk County ..... 515-286-3161  
• Madison County ..... 515-462-3771  
• Warren County ..... 515-961-1089  
**Voter Registration**  
• Dallas County ..... 515-993-6914  
• Polk County ..... 515-286-3247  
• Madison County ..... 515-462-3914  
• Warren County ..... 515-961-1020  
**Iowa Elections Division** ..... 515-281-8849  
**Water Treatment Plant** ..... 515-222-3465  
1505 Railroad Ave.  
**WDM Water Works** ..... 515-222-3460  
Water/Solid Waste, New Service, Service  
Changes/Maintenance ..... 1505 Railroad Avenue  
www.wdmww.com • waterworks@wdmww.com  
**Westcom**  
• EMERGENCY ..... 911  
• Dispatch Non-Emergency ..... 515-222-3321  
**Yard Waste – Compost IT!**  
Metro Waste Authority  
Questions/Missed Pickup ..... 515-244-0021

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate in City activities. Individuals seeking City services and in need of special accommodations should either contact the department sponsoring the event or the ADA Coordinator at 515-440-4835.

**WDMCF** was created by passionate West Des Moines residents in order to make a positive impact in our community and to ensure that small, local projects have access to support. To date, the Foundation has received and is managing over \$1 million from families, individuals, businesses, the City, and Counties to support artistic, cultural, recreational, historic, social, and natural resources.

### Grant Submissions Reviewed Quarterly

The Foundation serves as a catalyst for specific projects and a champion for promoting quality of life projects within our City. Non-profit organizations serving West Des Moines are eligible to submit a grant request. Reviewed on a quarterly basis, grants are awarded according to established bylaws and policies. The Foundation prioritizes grants that create a meaningful impact to projects benefiting the local community.

### WE NEED YOU! Donations (of any size) are always welcome

Even small donations can have a large impact when they are combined together. The Foundation is able to accept donations of any size or type, including stock if that is preferred. Your contributions make a difference.

### WDMCF funds:

- General Pass - Through Fund
- Special Interest Fund: Arts & Culture
- Special Interest Fund: Recreation and Trails
- Endowment Fund
- Quality of Life Fund

**Donating to the WDMCF is a wonderful way to give back to the community that has benefitted us all so much.** It is up to all of us to help preserve and improve the quality of life in West Des Moines for future generations.

### Questions:

Contact the Board at [contact@wdmcf.org](mailto:contact@wdmcf.org)

### WDMCF Board of Directors:

Robert Palmer - Chair	Chris Burch
Tom Cox - Vice President	John Marshall
Kathleen Till Stange - Treasurer	Stacy Conradt
Emily Whitmer - Secretary	Matt McKinney
	Wade Den Hartog
	Caleb Smith
	Katherine Harrington

**Liaison from the City of West Des Moines**  
Ryan Penning



## WEST DES MOINES HISTORICAL SOCIETY (WDMHS)

### IOWA FILES

- Sundays at **2:30 pm**
- FREE
- West Des Moines Library
- 1/12:** Iconic Des Moines Restaurants
- 2/9:** The Underground Railroad in Iowa
- 3/16:** One Small Step for Iowa, One Giant Leap for America
- 4/13:** Cheap Lands & Broken Treaties
- 5/18:** Women's Correction in Iowa

### HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

- Saturday, **12/7** at **1-3 pm**
- \$5
- Jordan House & Bennett School Museums

### SPEAKING OF HISTORY

Is your club, group, or organization in need of a speaker? The WDMHS staff would be thrilled to discuss topics such as the history of the Underground Railroad, the John Brown Freedom Trail, or the contributions of African Americans in Iowa. Contact us today to arrange for your speaker!

### TOUR THE JORDAN HOUSE MUSEUM

- Fridays & Sundays at **11 am & 1 pm**

### WINE FEST

- Friday, **2/28** at **6-9 pm**
- Jordan House Museum



## 2025 WDM SHADE CRUSADE



The City of West Des Moines invites you to participate in our initiative to enhance tree diversity and enrich the urban tree canopy. Thanks to a grant from Microsoft Corporation, residents can acquire native trees, usually valued between \$60 and \$120, for only \$30 each.

All buyers must reside in West Des Moines and commit to planting their selected tree(s) on private property within city limits. Each residence is limited to purchasing a maximum of two trees. Deliveries will occur the week of April 28.

To ensure you receive your preferred tree varieties, be sure to make your purchases between **February 1** and **April 20**, as some options may sell out quickly. The sooner you buy, the better your chances of securing the trees you desire!

For more information, visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/ShadeCrusade](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ShadeCrusade)

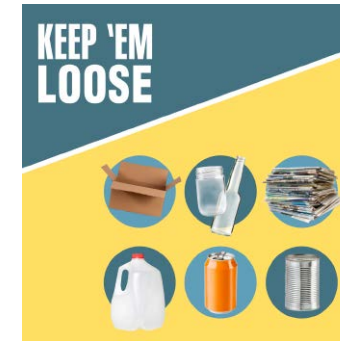
## KEEP 'EM LOOSE

When it comes to recycling, keep 'em loose! To recycle right, keep all plastic bags out of your Curb It! carts and do not place recycling in bags.

### Why Loose?

When your recycling leaves the curb, it goes to Metro Waste Authority's Metro Recycling Facility. There, the recycling equipment sorts items by type, and they must go through the process loose for the equipment and staff to recognize each item.

Plastic bags can also be tangles in the equipment – like bubblegum in somebody's hair! That means that anything that's bagged has to be thrown away.



### Accepted Items

- Items that belong in your recycling cart include:
- Newspapers
  - Junk mail
  - Cardboard
  - Plastics with a twist-off lid
  - Aluminum and tin cans
  - Glass bottles and jars

Remember to give your recyclables a good rinse!

Once it's empty and clean, toss it on in your Curb It! cart.

Wondering if an item is recyclable? Check out Metro Waste Authority's Recycling & Disposal Guide at [www.WhereItShouldGo.com/RecyclingGuide](http://www.WhereItShouldGo.com/RecyclingGuide) or call 515.244.0021.





## hazardous waste HOUSESIDE COLLECTION



## HOUSESIDE HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Did you know that rechargeable batteries, old lightbulbs, used paints and stains, and other household hazardous waste can be picked up just outside your door? This is possible through Metro Waste Authority's houseside collection program!

Houseside collection works like an Amazon or grocery delivery. If you want to use the service, simply sign up at [www.WhereItShouldGo.com/Houseside](http://www.WhereItShouldGo.com/Houseside), and Metro Waste Authority will come to you. The service is provided as needed, and you only pay if you choose to use it.

For a \$25 fee, you'll receive two 12-gallon plastic bins to fill with materials like paint or lawn chemicals, and a large plastic bag for items that are too large for the bins such as computers, printers, or laptops. Once your bins and bag are filled, you can schedule collection with Metro Waste Authority at 515.244.0021. Then, just place your items outside by 8 AM on your pickup day.

### Drop-off Options

If you are doing extensive cleaning and would rather drop off your hazardous waste, materials can be taken to the Metro Hazardous Waste Drop-Off in Bondurant or the Metro Northwest Transfer Station in Grimes (by appointment only).

Common household items like bleach, rechargeable batteries, oil-based paints, lawn chemicals, old motor oil or gasoline, and energy efficient lightbulbs (CFL) are all accepted for free.

There's no reason to stockpile items that can be a hazard to your family. View the list of accepted hazardous waste and find more information about hazardous waste services by visiting [www.WhereItShouldGo.com/HHW](http://www.WhereItShouldGo.com/HHW), or call 515.244.0021.



## CURBSIDE YARD WASTE COLLECTION IS LEAF-ING FOR THE SEASON

The Compost It! curbside yard waste collection will end for the season the week of **November 25, 2024**, on your regular collection day.

The program accepts small twigs and branches, leaves and lawn clippings, as well as any garden vegetation. Just avoid dirt, mulch, rocks, and food.

To have your yard waste collected until the end of the season, be sure to tag it, bag it, or wheel it:

- **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 grocery, home improvement, and convenience stores.
- **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.

Iowa weather always keeps us guessing, so if you have yard waste left after November, you'll have one more chance to have it collected. Winter collection will occur **December 30, 2024** through **January 10, 2025** on your regular

collection day. During winter collection, regular yard waste as well as live Christmas trees can be disposed of curbside.

To find a complete list of retailers who sell Compost It! bags and stickers, or for more information on yard waste collection, please visit Metro Waste Authority's website at [www.WhereItShouldGo.com/YardWaste](http://www.WhereItShouldGo.com/YardWaste), or call 515.244.0021.

*winter collection*  
DEC. 30, 2024-JAN. 10, 2025

While regular curbside yard waste collection is ending for the season, your yard waste has one more chance to be collected this winter!

The Compost It! program's winter collection is an opportunity to dispose of live Christmas trees and any remaining yard waste. Just be sure to remove all decorations!




[www.WhereItShouldGo.com](http://www.WhereItShouldGo.com)  
515.244.0021

# THE INVISIBLE KILLER: CARBON MONOXIDE



Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas. It can be produced by the combustion that occurs from a fuel-burning appliance like a furnace, clothes dryer, range, oven, water heater, or space heater. When appliances and vents work properly, and there is enough fresh air in your home to allow complete combustion, the trace amounts of CO produced are typically not dangerous.

An appliance can malfunction, a furnace heat exchanger can crack, vents can clog, or debris may block a chimney or flue. Fireplaces, wood-burning stoves, gas heaters, charcoal grills, or gas logs can produce unsafe levels of CO if they are unvented or not properly vented. Exhaust can seep into the home from vehicles left running in an attached garage. All these things can cause a CO leak in the home. Following our carbon monoxide safety tips can help prevent potential CO poisoning.

## Where should carbon monoxide alarms be installed?

CO alarms should be placed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. For the best protection, use interconnected CO alarms so that when one sounds, they all sound. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height. Choose a CO alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.

## How do I know if my carbon monoxide alarm is working?

Test CO alarms at least once a month by pressing the test button. Read the back of the CO alarm, or the manufacturer's instructions, to know what the different sounds mean. Typically, four beeps and a pause mean CO has been detected. You should move to fresh air and call 9-1-1. One chirp every minute means low battery, and it's time to replace the batteries. Five chirps every minute means the CO alarm is at the end of its life, and it's time to replace the CO alarm.

## Are there any other safety tips I should know?

If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.

During a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.

A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors, and vent openings.

Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO. Only use them outside.

Have fuel-burning heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a qualified professional every year before cold weather arrives. During the heating season, clear filters and filtering systems of dust and dirt.

## What are symptoms are carbon monoxide poisoning?

CO enters the body through breathing. CO poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms, food poisoning and other illnesses. Some symptoms include shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, lightheadedness, or headaches. High levels of CO can be fatal, causing death within minutes. If you suspect possible CO poisoning, get to fresh air, and seek medical care right away.



# WDM PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Mission Statement:

To enrich lives by igniting curiosity, engaging community, and expanding perspectives.

## Dearest Library Users,

We had such a fun and busy summer here at the West Des Moines Public Library! I'm happy to say that summer reading participants completed over 23,000 reading days and our registrations increased by 27% over last year's numbers. We hosted fabulous end of summer parties and had over 1,700 Spotty (our purple dinosaur friend) spottings! But, the end of summer doesn't mean that the hard work at the library stops. We are already planning what's new and next that we want to make sure to share with all of you in our communities – be it that next popular read, a visit to our Words on Wheels (WoW) vehicle or engaging and educational programming for all ages.

What's incredibly inspiring to me and the staff here at WDM Public Library is that new folks continue to find us and our returning friends keep coming back. Now that we are moving into the Winter and Spring, we'll be preparing for cold and cozy evenings where materials checked out from the library can be your trusted entertainment source. Along with the longer days also comes a return to school and studies as WDM youth return to their classrooms. We are proud to be able to offer so many fabulous resources to help support the student in your life, regardless of grade or age. One of my favorite services that we have at the library is Online Tutoring through the Brainfuse HelpNow service – and, it's available with a WDM Library card. Students of all ages can utilize the online lessons for building skills in addition to getting help from expert tutors and writing lab instructors. We also

have easy-to-navigate website and database help for those last-minute school projects that are available even after the library building is closed. Resources like the Points of View Reference Center and AtoZ World Food help provide support and trusted resources for students as they put together presentations or research papers – and, again, it's all accessible with a WDM Library Card!

Finally, don't forget to have fun! The WDM Public Library always has plenty of activities and outreach opportunities that balance learning and play! Make sure to visit our website to see if you can spot our WoW vehicle in the wild – and, be sure to check out a book while you're there! Our Club Read programs for kids and tweens will introduce the kiddo in your life to fabulous books of all genres and formats – including graphic novels! Finally, be sure to check out materials from our newly wrapped kiosk in Valley Junction. Thanks to the WDM Library Friends Foundation's generous support, we have a super cool presence in the Junction that brings fun and popular materials to you 24/7.

No matter your need – research sources for schoolwork, a fun place to hang out, a spot to socialize with friends or a destination for all your favorite materials – the West Des Moines Public Library is here for you. Come see us!



Fondly,  
— Traci Glass  
West Des Moines Library Director  
Currently Reading: *Intermezzo* by Sally Rooney

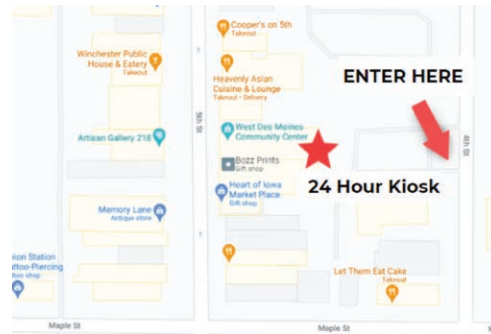




## Valley Junction 24-Hour Library Kiosk Gets a New Look

Our 24-Hour Library Kiosk in Valley Junction recently got a face lift! We have been thrilled to see its usage go up with the new design helping it stand out. The 235-item vending-style machine allows patrons to browse, select, check out and return library materials 24 hours a day. In order to use the kiosk, you must have a West Des Moines Public Library card in good standing.

**24-Hour Library Kiosk, 217 5th St, West Des Moines, IA 50265**  
Enter via the 4th St. parking lot.



## Where is the WoW (Words on Wheels?)

Thanks to generous community support and donations through the West Des Moines Library Friends Foundation, the library has been able to utilize their new Words on Wheels outreach vehicle to reach children and their families beyond the walls of the physical library building. The Words on Wheels (or WoW for short) can hold over 200 items and makes trips around the city of West Des Moines and the library's contract city of Cumming to deliver materials. Patrons can check out materials, get a library card, and connect with library staff members all on-the-go! This summer the WoW attended 51 events and served over 2,500 patrons outside the bounds of our physical building.

Want to know where the Words on Wheels is headed next? Check out our Outreach calendar at [wdmlibrary.org/outreach](http://wdmlibrary.org/outreach).



## Support Programs And Services When You Join The Friends!

Our community library is fortunate to have the support of the Friends Foundation – a volunteer-based, non-profit organization. Each year, the Friends contribute \$12,000 to library programming for all ages.

### Friends Memberships also funded these special projects:

- Teen Center
- Rotating Outreach Collection
- Outreach Van
- Tale Trail
- Charging Stations
- iPads
- Artwork
- Valley Junction Kiosk
- and More!

★ YOUR DONATION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE! ★

Follow the Friends on Facebook & Instagram @wdmlibraryfriends

**WDM Library Friends Foundation**  
4000 Mills Civic Pkwy, WDM, IA 50265.  
515.222.3407  
[wdmlibrary.org/about/friends-foundation](http://wdmlibrary.org/about/friends-foundation)



## Check Out Our Learning Kits!

One of our favorite items in our Library of Things for patrons to check out is our Learning Kits! Not only are the Learning Kits fun for kids to play with, but they are curated to focus on 'sneaky learning' objectives such as early literacy skills, dramatic play, fine and gross motor skills, and early math concepts. To find our kits, just search "Learning Kits" in our catalog. You'll be able to put them on hold just like any other library material. You

can also see a full list of everything in our Library of Things by visiting [wdmlibrary.org/library-of-things](http://wdmlibrary.org/library-of-things).

Patrons can check out Learning Kits like any other material in our collection. Kits can be checked out for 21 days and cannot be renewed. A \$.50 charge will be added for each day that the kit is returned late.



Doll Kit: Theodore



Big Feelings Pineapple



Castle Blocks

## One Pass, Many Adventures



WDM and Cumming residents with a WDM card in good standing may check out passes to six local attractions: The Blank Park Zoo, DSM Children's Museum, Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens, Reiman Gardens, Nelson Pioneer Farm & Museum, and Science Center of Iowa.

[wdmlibrary.org/AdvPass](http://wdmlibrary.org/AdvPass)



The Libby app lets ALL WDM Library card holders enjoy eBooks, Audiobooks and digital magazines, streaming video and comics. Libby also gives you access to content-rich streaming services like Great Courses, Craftsy, Kanopy, Qello Concerts, Classica, Universal Class, and Indieflix. You can use the Libby app on your device to access, or you can use it in a web browser. Download the Libby app on your device now or access it on your internet browser at [libbyapp.com/library/bridges](http://libbyapp.com/library/bridges).



ABCMouse offers a comprehensive online curriculum for children ages 2-8+, including reading and language arts, math, beginning science, social studies, art and music. Stimulate a child's enthusiasm for learning through over 9,000 interactive learning activities—including books, educational games, puzzles, art activities, songs, music videos, and more. [wdmlibrary.org/digital-library/abcmouse](http://wdmlibrary.org/digital-library/abcmouse)



Language learners can build vocabulary, practice skills, and maintain what they have learned with Transparent Language Online, available anytime, anywhere in 110+ languages. [wdmlibrary.org/digital-library/transparent-language-online](http://wdmlibrary.org/digital-library/transparent-language-online)



## YOUTH PROGRAMMING

We continue to offer fun and educational programming for kids from 1 month old up through teens! Our most up-to-date calendar is always on the website at [wdmlibrary.org/events](http://wdmlibrary.org/events).

**REMINDER: Minors under the age of 10 are NOT allowed in the library without supervision. Patrons must be 14 or older to act as a supervisor to minors under the age of 10.**

**Lapsit Storytime – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Monday of the month**  
(Ages 1 mo. - 18 mo. w/ adult)

Using puppets, rhymes, songs, and short stories, we will engage baby and caregiver in language-rich activities designed for pre-walking babies.

**Toddler Storytime – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesday of the month**  
(Ages 6 mo. - 2 yrs w/ adult)

Simple stories, gentle tunes, flannel boards, and nursery rhymes.

**Baby Doll Storytime – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday of the month**  
(Ages 18 mo. - 3 yrs w/ adult)

Bring a favorite doll or stuffed animal and join us for Baby Doll Storytime. Children will participate in songs, rhymes, and stories while interacting with their baby doll.

**Family Storytime – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday (evening), Thursday (morning) & Friday (morning) of each month**  
(Ages 0-6 w/ adult)

Join us in the Community Room for this class featuring stories, songs, and rhymes followed by gross and fine motor play all with an early literacy focus!

**Saturday Storytime – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Saturday of the Month**  
(Ages 0-6 w/ adult)

Drop in and join us in the storyroom for Saturday Storytime! Build a lifetime love of books and reading as we share stories, songs, and interactive rhymes with an early literacy focus.



**Kids Club Read** is our monthly book club for ages 7-10. Print copies of each month's book are available for pickup at the Children's Desk or via curbside service. Titles selected for each month will be published via our Events Calendar. This club meets from 4:15-5:00 PM one Tuesday afternoon per month during the school year.



**Tween Club Read** is our monthly book club for ages 11-14. Print copies of each month's book are available for pickup at the Children's Desk or Teen Desk. Titles selected for each month will be published via our Events Calendar. This club meets from 4:15-5:00PM the first Tuesday of each month during the school year.



**Kids Graphic Novel Club Read** is our monthly book club for ages 8-12 that focuses on the graphic novel format. Print copies of each month's book are available for pickup at the Children's Desk or via curbside service. Titles selected for each month will be published via our Events Calendar. This club meets from 4:15-5:00 PM one Thursday afternoon per month during the school year.

**Adult Club Read** is our adult book discussion group.

Patrons can choose whether they want to join the group in person at the library or through Zoom from home. See the Library's Calendar for meeting info.



## Adult Programming

We have some great Adult programs planned for 2025! We're hosting some health/wellness programs, music programs, and plan to offer some more financial wellness/planning sessions. We also plan to host some blues music programs, like we did in 2024. These are in addition to our great book groups: Adult Club Read (which has a second social meeting each month), YA Not and Step Back in Time. We also have monthly craft programs, as well as the WDM Writers Group that meets on a regular basis.

Please check our Events calendar for information on these programs: [wdmlibrary.org/events](http://wdmlibrary.org/events).

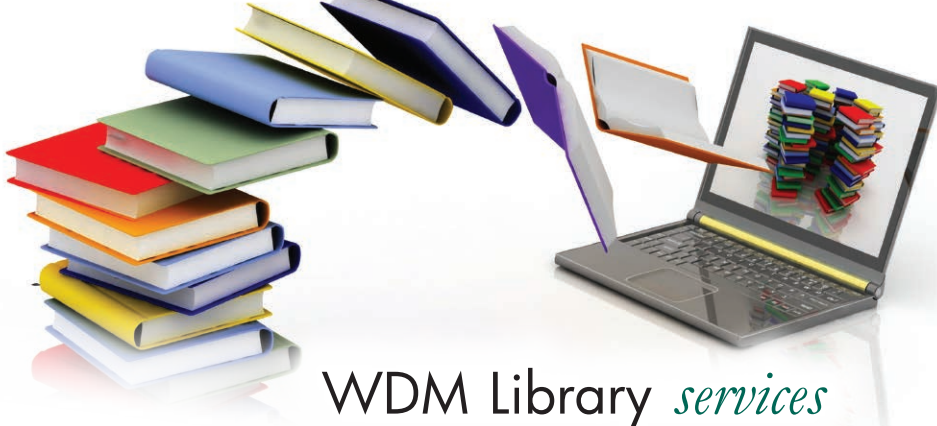
**YA Not Club Read** is our non-traditional book club for "Grown-ups" who like to read and talk about Young Adult books. YA Not meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month. See the Library's Calendar for meeting info.



**Step Back in Time** discusses titles from a variety of time/places/people. This group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Jordan House (2001 Fuller Road, West Des Moines, IA 50265). Please contact Jen to register at 515-222-3413.







## WDM Library *services*

All services are **free** unless otherwise indicated.

GET A LIBRARY CARD... IT'S FREE! Present valid ID with proof of current address. For more information, please visit [www.wdmlibrary.org/librarycard](http://www.wdmlibrary.org/librarycard)

- **CHECK YOUR ACCOUNT ONLINE**  
[wdmlibrary.org/my-account](http://wdmlibrary.org/my-account)
- **FIND REFERENCE TOOLS AND DATABASES**  
In the library and/or from home.  
515-222-3403 ■ [wdmlibrary.org/databases](http://wdmlibrary.org/databases)
- **ACCESS E-BOOKS, AUDIOBOOKS, VIDEO & MORE**  
515-222-3403 ■ [wdmlibrary.org/digital-library](http://wdmlibrary.org/digital-library)
- **RESERVE PUBLIC MEETING & STUDY ROOMS**  
515-222-3400 ■ [wdmlibrary.org/rooms](http://wdmlibrary.org/rooms)
- **REQUEST HOMEBOUND DELIVERY**  
515-222-3400 ■ [wdmlibrary.org/homebound](http://wdmlibrary.org/homebound)
- **VOLUNTEER**  
515-222-3400 ■ [wdmlibrary.org/volunteer](http://wdmlibrary.org/volunteer)

### Follow us on social media!



/wdmlibrary

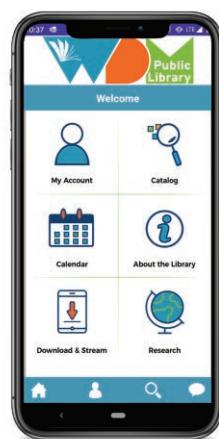


@wdmlibrary



@wdmlibrary

### Download Library Mobile App



To find the West Des Moines Public Library app, search for "WDM Library" or "West Des Moines Public Library" in your app store. The app is free. To use functions like holds and account info, you will need your WDM Library Card and pin. App users can search the library catalog and reserve items, add one or more library accounts to their device, view and register for events at the library, access online learning resources, and much more! Download on iOS and Android.

# WDM HUMAN SERVICES

"The ♥ of the Community"

West Des Moines Human Services provides necessary assistance to qualifying low-income, elderly and disabled individuals in our service area. Basic needs such as food, clothing, and emergency financial assistance are a few of the critical services provided. To learn more, visit our website or call 515-222-3660.

### EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance available to eligible West Des Moines residents who are facing an eviction or utility disconnection. Outreach staff assess the situation and work to ensure the needs of the household are being met.

### DMARC FOOD PANTRY

Food and personal care items available on a monthly basis.

### ANYTIME ITEMS PROGRAM

Bakery goods, fruits, vegetables and more available weekdays at 8:30AM, rain or shine. Distribution is outdoors at the SE corner of our building at 139 6th Street.

### CLOTHING CLOSET

Free clothing, shoes and housewares for qualifying households.

### FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

Basic medical care and management of chronic medical conditions to uninsured or under-insured individuals; all on-site services provided free of charge. The clinic is a member of Free Clinics of Iowa, the largest network of free medical clinics in the state.

### HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE

Variety of programs available to West Des Moines residents to help alleviate the financial burden of the holiday season for qualifying households.

### ELL CLASSES

English Language Learner (ELL) classes offered from September through May. Childcare available.

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

Financial assistance to West Des Moines youth participating in activities offered through West Des Moines Parks & Rec. Annual school supply distribution in August.

Please visit our website for a full listing of available programs as well as income and service area guidelines for each program: [www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices)



**Partner with WDM Human Services to help our neighbors in need!**

## WDM Human Services Current Needs

### Personal Pantry

Each month West Des Moines Human Services assists approximately 700 individuals with personal care products. We need your help to meet the needs in our community.

The following items are needed on an on-going basis:

- Laundry detergent
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Toilet paper
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Diapers (esp. larger sizes)
- Soap



### Clothing Closet

West Des Moines Human Services clothing closet is in need of new or gently used children's, teen, and adult clothing and shoes for the current season. We also need towels, sheets, blankets, toys and small household items.

#### Donation Drop-Off Hours:

- Monday through Thursday, 8:30 AM - 3PM
- Fridays 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
- Tuesday evenings from 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM



## Volunteer Today!

Volunteers are needed in the Clothing Closet, Food Pantry and for ELL classes at West Des Moines Human Services. Opportunities are available Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM and 3 PM and Tuesday evenings from 4:30 - 6:30 PM. Convenient location in Valley Junction neighborhood. Must be 14 years of age or older. To learn more, please contact Mindy Hotovec at (515) 222-3663 or visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices).

## Additional Service Hours

Additional Hours Include:

**Tuesday Evenings**  
**4:30 PM – 6:30 PM**  
**\*Arrive by 6:00 PM**

During these additional business hours, visitors can access the Food Pantry, Personal Care Pantry and Clothing Closet. Program Outreach staff are only available for new client intake. In addition to our normal donation hours, donations can be dropped off at our donation doors from 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM on Tuesdays.



*Sunday Supper In Our Town*

**RAISES OVER \$30,000**

**To help low-income, elderly and disabled residents**

West Des Moines Human Services held its 14th annual "Sunday Supper In Our Town" fundraising event at Flemings Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar on September 29, 2024. More than 120 guests attended the dinner benefiting low-income, elderly and disabled residents in the western suburbs. Proceeds benefit the programs of West Des Moines Human Services. It was a wonderful evening of giving back to the community!

**THANK YOU TO  
OUR SPONSORS...**

### **\$2,500**

Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.  
 HR Green, Inc.  
 Brian & Elaine Gifford

### **\$1,000**

Farmers Mutual Hail  
 First National Bank  
 Foth  
 HDR  
 Northwest Bank  
 R&R Realty Group  
 West Bank  
 Jennifer & Irving Hahn  
 Joe & Betsy Happe  
 Sue Wright

### **\$500**

Athene  
 Dale & Jo Helling  
 Martha James  
 Josephs Jewelers  
 Stivers Ford Lincoln  
 Sam & Mary Bernabe  
 Doug & Patty Dornacker  
 DeAnn & Steve Howard  
 Greg Nichols & Dawn Connet  
 Tyler & Megan Omann  
 Jim & Louisa Sandager  
 Jody & Tricia Smith  
 Lori Teel  
 Russ & Alana Trimble

*Special thanks to JM Impressions for graphic design services*



# Help Your Neighbors In Need

The holidays are just around the corner, and you are invited to help brighten someone's life this holiday season by participating in West Des Moines Human Services' Holiday Assistance Programs.



West Des Moines Human Services provides assistance to low-income, elderly and disabled individuals in our service area. The households we serve are surviving on very limited incomes and struggle to afford even the most basic of necessities. Many are faced with hardships that make it difficult to enjoy the holiday season.

You can make a difference! Please consider partnering with us to assist these struggling members of our community.

The following opportunities are available:

### Holiday Food Vouchers

Monetary donations are needed to purchase food vouchers for families in need. Please designate "holiday food assistance" with your gift. Note, we are no longer accepting gift cards.

### Adopt-A-Family Program

Sponsors are matched with a West Des Moines family in need and are asked to provide gifts for the children in the household as well as holiday food assistance (food basket or grocery gift card). A "wish list" for the family will be

provided consisting of ages and gift ideas for the children in the household. Sponsors deliver gifts to West Des Moines Human Services.

### Adopt-A-Teen Holiday Program

Want to help out, but don't want to commit to sponsoring an entire family? Sponsor a teen from a low-income household! Sponsors are asked to provide the teen with two to

three gifts or a gift card. A wish list will be provided.

### Monetary Gifts

Monetary donations are appreciated as this allows us to assist families during the holidays and throughout the year.

If you know of other individuals or organizations who may wish to participate, please share this information. We have many families and children who need assistance, and adopting a family is a wonderful tradition during the holidays. Please call (515) 222-3663 for more information or visit our website at [www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices).

If you are interested in providing assistance, please complete the Holiday Sponsor Form by December 2nd and send to:

**West Des Moines Human Services**  
P.O. Box 65320  
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265  
[HumanServices@wdm.iowa.gov](mailto:HumanServices@wdm.iowa.gov)

# HOLIDAY SPONSOR FORM

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been a sponsor in the past?  Yes  No

### I would like to participate in the following holiday assistance programs:

Please check the program(s) and fill in the requested information.

**Holiday Food Vouchers**

Monetary donations needed to purchase food vouchers. Please designate "holiday food assistance" with your donation. Please note, we are no longer accepting gift cards.

**Adopt-A-Family Holiday Program**

**Minimum Requirements:** Sponsors are asked to provide gifts for the children living in the household up to age 18 consisting of at least two to three gifts per child. Sponsors are also asked to provide a grocery gift card or food basket for the family. Please note, for confidentiality reasons, gifts are to be delivered to West Des Moines Human Services.

**Adopt-A-Teen Holiday Program**

Want to help out, but don't want to commit to sponsoring an entire family? Sponsor a teen from a low-income household! Sponsors are asked to provide the teen with two to three gifts or a gift card. A wish list will be provided. Gifts are to be delivered to West Des Moines Human Services.

**Monetary Contribution**

Your contribution will be used to assist families during the holidays and throughout the year. Please make your check payable to West Des Moines Human Services or scan the QR code to make an online donation.

### Scan to Donate



Please return sponsor form by December 2nd to:

### WDM Human Services

139 6th Street, P.O. Box 65320, West Des Moines, IA 50265  
[HumanServices@wdm.iowa.gov](mailto:HumanServices@wdm.iowa.gov) • (515) 222-3663

Winter/Spring 2025

# WDM Parks & Recreation PROGRAM GUIDE



**Registration Date: Tuesday, November 5, at 8AM**

We provide our community  
everyday enjoyment through  
people, parks, and programs.





# ABOUT US

**We provide our community everyday enjoyment through people, parks, and programs!** The Parks and Recreation Department oversees an extensive network of outdoor recreational amenities, including 1,303 acres of parkland, 65 miles of paved multi-purpose trails, and various specialized facilities. This comprehensive system provides a diverse array of programming, from adult sports leagues and youth introductory programs to nature education, senior activities, arts and culture programs, and special events. Key facilities operated by the department include a full-service community center, softball complex, two outdoor aquatic centers, a nature lodge, dog park, archery range, amphitheater, boathouse, and recreation complex.

## BOARD AND COMMISSIONS

### Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Melissa Clarke-Wharff  
 Joe Hrdlicka  
 Linda Lowe  
 Jim Miller  
 Heather Schebel  
 Aaron Sewell  
 Kathleen Till Stange

### Public Arts Advisory Commission

Virginia Barrette  
 Ryan Crane  
 Tami Kitner  
 Mahesh Mathrubutham  
 Courtney Moller  
 Jeff Phillips  
 Amenda Tate

### Bicycle Advisory Commission

Missy Berg  
 Michael Berry  
 Steve Herwig  
 Bobby Kennedy  
 Lyndley Kent  
 Nick Welter  
 Diane Witt

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Ryan Penning

As winter descends upon West Des Moines, the temptation to snuggle under blankets with a hot beverage may be strong. However, the City provides numerous opportunities to remain active and engaged throughout the season. One option is the RecPlex, featuring indoor turf, hard courts, and ice sports areas, making it an excellent venue for a wide range of recreational activities. For those with different interests, the Valley Junction Activity Center offers a variety of arts and cultural events. The Nature Lodge is another great destination, providing an ideal space for corporate retreats, family gatherings, or social events with friends, while enabling you to enjoy the winter landscape in a warm and comfortable setting. Don't let winter pass you by without taking advantage of the fun, fitness, and creativity that West Des Moines has to offer!

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

### SPORTS COMPLEXES



### EVENTS



# CONTENTS

Page 2	About Us	Pages 19-25	Youth Programs
Pages 3-10	General Information	Pages 26-29	Adult Programs
Pages 11-15	RecPlex Programs	Page 30	Senior Programs
Pages 16-19	Family Programs	Page 31	Registration Form

## RECREATION POLICIES

**Please call the Administrative Office at 515.222.3444, M-F, 8am-5pm to request a refund.**

- Full refunds will be given if the request is submitted no later than 15 days before the program start date.
- Refund requests submitted 14 days or fewer before the program start date will be refunded 50% of the program registration fee.
- Requests for refunds submitted on or after the event start date or completion of the program will not be considered.
- Please allow 2-3 weeks to process a check refund for payments originally made by cash or check. No cash refunds will be given.
- Payments made by credit/debit card will be refunded back to the original credit/debit card.
- The Recreation Program Refund Policy does not apply to travel programs, culinary programs, RP Kids Day Camps, or adult sport leagues.
- Refunds for medical situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### CANCELLATION POLICY

We reserve the right to cancel a program or activity that does not meet the minimum number of participants necessary to offer the program.

### REGISTRATION CHANGE FEE

A fee of \$5 will be charged for each registration change made after participants are enrolled in the program.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the responsibility of the individual requiring accommodations to inform the Parks & Recreation Department at least 72 hours in advance of the program start date.

### PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

Fee discounts are available for West Des Moines residents meeting assistance guidelines. Contact West Des Moines Human Services at 515.222.3660.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC RELEASE

By participating in a West Des Moines Parks and Recreation program, activity, or special event, participants and volunteers grant and convey unto the City all rights, titles, and interest in any and all photographic images and video or audio recordings made by the City during the City activities, including, but not limited to, any royalties, proceeds, or other benefits derived from such photographs or recordings.

### INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

West Des Moines Parks and Recreation is committed to promoting inclusive practices across all public spaces, places, facilities, and programs the department offers. We seek to provide everyone the opportunity to fully participate in services and programs that enhance their quality of life including individuals with physical, intellectual, and developmental disabilities, our LGBTQ+ community, and culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

### ANTI-BULLYING STATEMENT

The Parks & Recreation Department will not tolerate bullying\* in any program or activity, and staff will do all they reasonably can to create a safe space for participants, regardless of an individual's actual or perceived age, color, creed/denomination, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes/appearance, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status.

\* For the purposes of this statement, bullying is defined as the unwanted, aggressive use of physical, social, or mental/intellectual power to control, harm, or humiliate another person in a repetitive or pervasive manner.

# CITY OF WEST DES MOINES PARKS

# PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Park Name	Address
American Legion Park*	301 Vine Street
Ashawa Park	4431 Waterford Drive
Brookview Park*	400 81 <sup>st</sup> Street
Crossroads Park*	5205 Ashworth Road
Fairmeadows Park*	543 22 <sup>nd</sup> Street
Florer Park	1410 Locust Street
Hidden Point Park	1250 South Hidden Point Court
Holiday Park	1701 Railroad Avenue
Huston Ridge Park	8455 Coachlight Drive
Jaycee Park	5608 Center Street
Jordan Creek Park	310 50 <sup>th</sup> Street
Kiwanis Park	3101 Maple Street
Knolls Park	5150 Aspen Drive
Maple Grove Park	9350 Chalk Street
Meadowview Park	638 Prairie View Drive
Nelly Phenix Commons	423 6 <sup>th</sup> Street
Pearson Park*	1256 19 <sup>th</sup> Street
Peony Park	1100 63 <sup>rd</sup> Street
Pinedale Park	3375 Woodland Avenue
Quail Cove Park	1515 South 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street
Raccoon River Park*	2500 Grand Avenue
Railroad Park	425 Railroad Avenue
Scenic Valley Park	1223 South 24 <sup>th</sup> Court
Southwoods Park	350 South 35 <sup>th</sup> Street
Valley View Park*	225 88 <sup>th</sup> Street
Western Hills Park	4115 Walnut Street
Whisper Point Park	9125 Bridgewood Boulevard
Wild Rose Park	6801 Cody Drive
Willow Springs Park	5685 Wistful Vista Drive
Wilson Park	298 9 <sup>th</sup> Street
Woodland Hills Park	1230 South 95 <sup>th</sup> Street

## \*RESERVABLE SHELTERS

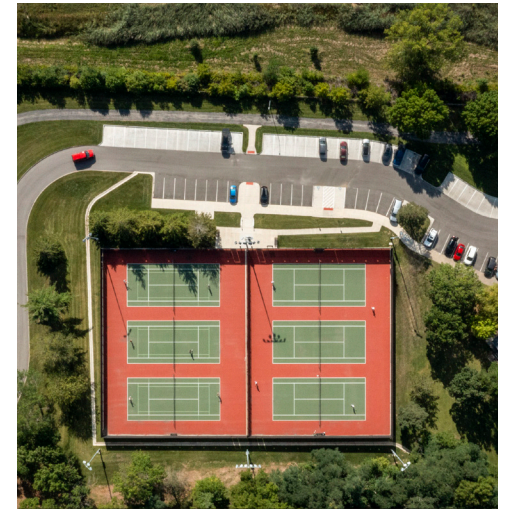
Reservations Begin	Rental Season	Fee
1/2	4/15-10/15	\$15/hr; 4 hr min

Reserve Shelters by calling 515.222.3444 or online at [www.wdm.iowa.gov/ShelterRental](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ShelterRental)



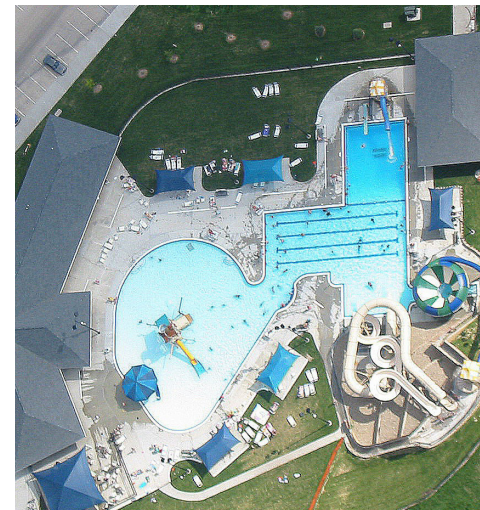
**Administrative Office  
WDM City Hall**  
515.222.3444  
4200 Mills Civic Parkway

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParksandRec](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParksandRec)



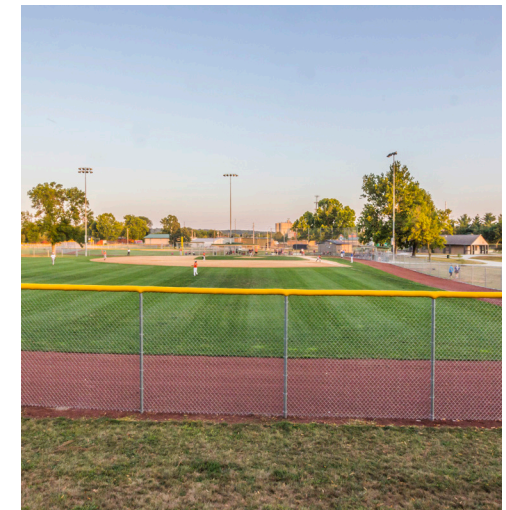
**Crossroads Park  
Tennis Courts**  
515.222.3444  
5205 Ashworth Road

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/TennisCourts](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/TennisCourts)



**Holiday Park  
Aquatic Center**  
515.273.0702  
1701 Railroad Avenue

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/Pool](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/Pool)



**Holiday Park  
Baseball Complex**  
515.222.3454  
1701 Railroad Avenue



# PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES



**Jamie Hurd Amphitheater**  
515.222.3455  
4100 Mills Civic Parkway

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/JHA](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/JHA)



**Jordan Cemetery**  
515.222.3444  
2950 Fuller Road

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/JordanCemetery](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/JordanCemetery)

# PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES



**Raccoon River Park Archery Facility**  
515.222.3424  
2500 Grand Avenue

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/Archery](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/Archery)



**Raccoon River Park Boathouse**  
515.440.4787  
2500 Grand Avenue

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/Boathouse](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/Boathouse)



**MidAmerican Energy Co. RecPlex**  
515.440.4820  
6500 Grand Avenue

[www.theRecPlex.com](http://www.theRecPlex.com)



**Peony Park Free Little Art Mart**  
515.222.3455  
1100 63<sup>rd</sup> Street

[www.facebook.com/FreeLittleArtMart](http://www.facebook.com/FreeLittleArtMart)



**Raccoon River Park Dog Park**  
515.222.3424  
2500 Grand Avenue

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/DogPark](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/DogPark)

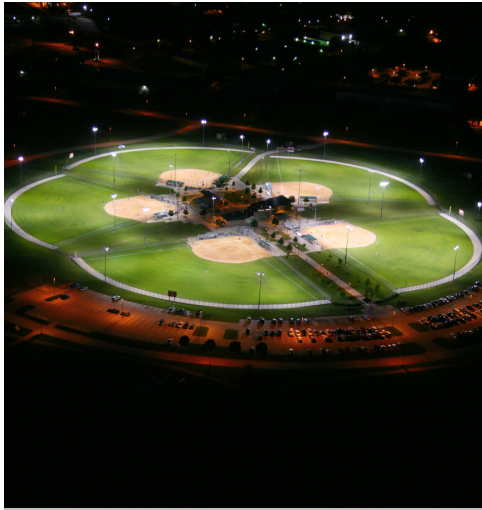



**Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge**  
515.222.3424  
2500 Grand Avenue

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/NatureLodge](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/NatureLodge)




# PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES



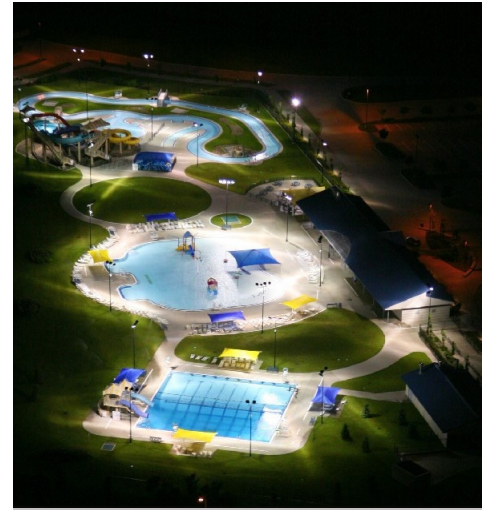
 **Raccoon River Park  
Softball Complex**  
515.222.3454  
2500 Grand Avenue



 **Valley Junction (VJ)  
Activity Center**  
515.222.3400  
217 5<sup>th</sup> Street

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/VJAC](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/VJAC)

# PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES



 **Valley View Park  
Aquatic Center**  
515.273.0706  
255 81<sup>st</sup> Street


[www.wdm.iowa.gov/Pool](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/Pool)

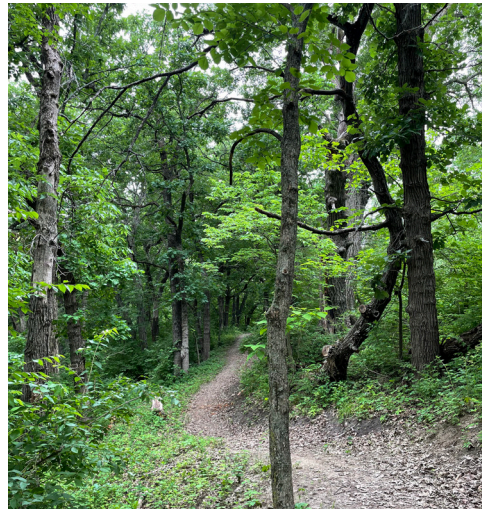



 **Valley View Park  
Fields & Pickleball Crts.**  
515.222.3444  
225 88<sup>th</sup> Street

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/ValleyView](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ValleyView)



 **Southwoods Park  
Disc Golf Course**  
515.222.3444  
350 S 35<sup>th</sup> Street



 **Southwoods Park  
Singletrack Course**  
515.222.3444  
350 S 35<sup>th</sup> Street



'TIS THE SEASON FOR  
DODGING DOG BOMBS.  
**KEEP WEST DES MOINES  
CLEAN THIS WINTER!**

*All animals in a city park or where allowed in a parks and recreation facility must be under the control of a person competent to restrain and control the animal, either by leash, cord, chain, or other similar restraint not more than ten feet (10') in length, or properly restrained within a motor vehicle. The owner or person in charge of an animal shall clean up and/or remove as soon as possible any excrement or droppings deposited by the animal on city park or parks and recreation facility property. (WDM Code of Ordinances; Title 4, Chapter 7-11-2)*



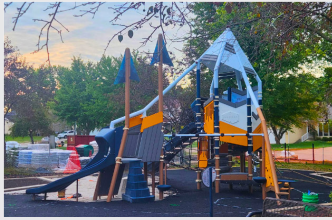
# NEW PARK PLAYGROUNDS



Crossroads Park



Jaycee Park



Kiwanis Park

The play equipment in the city generally has a lifespan of 18 to 20 years. However, the structures at Crossroads Park, Jaycee Park, and Kiwanis Park had been in place for 22 years, surpassing their expected duration. This project aimed to rejuvenate these parks by replacing the play equipment for children aged 2-5 and 5-12.

The upgrades included demolition of the outdated structures and the installation of new features, such as:

**Enhanced Safety:** Substituting wood mulch surfacing with poured-in-place safety surfacing, along with the addition of accessible pathways made of concrete pavement and curbing.

**Inclusive Play:** Implementing play features that cater to children of all abilities.

**Improved Drainage:** Establishing proper grading and installing subdrains.

As a result, this project has revitalized the parks, offering safe, inclusive, and accessible play areas for children of all ages and abilities.

# LEGACY WOODS

The transformation of Legacy Woods into a vibrant public space is progressing steadily. The site's revitalization began with the demolition of abandoned buildings in June 2024, followed by an archaeological assessment in September to preserve areas of historical significance. Cleared sections were then seeded with grass, setting the stage for the future.

October saw the planting of 79 trees, forming the core of the planned Nature Sanctuary. The West Des Moines Historical Society, in collaboration with the City, showcased the project during the September Iowa Files program, offering a comprehensive overview available on the City's website at [www.wdm.iowa.gov/LegacyWoods](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/LegacyWoods).

Future stages include site grading, underground utility installation, and the construction of a paved parking lot, pending funding. These projects are slated for completion by the end of 2025.

To support Legacy Woods' continued development, donations are gratefully accepted. Visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/LegacyWoods](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/LegacyWoods) for information on how you can contribute.



# Family Fun Day *All ages*

Join us for our seasonal Family Fun Day sponsored by GreenState Credit Union. This FREE event will feature open play on our indoor turf. Delicious food and beverages from the RP Grill will be available for purchase as well.

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
Sa	11/2	112-2pm	FREE	RecPlex

# Skate with Santa *All ages*

Preregister to join Santa for a special public skating session at the RecPlex. Bring the kids and a camera to capture photos as you skate around with Santa.



ID	Day	Dates	Time	Fee	Location
39302	Sa	12/7	6:30-8pm	\$11	RecPlex
39303	Sa	12/21	6:30-8pm	\$11	RecPlex

# Parents' Night Out *Ages 5-12*

Parents can enjoy an evening out or relax at home while their children have a fun time with us. Each evening will have an exciting theme, arts and crafts, healthy activities, and a pizza party!



Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
Every other Saturday	12/7-2/8	5-8pm	\$20	RecPlex
New Year's Eve Tuesday	12/31	4-10pm	\$35	RecPlex

# Swiftie Skate *All ages*

Join us at the MidAmerican Energy RecPlex for the Swiftie Skate! Enjoy an evening of ice skating to the music from Taylor Swift's Eras Tour. Feel free to dress up in your favorite concert outfit and bring along your friendship bracelets! We will also have a friendship bracelet-making station during the event. If you're planning to just watch and not skate, there's no need to register. Everyone is welcome, regardless of age!



ID	Day	Dates	Time	Fee	Location
40946	Sa	1/18	6:30-8:30pm	\$25	RecPlex

## Zamboni® Driving Experience *Ages 18+*

Have you always dreamed of driving the Zamboni®? The RecPlex Zamboni® Driving Experience is a crash course in all things Zamboni®, which includes an opportunity to take one for a spin on the ice. This one-hour class is designed for adults with a valid driver's license to learn fun facts about the Zamboni®, how to operate and drive a Zamboni®, and tour the facility. Space is limited, so book your Zamboni® Driving Experience quickly for your chance to drive our Zamboni® and learn how we create and maintain the ice at the RecPlex.

Day	Dates	Time	Fee	Location
T	12/3	2-3pm & 3-4pm	\$50	RecPlex
T	12/17	2-3pm & 3-4pm	\$50	RecPlex

## Learn to Skate *Ages 3+*

The Learn to Skate program welcomes recreational skaters of all ages and abilities. Lessons follow the skill progressions outlined in Learn To Skate USA, with 30 minutes of group instruction and 30 minutes of practice time. Skate rentals are included in the registration fee.



ID	Day	Dates	Time	Fee	Location
40924	Su	1/5-2/9	1-2pm	\$125	RecPlex
40925	Su	1/5-2-9	2-3pm	\$125	RecPlex
40926	T	1/7-2/11	6-7pm	\$125	RecPlex
40927	Su	2/16-3/23	1-2 pm	\$125	RecPlex
40928	Su	2/16-3/23	2-3pm	\$125	RecPlex
40929	T	2/18-4/1	6-7pm	\$125	RecPlex

## Little Champs *Ages 4-5*

This instruction based program is geared towards introducing the basics of different sports including Basketball, Soccer, and T-Ball. Participants will work on skills that will set them up to play like a champ in the future. This is a great introduction to the RecPlex Youth Sports Leagues allowing participants to see which sport may be their favorite.



A parent/guardian is required to attend and participate each week.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40710	Th	3/13-4/17	5:30-6:30pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center

## Youth Dodgeball *Ages 6-12*

Dodge, dip, duck, and dive. Each week we will play different styles of dodgeball games and learn some tips for the game. The RecPlex Youth Dodgeball program provides the ideal environment to have fun while learning the importance of teamwork, socialization, and sportsmanship. The registration fee includes a t-shirt.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40934	F	1/10-2/14	6:15-7:15pm	\$60	RecPlex



## RP Kids Day Camps *Ages 5-12*

RP Kids Day Camps are held year-round during school breaks, offering parents an affordable childcare solution while giving kids a fun-filled day. The Spring Break Camp at RecPlex features a wide range of sports, activities, arts and crafts, and Esports, with meals and snacks provided. Similarly, the Winter Break Day Camp delivers enjoyment and warmth through various sports and creative pursuits. Additionally, the Summer Day Camp offers full days packed with activities, including weekly field trips. These camps emphasize encouragement and good sportsmanship to ensure a positive experience for all participants.

### Winter Break Day Camp

ID	Day	Dates	Time	Fee	Location
39340	M	12/23	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
39341	Th	12/26	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
39342	F	12/27	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
39343	M	12/30	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
39344	Th	1/2	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex

### School's Out! Day Camp

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40935	F	1/17	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
40936	M	1/20	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
40937	F	2/28	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex

### Spring Break Day Camp

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40939	M	3/17	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
40940	T	3/18	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
40941	W	3/19	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
40942	Th	3/20	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
40943	F	3/21	7am-5:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
40938	M-F	3/17-3/21	7am-5:30pm	\$285	RecPlex

### Summer Day Camp *Weekly Registration Begins January 13*

Theme	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Field Trip
Sports		M-F	6/2-6/6	7am-5:30pm	\$285	IA Cubs Game
Animals		M-F	6/9-6/13	7am-5:30pm	\$285	Blank Park Zoo
Get Moving		M-F	6/16-6/20	7am-5:30pm	\$285	Trampoline Park
Thrills		M-F	6/23-6/27	7am-5:30pm	\$285	Adventureland
Water		M-F	7/7-7/11	7am-5:30pm	\$285	VV Aquatic Center
Adventure		M-F	7/14-7/18	7am-5:30pm	\$285	SkateWest
TBD			8/4-8/8			
Summer Party		M-F	8/11-8/15	7am-5:30pm	\$285	Inflatables

\*Daily Registration will begin on March 4

#### Refund Policy:

- A 90% refund will be issued for requests made at least 31 days prior to the program's start date.
- A 50% refund will be issued for requests submitted between 15 and 30 days before the program's start date.
- No refunds will be issued for requests made 14 days or fewer before the program's start date.

To register visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg) or call 515.222.3444





## Adapted Recreation *Ages 4+*

Can Play offers a variety of recreational programs for individuals of all ages with disabilities, autism, or chronic health conditions. These programs focus on building social skills, communication, fitness, and confidence through engaging activities including sports, group games, and fitness routines. Programs are available for preschool (4-6), elementary (6-10), pre-teen (11-14), teens/young adults (14+), and active adults (18+).

Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
4-6	41043	T	3/11-4/8	5:15-6pm	\$55	RecPlex
6-10	41047	T	1/7-1/28	5:15-6pm	\$55	RecPlex
11-14	41053	T	1/7-1/28	4:30-5:15pm	\$55	RecPlex
11-14	41052	T	3/11-4/8	4:30-5:15pm	\$55	RecPlex
14+	41051	T	2/11-3/4	4:30-5:15pm	\$55	RecPlex
18+	41057	T	1/7-1/28	10-11am	\$45	RecPlex
18+	41058	T	2/11-3/4	10-11am	\$45	RecPlex
18+	41059	T	3/11-4/8	10-11am	\$45	RecPlex

## Adapted Basketball *Ages 7-16*

Join Can Play's adapted basketball programs, designed for individuals with disabilities, autism, or chronic health conditions. In these adapted programs, participants will learn the fundamentals of the game, build confidence, and develop essential social engagement skills.

### League

Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
7-11	41055	Sa	1/11-2/1	8-9am	\$55	RecPlex
12-16	41056	Sa	1/11-2/1	9-10am	\$55	RecPlex

### Skills

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41050	T	2/11-3/4	5:15-6pm	\$55	RecPlex

## Court Time Basketball Holiday Camp *Ages 9-14*

The Boys and Girls Holiday Camp, led by Grand View University's Men's Head Coach Denis Schaefer, focuses on fundamental basketball skills, including ball handling, passing, and shooting. The six-hour camp features various games (5-on-5, 4-on-4, and 3-on-3) to reinforce these skills.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40922	M	12/30	9am-3pm	\$180	RecPlex

## Little Hoopers Basketball League *Ages 4-7*

The RecPlex offers coed sports leagues for children aged 4-7. Each week, teams will practice for 15 minutes followed by a game. These leagues provide a fun environment for kids to learn sport fundamentals, teamwork, social skills, and sportsmanship. The registration fee includes a reversible jersey. Each league needs volunteer coaches. To accommodate player and friend requests, we'll place friends together if parents are willing to co-coach. Call 515.440.4811 for details.



Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
4-5	40930	T	1/7-2/11	5:30-6:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
6-7	40931	T	1/7-2/11	7-8pm	\$60	RecPlex
4-5	40932	T	2/18-4/1	5:30-6:30pm	\$60	RecPlex
6-7	40933	T	2/18-4/1	7-8pm	\$60	RecPlex

## Super Smash Bros™ Ultimate Tournament *Ages 8-12*

Our amateur Super Smash Bros™ Ultimate Tournament is the perfect way to work on that wave dash, make new friends in the local Smash community, and compete. Prizes are awarded to the top two players. Played in a double elimination format.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40956	W	1/22-2/26	5:30-6:30pm	\$40	RecPlex

## Fortnite™ Friday League *Ages 8-12*

Players will drop in as a duo but compete separately for the most eliminations. Each week will consist of two rounds of games, with a best 2-out-of-3 format. The league will consist of five weeks of regular season play and an end-of-season double elimination tournament on the last week. **All Fortnite™ games will be played on our PC computers.** Players can bring their own Xbox or PS5 controllers, otherwise the RecPlex does have Xbox controllers participants can use. Headsets are also provided for each participant.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40953	F	1/24-2/28	5:30-7pm	\$40	RecPlex

## Healthy Esports Camp *Ages 6-14*

Each day will consist of two hours of game-play, one hour of sports activity, and 30 minutes of video-on-demand review to learn more about the game of the day and how to improve. Games include but are not limited to: Fortnite™, Rocket League, Mario Kart™, and more!



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40958	M-F	3/17-3/21	8:30am-12pm	\$150	RecPlex
40959	M-F	3/17-3/21	1-4:30pm	\$150	RecPlex

## Letter From Santa *Ages 3-6*

Make your child's Christmas unforgettable with a personalized letter from Santa! Register now and you'll receive a form to customize their letter. We'll then write a special message from Santa and mail it directly to your child. All forms must be submitted by December 6 to ensure delivery before Christmas.



ID	Day	Date	Fee
40960	F	11/1-12/6	\$5

## The Great Elf Hunt *All Ages* NEW



Join us for a family-friendly scavenger hunt, searching for mischievous elves hiding throughout the park. Can you find them all? The top three teams with the most accurate elf counts will be entered into a drawing to win a prize! Start your adventure by checking in at the Raccoon River Nature Lodge to receive your map and instructions. Don't forget to dress for the weather, and warm up with some hot cocoa while you search.

**\$10 per family group (maximum 4 members per group)**

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40664	Sa	12/14	2-3:30pm	\$10	Nature Lodge

## Winter Wonder Palace *Ages 3-11 with Adult*

Step into the Winter Wonder Palace, a place where the bitter cold melts away to reveal a magical world of fun and fantasy! In a 90-minute period, your little royal will experience three different wonder worlds within the palace and will get to meet four storybook characters. **The registration fee includes one admission for the child and one admission for an accompanying adult.**



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40951	Sa	1/4	9-10:30am	\$34	Nature Lodge
40952	Sa	1/4	11am-12:30pm	\$34	Nature Lodge
40950	Sa	1/4	1-2:30pm	\$34	Nature Lodge

## No School Day - Teddy Bear Party NEW *Ages 3-11 with Adult*



Get ready for a cozy winter adventure! Join the Naturalist for a Teddy Bear Party filled with fun and learning. Bring your favorite furry friend (teddy bear or stuffed animal) and a picnic blanket. We'll discover how animals survive the winter, enjoy a story and song, learn about hibernation, munch on a hibernation snack, and even build a take-home hibernation cave for your teddy bear.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Age	Fee	Location
40717	F	1/10	10-11am	3-11	\$3	Nature Lodge
				under 3	FREE	

## Artifact Road Show *All Ages* NEW

Curious about Native American artifacts, fossils, or rocks in your collection? Join us for our Artifact Road Show! Local Geologist Matt Graesch will be on hand to offer comments and basic information. Following a short presentation on Iowa Geology, we'll have a "show and tell" session where you can share your unique specimens and learn more about them.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Age	Fee	Location
40660	Th	1/23	5:30-7pm	12+	\$5	Nature Lodge
				under 12	FREE	

## Owl Calling and Snowshoeing *Ages 7+ with Adult* NEW

Join us for a snowshoe expedition through Raccoon River Park at sunset, starting at the bench near Raccoon River Dog Park. Here, you will be equipped with snowshoes before we embark on a woodland trail to search for owls. During the hike, we will delve into the adaptations and calls of these nocturnal birds. This program is suitable for participants aged 7 and above, with adult supervision required. Dress appropriately for winter conditions, including footwear. In the absence of snow, we will proceed with a standard hike.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40763	Th	1/30	5-6pm	\$5	RRP Dog Park

## Snowshoe and Animal Tracking *Ages 7+ with Adult* NEW

Experience snowshoeing while discovering the wildlife that inhabits Raccoon River Park. You will be introduced to fundamental tracking skills and will learn to identify prevalent animal tracks and scat along the way. Snowshoes are provided for all registrants. Don't forget to wear winter attire, including boots, for a comfortable and enjoyable experience.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40779	Sa	2/1	10-11:30am	\$5	RRP Boathouse

## Superhero's Pajama Party *Ages 4-6 with Adult* NEW



Join us for an action-packed Superhero's Pajama Party! Everyone is encouraged to come in their favorite superhero pajamas or costumes and be ready for indoor fun. We will enjoy a delicious breakfast, play games, and make superhero masks. What is your superpower? No villains are allowed at this superhero celebration! Please note that all children must be accompanied by and supervised by a registered adult.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Age	Fee	Location
41075	Sa	2/1	8-10am	4-6	\$15	Nature Lodge
				18+	\$10	



**Nature Kids: Rainbow Fish! *Ages 2-5 with Adult*** NEW



This Valentine's Day, bring your little ones to the Nature Lodge for a fun-filled morning of learning and play! We'll explore colors, numbers, and letters through exciting fish-themed activities. Your child will have a blast practicing fine and gross motor skills with "fake fishing" and other engaging games. We'll also sing songs, read a story, enjoy a fish cracker snack, and create a special fish valentine to take home.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40785	F	2/14	10-11am	\$5	Nature Lodge

**Decorating Eggs with Naturally Made Dyes *Ages 8+ with Adult*** NEW

Discover the art of naturally dyeing eggs using everyday food scraps and spices in this interactive workshop. Learn how to create your own vibrant dyes at home and transform plain eggs into unique masterpieces. We'll also delve into innovative techniques like leaf print bundling for an added touch of creativity. Please bring a carton of eggs (either hardboiled or raw) to decorate during the session.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40746	Su	3/30	3-4pm	\$7	Nature Lodge



**STEAM STARZ**

STEAM STARZ is an educational business that sparks young minds through immersive STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) experiences. STEAM is an educational approach to learning that incorporates the ARTS into the more familiar STEM model while encouraging inquiry, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

**Snow Globe Studio *Ages 4-12 with Adult***

Snow Globe Studio combines creativity with scientific exploration. Families will have the chance to create a snow globe while discovering how different liquids and density work. They'll also explore exciting chemical reactions through a melting snowman experiment, making this STEAM class a fun and educational winter adventure for everyone!

\*Registration fee includes one child and one adult.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41029	Sa	1/11	10-11am	\$40	VJ Activity Center

**Fizzy Fun: Bath Bomb Science *Ages 4-12 with Adult*** NEW

You will love creating colorful bath bombs with your child while exploring the chemistry behind fizzing reactions. Enjoy this interactive experience together, learning about the science of mixing ingredients and creating your own fizzy, relaxing bath bombs to take home. This would make a perfect gift for a loved one! Note: Bath bombs will be scented with essential oils and use natural color dyes. \*Registration fee includes one child and one adult.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41034	Sa	2/8	10-11am	\$45	VJ Activity Center

**Leprechaun Trap Quest *Ages 4-12 with Adult***

Join our enchanting workshop where adults and children team up to design and engineer a leprechaun trap. While exploring trap design, you will learn about the engineering design process, blending science, engineering, creativity, and a bit of Irish charm, to create the perfect trap for catching a leprechaun! \*Registration fee includes one child and one adult.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41037	Sa	3/15	10-11am	\$40	VJ Activity Center

**Winter Wonderland STEAM *Ages 4-8***

Step into a world of wonder and discovery in our Winter Wonderland STEAM STARZ class, designed especially for curious minds! Through hands-on activities, students will explore the magic of winter while engaging in exciting Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics adventures. From crafting crystal snowflakes to building mini-igloos, explorers will embrace the joys of the season while nurturing their creativity, curiosity, and early STEAM skills.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41027	T & Th	1/14 & 1/16	6-7pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center

**Exploring Music with STEAM *Ages 4-8***

Students will dive into the science of sound by creating their own musical instruments, learn how sound travels, and experiment with rhythms and pitches. Through fun, hands-on activities, they'll learn how music and engineering come together to make beautiful sounds and explore the magic of sound waves.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41054	T & Th	1/28 & 1/30	6-7pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center

**Mini Makers *Ages 4-8*** NEW

Mini Makers will have the opportunity to use their creativity and innovation skills by designing and building projects using a variety of open-ended materials, cardboard, and clay. Students will use the materials to explore basic engineering concepts while creating sculptures and inventive creations.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41032	T & Th	2/4 & 2/6	6-7pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center

## Junior Chemists: Colorful Chemistry *Ages 4-8* NEW

Students will explore the world of chemistry through vibrant and engaging experiments, mixing colors, and exploring reactions. They'll learn basic chemical concepts while having fun creating colorful fizzing reactions and magical mixtures. \*Safety equipment will be provided for students.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41033	T & Th	2/25 & 2/27	6-7pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center

## STEAM Sports: March Madness *Ages 4-8* NEW

Ready to test your student's sports knowledge? Give them a chance to explore sports in a whole new way through science, technology, and math concepts. They'll discover the physics behind a basketball shot, practice teamwork in relay races, and enhance their problem-solving skills with hands-on activities that blend sports with STEAM challenges. Plus, students will have the opportunity to create and design their very own mini-sports game.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41035	T & Th	3/4 & 3/6	6-7pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center

## Ocean Explorers *Ages 4-8*

Escape the cold and embark on an immersive ocean-themed STEAM class. Your student will dive into the wonders of the sea through interactive activities and hands-on experiments. They'll learn about marine life and explore the different layers of the ocean after learning about buoyancy from a local diver. Finally, students will use their creativity to create their own sand art piece to take home.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41035	T & Th	3/11 & 3/13	6-7pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center

## Babysitters Training Course *Ages 10-16*

This course will provide participants the knowledge and skills to care for children and infants safely and responsibly. Participants will learn how to build a babysitting business, develop leadership skills, and how to keep themselves and others safe. They will also learn basic information on First Aid and CPR. Each participant will receive a babysitting training set which includes a manual, a pocket emergency reference guide, and a DVD with helpful resources.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40707	Sa	1/25	9:30am-4pm	\$70	VJ Activity Center
40708	Sa	2/22	9:30am-4pm	\$70	VJ Activity Center
40709	Sa	4/26	9:30am-4pm	\$70	VJ Activity Center



Cirque Kids teaches circus arts classes for children at Cirque Wonderland, located at 105 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street. Professional instructors lead programs in aerial arts, acrobatics, and more to help children build strength, flexibility, and coordination.

## Daytime Cirque Playtime *Ages 5 & under*

Enjoy a vibrant playroom at our circus school where kids can explore fun activities while parents relax with free WiFi and a cozy café. The space features circus-themed activities and classic playroom toys, and adults enter for free.

Day	Date	Time	1 Child	2 Child	3 Child	Location
W	12/4-3/26	9:30am-2pm	\$12	\$22	\$32	Cirque Wonderland

## A Day/Night at the Circus *Ages 6-14*

Parents can drop off kids aged 6 to 14 at Cirque Wonderland in Valley Junction for an exciting circus arts experience, including aerial arts and hula hooping, supervised by professionals. It's a great chance for parents to enjoy a night out while the kids have fun. Snacks encouraged—sign up now!

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
38636	F	12/6	5:30-8pm	\$50	Cirque Wonderland
41091	F	1/3	5:30-8pm	\$50	Cirque Wonderland
41225	M	1/20	8:30am-12pm	\$50	Cirque Wonderland
41092	F	2/7	5:30-8pm	\$50	Cirque Wonderland
41226	M	2/17	8:30am-12pm	\$50	Cirque Wonderland
41094	F	3/7	5:30-8pm	\$50	Cirque Wonderland

## Ninja Circus *Ages 7-13*

Join Cirque Wonderland for an exciting circus adventure where young daredevils can learn tricks, play games, and boost their balance, strength, and confidence. Activities include obstacle courses, aerial arts, prop manipulation, and more. Discover your inner ninja warrior at Ninja Circus!

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
38631	Sa	12/14	10am-12pm	\$35	Cirque Wonderland
41097	Sa	1/18	10am-12pm	\$35	Cirque Wonderland
41099	Sa	2/15	10am-12pm	\$35	Cirque Wonderland
41100	Sa	3/15	10am-12pm	\$35	Cirque Wonderland

## Winter/Spring Break Circus Camp *Ages 7-13*

Circus Camp at Cirque Wonderland teaches kids circus skills from professionals, enhancing their balance, flexibility, and coordination in a safe setting, with a performance for parents at the end of the week. Participants should bring a water bottle and snack.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
38627	M	12/30	8:30am-12pm	\$50	Cirque Wonderland
41101	M-F	3/17-3/21	8:30am-12pm	\$199	Cirque Wonderland



## Indoor Playground *Ages 4 & under*

Looking to get your toddler out of the house and burn off some energy? We've set up an indoor play area that can help with that. It's filled with toys, slides, and riding toys that will keep your child entertained and active for a morning of enjoyment. Just remember that parents must stay and supervise their kids the whole time. \*The indoor playground will not be available on WDMCS school-free days.

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
T & Th	1/7-4/17	10am-12pm	FREE	VJ Activity Center

## Lee Cole's Magicamp *Ages 7-15*

Magicamp is for anyone who likes to have fun. You'll learn how to entertain and amaze your friends, family, and classmates with magic that you can do anywhere, at any time, and for the rest of your life. Join professional magician, Lee Cole, for two days of fun at the Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge. All magic materials are provided.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41023	M & W	3/17 & 3/19	1:15-4pm	\$49	Nature Lodge



## Dickey's Ryukyu Karate Jutsu

These classes focus on the proper use of martial arts, self-respect, self-discipline, and coordination of mind and body. Instructor Dickey Renshi has more than 30 years of martial arts teaching experience and is a three-time inductee into the Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

## Little Ninjas *Ages 4-5*

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40685	T	1/7-2/25	5:30-6pm	\$33	VJ Activity Center
40684	T	1/7-2/25	6-6:30pm	\$33	VJ Activity Center
40691	T	3/4-4/29	5:30-6pm	\$33	VJ Activity Center
40686	T	3/4-4/29	6-6:30pm	\$33	VJ Activity Center

## Tae Kwon Do/Karate *Ages 6+*

Level	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
Beg	40687	T	1/7-2/25	6:30-7:30pm	\$45	VJ Activity Center
Int/Adv	40690	T	1/7-2/25	7:30-8:30pm	\$45	VJ Activity Center
Beg	40689	T	3/4-4/29	6:30-7:30pm	\$45	VJ Activity Center
Int/Adv	40688	T	3/4-4/29	7:30-8:30pm	\$45	VJ Activity Center

The format for all Rounded Minds™ programming is high-energy. Children experience the joy of learning new skills by “doing” and through fun games, songs, and positive reinforcement. Every Rounded Minds™ class is designed and led by attentive experts committed to providing safe, creative, and fun educational experiences.



## Rounded Minds™ Tumbling *Ages 2-6*

Our tumbling program allows young children to enhance their social skills and develop greater strength, flexibility, and coordination while learning Spanish at the same time.

Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
2-3	40780	F	1/3-2/7	5-5:30pm	\$65	VJ Activity Center
2-3	40699	F	1/3-2/7	5:30-6pm	\$65	VJ Activity Center
4-6	40704	F	1/3-2/7	6-6:45pm	\$80	VJ Activity Center
2-3	40782	F	2/21-4/11	5-5:30pm	\$65	VJ Activity Center
2-3	40788	F	2/21-4/11	5:30-6pm	\$65	VJ Activity Center
4-6	40784	F	2/21-4/11	6-6:45pm	\$80	VJ Activity Center

## Rounded Minds™ Soccer *Ages 2-6*

Children will learn Spanish and the basic rules of soccer while practicing sportsmanship and teamwork.

Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
2-3	40781	Sa	1/4-2/8	9-9:30am	\$65	VJ Activity Center
2-3	40703	Sa	1/4-2/8	9:30-10am	\$65	VJ Activity Center
4-6	40702	Sa	1/4-2/8	10-10:45am	\$80	VJ Activity Center
2-3	40783	Sa	2/22-4/12	9-9:30am	\$65	VJ Activity Center
2-3	40787	Sa	2/22-4/12	9:30-10am	\$65	VJ Activity Center
4-6	40786	Sa	2/22-4/12	10-10:45am	\$80	VJ Activity Center

## Lifeguard Training Course *Ages 15+*

Prerequisites for the course:

- Minimum age of 15 years
- Swim 300 yards continuously
- Tread water for 2 minutes using only the legs
- Complete a timed event within 1 minute, 40 seconds
- Starting in the water, swim 20 yards
- Surface dive to a depth of 7-10' to retrieve a 10lb object
- Return to the surface and swim 20 yards on the back to return to the starting point
- Exit the water without using a ladder or steps



**American Red Cross**

**Work for us as a lifeguard in the 2025 aquatic season! Look for information about how to apply in December.**

Participants will be sent a link for the online learning portion 2 - 3 weeks before the class.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41060	F-Su	4/24-4/27	varies	\$200	Valley HS Pool
41063	F-Su	5/1-5/4	varies	\$200	Valley HS Pool

## Art Around the World *Ages 8-12*

Get ready to discover art from around the world. In this six-week program, your child will learn art techniques from Australia, Slovenia, China, Ghana, Italy, and Thailand. Your child will make multicultural creations while they learn more about the world around them. We will spend some time each week learning about each country and then creating art. To highlight what we've done, families will be invited to a gallery night on February 27.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41309	Th	1/16-2/27	5:15-6:45pm	\$80	VJ Activity Center



**Tippi Toes dance classes are presented in a fun, friendly, and positive way, teaching young children music, movement, balance, and basic dance steps. The teachers introduce these elements to the children in an engaging manner. While parents or guardians are welcome to observe the Baby Ballet and Ballet/**

**Tap/Jazz classes, the children are encouraged to participate independently.**

## Toddler & Me Dance *Ages 1 1/2-3*

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41102	W	1/22-3/12	9:30-10am	\$110	VJ Activity Center
41103	F	1/24-3/14	9:30-10am	\$110	VJ Activity Center
41104	W	3/26-5/14	9:30-10am	\$110	VJ Activity Center
41106	F	3/28-5/16	9:30-10am	\$110	VJ Activity Center

## Baby Ballet *Ages 2-3*

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41109	W	1/22-3/12	10:15-10:45am	\$110	VJ Activity Center
41110	F	1/24-3/14	10:15-10:45am	\$110	VJ Activity Center
41111	W	3/26-5/14	10:15-10:45am	\$110	VJ Activity Center
41112	F	3/28-5/16	10:15-10:45am	\$110	VJ Activity Center

## Ballet/Tap/Jazz *Ages 4-5*

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41113	W	1/22-3/12	11-11:45am	\$140	VJ Activity Center
41114	W	3/26-5/14	11-11:45am	\$140	VJ Activity Center

## Des Moines Breakerz *Ages 4-15*

This beginner breakdancing class will teach the basic foundations of breaking along with some history of Hip Hop culture. We will cover toprocking, footwork, freezes, transitions, and power in a fun and safe environment.



Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
5-6	41119	Su	1/5-2/9	3-3:45pm	\$65	VJ Activity Center
7-15	41118	Su	1/5-2/9	3:45-4:45pm	\$65	VJ Activity Center

To register visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg) or call 515.222.3444

## First Steps Dance Classes *Ages 3-15*

These classes are designed to introduce the fundamental skills of dance at a cost and time commitment that is minimal to parents. \*The spring recital fee will be incorporated for Intermediate students at the time of registration.

**Beginners** - Instruction in ballet and jazz; no special shoes needed.

Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
3-4	41134	M	12/9-2/3	4:45-5:15pm	\$52	VJ Activity Center
5-6	41135	M	12/9-2/3	5:15-6pm	\$63	VJ Activity Center
3-4	41136	T	12/10-1/28	4:45-5:15pm	\$44	VJ Activity Center
3-4	41137	T	2/4-3/25	4:45-5:15pm	\$44	VJ Activity Center
3-4	41138	M	2/10-3/24	4:45-5:15pm	\$44	VJ Activity Center
5-6	41139	M	2/10-3/24	5:15-6pm	\$54	VJ Activity Center
3-4	41205	M	3/31-5/5	4:45-5:15pm	\$44	VJ Activity Center
5-6	41206	M	3/31-5/5	5:15-6pm	\$54	VJ Activity Center
3-4	41207	T	4/1-5/6	4:45-5:15pm	\$44	VJ Activity Center

**Intermediate\*** - Tap and ballet shoes are required.

Prerequisite: Participation in Fall 2024 First Steps Dance

Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
5-6	41131	M	12/9-5/5	6-6:45pm	\$190	VJ Activity Center
6-7	41130	M	12/9-5/5	6:45-7:30pm	\$190	VJ Activity Center
9-10	41126	M	12/9-5/5	7:30-8:30pm	\$205	VJ Activity Center
6-7	41128	T	12/10-5/6	5:15-6pm	\$172	VJ Activity Center
8-10	41127	T	12/10-5/6	6-6:50pm	\$180	VJ Activity Center
10-12	41125	T	12/10-5/6	6:50-7:50pm	\$195	VJ Activity Center
13-16	41123	T	12/10-5/6	8:05-9:05pm	\$195	VJ Activity Center

**Pre-Pointe** - This class is an add-on for those enrolled at the Intermediate level. Regular non-pointe ballet shoes are required.

Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
11-16	41122	T	12/10-5/6	7:50-8:05pm	\$84	VJ Activity Center

**Advanced Pointe** - Prerequisites include participation in the Fall 2024 Pre-Pointe class and instructor approval. Pointe shoes required.

Ages	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
16+	41124	T	12/10-5/6	9:05-9:30pm	\$98	VJ Activity Center

## Music Class for Tots *Ages 5 & under*

Join our engaging music class for toddlers and preschoolers, featuring singing, instrument play, puppets, movement, and parachute activities. Led by music educators, the classes foster a love of music in children from newborns to pre-K. Families with multiple enrollments can benefit from a discounted fee.



\*Fee: One Child/Family

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41115	W	1/8-1/29	5:30-6:15pm	\$60/\$80	VJ Activity Center
41116	W	2/5-3/5	5:30-6:15pm	\$75/\$100	VJ Activity Center

To register visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg) or call 515.222.3444



## The Fungus Among Us! *Ages 16+* NEW



Naturalist and mushroom enthusiast Jess Lancial will give you a fungi crash course by introducing the ecology surrounding the Kingdom Fungi! Learn the basics behind mushroom terminology, growth, and fungi's role in our lives. You will explore different types of fungi and discover unique mushrooms you can find near you this spring including tips and tricks to finding the coveted Morel Mushroom.

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40718	Th	3/20	5:30-6:30pm	\$5	Nature Lodge

## Ballroom Dancing *Ages 16+*

Jim and Suzi Benjamin, certified DanceSport Athletes and owners of Des Moines Dance, are experienced ballroom dance instructors and 2012 National Senior IV Champions. They focus on teaching committed couples looking to improve their dancing skills, with classes offered exclusively for couples. More information can be found at [www.desmoinesdance.com](http://www.desmoinesdance.com).



### Level 1 & Beyond

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40808	Su	1/5-2/23	12:30-1:30pm	\$80	VJ Activity Center
40810	Su	3/2-4/27	12:30-1:30pm	\$80	VJ Activity Center

### Putting It All Together (Level 1 & Beyond Prerequisite)

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40811	Su	1/5-2/23	1:30-2:30pm	\$80	VJ Activity Center
40809	Su	3/2-4/27	1:30-2:30pm	\$80	VJ Activity Center

## Yoga with Jayla & Chantel *Ages 18+*

Yoga with Jayla & Chantel provides community workshops focused on stress management through yoga. The practice utilizes breathing techniques, physical postures, and relaxation to alleviate stress and improve coping skills. For updates on classes, visit [www.facebook.com/yogawithjayla](http://www.facebook.com/yogawithjayla).



**Options:** \$60 for a punch card of 10 classes; \$10 to drop in and try 1 class

**\*Times:** M & Th - 6-7pm; Sa & Su - 10-11am

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40697	M, Th, Sa, & Su	1/2-1/30	*	\$85	VJ Activity Center
40692	M, Th, Sa, & Su	2/1-2/27	*	\$80	VJ Activity Center
40694	M, Th, Sa, & Su	3/1-3/31	*	\$95	VJ Activity Center
40693	M, Th, Sa, & Su	4/3-4/28	*	\$80	VJ Activity Center

## Adult Tap Dance *Ages 18+*

These are tap dance classes for adults, catering to both beginners and experienced individuals. The classes are instructed by Josalynn Agnew. Participants are required to wear tap shoes for these sessions.



Level	ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
Beg.	41238	M	12/9-2/3	8:30-9pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center
Exper.	41241	M	12/9-2/3	9-9:30pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center
Beg.	41239	M	2/10-3/24	8:30-9pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center
Exper.	41242	M	2/10-3/24	9-9:30pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center
Beg.	41210	M	3/31-5/5	8:30-9pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center
Exper.	41243	M	3/31-5/5	9-9:30pm	\$55	VJ Activity Center

## Freezer Meals *Ages 16+*

Make your weekly meal planning a little easier with Dinner Delights. During this 90-minute class, you will assemble six, three-serving freezer meals which are ready to toss in the oven, Crockpot, or on the stove for stress-free meal times. Everything is provided except a cooler or bags to take your meals home. **\*Registration for these classes closes four days before each session.**



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41024	Su	1/19	2:30-4pm	\$145	VJ Activity Center
41025	Su	2/16	2:30-4pm	\$145	VJ Activity Center
41026	Su	3/16	2:30-4pm	\$145	VJ Activity Center

## Craft Craze: Wooden Quilt Block *Ages 16+* NEW

In this Craft Craze session, we'll be creating a customizable framed Wooden Quilt Block. You'll have the option to paint or stain the pieces individually before attaching them to the backer board. Whether you decide to display it as a decorative item or leave it unglued for a playful puzzle, you're in for a delightful crafting experience.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41203	Th	1/23	5:30-7pm	\$30	VJ Activity Center

## Craft Craze: Scrape Art *Ages 16+* NEW



Join us for this Craft Craze session, where we'll unleash our creativity with scrape art using canvases and acrylic paints. You'll walk away with three stunning 5" x 7" abstract paintings, perfect for gifting or displaying in a home collage. This simple craft delivers impressive results!

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41204	T	2/25	5:30-7pm	\$15	VJ Activity Center

## Turn Up Fitness *Ages 18+*

Turn Up Fitness is a fun, high-energy cardio dance class featuring popular pop and hip hop songs from the early 2000s to today. It's an inclusive environment suitable for all fitness levels, with no dance experience required. For more information, visit [www.Facebook.com/turnupjackie](http://www.Facebook.com/turnupjackie).



Options: \$80 for a punchcard of 10 classes; \$10 to drop in and try 1 class

ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
40696	W & F	1/8-2/28	6-7pm	\$110	VJ Activity Center
40695	W & F	3/5-4/25	6-7pm	\$110	VJ Activity Center

## West Des Moines Run Club *All Ages*

Join the West Des Moines running group for runners of all levels, from beginners to experienced athletes. The community promotes outdoor activity and mutual motivation. Meetup schedules may vary due to weather, with updates available on their Facebook page or at [www.wdm.iowa.gov/WDMRC](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/WDMRC).



Day	Time	Fee	Location
W	6pm	FREE	WDM City Hall Rear Patio
Sa	7am	FREE	RRP Boathouse

## Badminton Open Gym *Ages 18+*

Drop in for pick-up badminton matches. Payment is taken on-site.

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
Su	11/10-11/24	2:30-5pm	\$5	Valley Southwoods
Su	12/1-3/16	12:15-4:15pm	\$5	Valley Southwoods
Su	3/23-6/29	2:30-5pm	\$5	Valley Southwoods

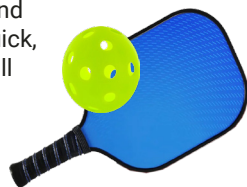
## Volleyball Open Gym *Ages 18+*

Bring your friends for an exercise-filled evening of recreational volleyball. Payment is taken on-site. \*Open Gym will not take place on 12/25 and 1/1.

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
W	12/4-2/19	6:30-9pm	\$5	Walnut Creek Campus

## Adult Pickleball League *Ages 18+* 12/11 Registration Deadline

Pickleball can be fun, social, and friendly. The rules are simple, and the game is easy for beginners to learn but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players. Teams will compete for eight weeks. Each game is one hour in length.



League Format: Men's, Women's & Coed  
Social, Intermediate & Competitive levels

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
T, W, Th	Starts 1/7	6:15-9:15pm	\$90+tax/team	RecPlex

## Adult Bags League *Ages 18+*



12/19 Registration Deadline

Grab a partner and get ready to play everyone's favorite backyard game, bean bag toss. Teams of two compete for eight weeks. Duos race to a score of 21 and play a set of three games.

League Format: Men's, Women's & Coed  
Social, Intermediate & Competitive levels

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
W	Starts 1/8	6:15-9:15pm	\$30+tax/team	RecPlex

## Men's Basketball League *Ages 18+* 12/5 Registration Deadline

This is an officiated league. Teams will play a nine-game, round-robin schedule. Division A is the higher competition level. Division C is the lower competition level.

League Format: Coed - A, B & C Divisions

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
Su	Starts 1/5	12-4pm	\$615+tax/team	varies
W	Starts 1/8	6-10pm	\$615+tax/team	varies

## Adult Men's & Coed Softball Leagues *Ages 18+*



3/27 Registration Deadline

The WDM Parks and Recreation Department will begin accepting applications for our upcoming Adult Men's and Coed Softball Leagues starting on February 1 using Team Sideline. For registration information or to be placed on our email list, please call 515.222.3453.

League Format: Coed - Recreation (Levels C-D), Recreation (Doubleheader) & Commercial Men's - Recreation (Doubleheader), Commercial (Doubleheader, Levels C-D) & Commercial 50+ Draft

Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
Su-Th	Starts 4/20	varies	varies	RRP Softball Complex

ADULT

ADULT



Register at [www.teamsideline.com/WestDesMoines](http://www.teamsideline.com/WestDesMoines)



## Adult Sports Recreation Hotline

For special program information and updates or weather-related cancellations call  
**515.222.3500**

## Free Agent Lists

If you've recently relocated or currently don't have a team but love playing sports softball, volleyball, kickball, basketball, pickleball, bags, or flag football, go to [www.teamsideline.com/WestDesMoines](http://www.teamsideline.com/WestDesMoines) to register for our recreational leagues. Although we can't guarantee team placement, we will do our best to find you a spot, as we've received positive results in the past.

To register visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg) or call 515.222.3444



# REGISTRATION STARTS ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, AT 8AM

## Mystery Trip Ages 55+

Jump on board the mystery bus for an adventurous day full of surprises! You should come prepared for both indoor and outdoor activities since our destination will not be revealed. Please be sure to dress casual and comfortable. This trip will include your lunch and any admissions to destinations we may visit.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Pick-Up/Drop-off
41108	Th	4/10	8am-6pm	\$84	Valley West Mall

## Senior Prom Ages 55+ NEW

Join us for a magical night of dancing and reminiscing as we take you back to your SENIOR PROM! Our semi-formal spring soiree will feature The Rivas, a live band playing '50s and '60s rock and roll dance classics. The facility will be decorated for prom, including a fun photo backdrop to capture the moment. We will do a random drawing to crown a King and Queen! Enjoy dinner before the dance at one of the local restaurant options in Valley Junction on your own.



ID	Day	Date	Time	Fee	Location
41105	Sa	4/26	6-9pm	\$20	VJ Activity Center

These programs generally fill quickly, so please register early.  
Space is limited.

## FRIENDS OF WDM PARKS & REC



Support our mission to preserve and protect land and wildlife in West Des Moines for future generations by volunteering your time or talents at Friends events, donating, becoming a member of the Friends Board of Directors, or spreading the word about our mission with your friends and neighbors.

[www.wdm.iowa.gov/FriendsofWDMPR](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/FriendsofWDMPR)  
[FriendsofWDMPrks@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofWDMPrks@gmail.com)

To register visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg) or call 515.222.3444

## PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM

### Account Primary Contact

First Name _____	Last Name _____
Birthdate _____	Phone _____
Mailing Street Address _____	Email _____
City, State, Zip Code _____	Card Number _____
	/ /
	Exp. Date CVC

### Registration Information

Participant First Name	Participant Last Name	Birthdate	Course ID #	Fee

\* Please make checks payable to the City of West Des Moines

#### Drop Off

WDM Parks & Rec. Admin. Office  
4200 Mills Civic Parkway  
West Des Moines, IA 50265

#### Mail To

WDM Parks & Rec. Dept.  
PO Box 65320  
West Des Moines, IA 50265

#### Scan & Email To

[parkrec@wdm.iowa.gov](mailto:parkrec@wdm.iowa.gov)  
**Fax To**  
515.222.3459

### WDM Parks & Recreation Department Waiver and Release of Liability

In consideration of my own or my child's participation in the Parks and Recreation (hereinafter referred to as "P&R") program or activity through the City of WDM, Iowa (hereinafter referred to as "City"), we hereby release the City, its officials, employees, representatives, and agents from any and all accidents, injuries, damages, or losses received by my child or myself through the P&R program that have not been caused by negligence attributable to the City. I also agree and acknowledge that the City is not responsible for any intentional or reckless actions of the City's officials, employees, representatives, and agents since those actions are the sole conduct of the responsible individual(s). I further agree and acknowledge that this release of liability is full, complete, and comprehensive, and it covers all accidents, injuries, damages, or losses, known or unknown, and any and all costs related thereto arising out of or otherwise related to my child's participation or my own participation in programs or activities, and that this release is binding upon our heirs, successors, and assigns. We certify that my child and/or myself has received a proper physical examination within the past year and that we are physically able to participate in all P&R activities. We understand that it is our obligation to timely inform P&R of any restrictions or limitations regarding our physical abilities. We also understand that it is our obligation to follow all regulations and rules set forth by P&R in the performance of the activities. We hereby release, indemnify, and hold harmless the City, its officials, employees, representatives, and agents from any and all claims, settlements, and judgments, including all reasonable investigative fees, attorney's fees, and court costs for any injury, damage, or loss, which is due to or arises in whole or in part due to negligent, reckless, or intentional actions taken by my child or by myself.

To register visit [www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/ParkRecReg) or call 515.222.3444



Scan with your mobile device to see our website

PSRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Des Moines, IA  
Permit No. 589



**AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE  
AT WDM CITY HALL OR BY  
CALLING 515.222.3444**

2025 Annual Dog Park &  
Archery Facility Permits

Beginning 11/1

2025 Season Pool Pass

Beginning 12/2

**ANNUAL DOG  
PARK PERMIT**

WDM Resident	\$20
Non-Resident	\$45



**Dog Park Permits & City  
Pet Licenses available at**  
[www.westdesmoines.  
mybarkpass.com](http://www.westdesmoines.mybarkpass.com) **NEW**

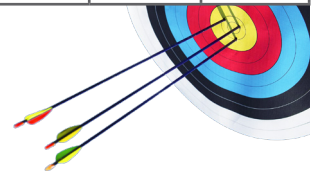


**2025 SEASON  
POOL PASS**

Buy your season pass by 5pm on March 31 to receive a 10% discount

**ANNUAL ARCHERY  
FACILITY PERMIT**

	Youth	Adult
WDM Resident	\$10	\$20
Non-Resident	\$20	\$40



**Archery Permits available at**  
[www.wdm.iowa.gov/Archery](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/Archery)