



CITY OF DES MOINES



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Summer 2021 Edition

Building a Crown Jewel: NEW PLAN FOR BIRDLAND



**Parks & Recreation
Guide Inside**

Also Inside:

- A Climate Action Plan for Des Moines**
- Juneteenth Recognized as a City Holiday**
- Reconstructing Our Streets & Bridges**

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- Lisa Crabbs..... Neighborhood Services
- Jennifer FletcherParks and Recreation
- Paul Parizek..... Police
- Tim PaluchPublic Library
- Peter Zemansky.....Public Works
- Shay Willis..... Editor

Council Meeting Dates

Mondays • 5 p.m.
DSM.city/councilathome

June 14	July 19	August 23
June 28	August 9	September 13

Boards and Commissions

Each year, the Des Moines Mayor and City Council members make appointments to 20 local boards and commissions, who in turn offer a wide variety of services to the City Council and residents of Des Moines. For more information, or if you're interested in becoming part of the public process or applying for an open position, please visit DSM.city or contact the **City Clerk's Office** at (515) 283-4209.

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A Return to Normal

With an increase in COVID-19 vaccinations and a continuing decline in coronavirus cases, the City of Des Moines is cautiously returning to normal government operations. On May 3, residents were able to meet with City staff in City administration buildings by appointment. City administration buildings reopened fully to the public on June 1. Mayor Frank Cownie removed the mask mandate on May 14.

Mayor Cownie has also announced that the Des Moines City Council will return to in-person public meetings in City Hall on Monday, June 14. All on-site public meetings were suspended on March 15, 2020 by Mayor Cownie's emergency declaration in response to the community spread of COVID-19. Since then, public meetings have been conducted remotely via Zoom.

"At 15 months, this will be a long time coming and an important step in our pandemic recovery," Cownie said. "It has been a significant challenge for our community, and I want to thank our residents for being so patient over these many months. We hope they share in the enthusiasm Council members and City staff have in seeing each other in person."

Mayor Cownie added that City Boards and Commissions will resume their on-site public meetings in August.

City officials will continue to monitor the state of COVID-19 over time and adjust plans as necessary to protect City staff and the general public. (Face coverings and safe social distance will continue to be recommended at the City's facilities.)



Reopening Dates

- June 1-** City Administration Buildings open to the public
- June 14-** City Council meetings resume in City Hall
- August 2-** Boards and Commissions resume in-person meeting

Historic Investments in Rebuilding City Infrastructure



As the snow melts and the weather starts to warm, residents of Des Moines have been able to rely on construction work to begin. While some residents feel the street repairs are never-ending, some neighborhoods are starting to see the pay-off of these projects.

To properly rebuild and replace our aging infrastructure, the City of Des Moines has committed to the largest street improvement program in the City's history. Starting in 2020, this five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is projected to invest more than \$400 million into street repairs, bridge repairs, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, stormwater upgrades and more.

"The City's vision includes a complete transportation system providing safe and efficient infrastructure for walking, bicycling, mass transit and automobiles," City Engineer Steve Naber said. "The Mayor and Council recognized the need for action and a much greater investment in street improvements which will result in a considerable difference across Des Moines over the coming years."

Des Moines has the most streets of any city in Iowa, a staggering 2,207 lane miles that require a monumental amount of maintenance and repair. While the process takes time, careful planning and thousands of hours of work from multiple departments, the City is listening to residents' concerns and addressing these issues head on.

Learn more about the CIP projects we're undertaking by exploring the interactive citywide project map at DSM.city/engineering/projects.

Housing Projects Soar Along Grand Avenue

In 2018, the City of Des Moines participated in a regional workforce housing study that projected Polk County to add more than 100,000 new jobs over the course of the next 20 years. The same study also estimated the need for an additional 57,000 new housing units to accommodate future job growth. As a follow-up to the housing study, housing goals were recommended in 2019 which include the following:

1. Increase housing near jobs.
2. Have a housing mix that reflects the job mix.
3. Create equitable housing opportunities.

The last year has brought a mix of historic renovation proposals as well as new construction that will preserve and add a diverse variety of housing options along Grand Avenue.

Two historic renovation projects underway at 2315 and 2801 Grand Avenue will renovate a total of 140 rental housing units, of which 43 of those units will have a mix of long-term affordability requirements attached to them. These projects include a mix of efficiency, 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom units.

A proposal underway at 3705 Grand Avenue will construct 56 new rental housing units with a mix of efficiency, 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom and 3-bedroom units. Three of the housing units in this project will include long term affordability requirements.

Currently under construction at 3750 Grand Avenue is a project that includes both rehabilitation of portions of the former First Church of Christ Scientist that was originally constructed on the site in 1931 and new construction of an 8-story building that will include approximately 38 owner-occupied condominiums on the upper six stories and indoor parking on the ground floor and second story.

The housing projects underway along Grand Avenue are making great strides towards the housing goals identified in 2019 as they bring a great mix of housing types and affordability levels to this corridor.



Block Challenge Grant Available Citywide

The City is partnering with Invest DSM to pilot a citywide Block Challenge Grant Program. Starting July 1, the City in partnership with Invest DSM will accept applications from neighborhood teams wanting to make exterior home improvements of all sizes, from a new mailbox to an addition or a new garage.

Grant Funding

Funding is available to assist between 100-150 program participants or 10-30 teams. The City will provide up to a 50% matching grant of up to \$2,500 per project depending on team size and location within the City.

Requirements

To be eligible, a team should designate a lead and submit a group application. The application should have attached the individual scopes of work for each program participant with contractor bids. Finally, before and after photos of the project will also be required.

Applications

Applications will be accepted July 1 through September 30. If you would like to apply, please check the City's web site at DSM.city/BCgrant.





City's Climate Action Efforts Move Forward

The City of Des Moines is developing a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan that will guide the City's sustainability efforts for years to come. The process will begin by identifying risks and vulnerabilities to climate threats, recommend actions to reduce impacts, and identify strategies to adapt to predicted changes.

A current Request for Proposals (RFP) will secure a consultant to guide a planning process aimed at engaging the broader community, including a diverse group of stakeholders, technical advisors, and the public. The process will focus on solutions for seven key topic areas:

1. Energy Use and Resources
2. Buildings and Infrastructure
3. Transportation and Land Use
4. Climate Preparedness and Resilience
5. Waste Management and Reduction
6. Food Systems and Security
7. Natural Systems and Water Resources

This plan will also help chart the course for how we achieve the City's ambitious climate goals, including 24/7 carbon free electricity by 2035, and net-zero emissions by 2050.

From City operations, to actions our residents and businesses can take on their own, this plan will provide the tools to help build a more resilient, healthy, and vibrant community, a stronger local economy, and ensure that the benefits of climate action accrue to all of us, including our most vulnerable residents and marginalized communities.

E-Fleet Aims to Reduce City's Costs and Environmental Impact

For the first time in history, electric cars have joined the City of Des Moines vehicle fleet. Four E-Fleet vehicles are currently on the streets and are being used to help with neighborhood inspections. An additional 11 electric vehicles were recently approved for purchase by the Des Moines City Council.

The transition to a greener vehicle fleet is intended to reduce the emissions generated by employees providing municipal services, as well as reduce fuel and maintenance costs.

As older vehicles in the City's fleet age and need to be replaced over time, electric vehicle technology will be evaluated to determine if it meets the needs of staff. Currently, only the Neighborhood Services Department is utilizing the E-Fleet, but additional applications of the technology are being considered.

In addition to investing in vehicles, the City is expanding its EV charging infrastructure throughout its public parking system. Electric vehicle owners that visit downtown Des Moines are currently able to utilize Type 2 EV chargers at six of the City's parking garages, with no additional cost beyond the standard rate of parking.

To locate a City-owned electric vehicle charging station, visit DSM.city/parking.

Yard Waste Carts Available for Residents

It's that time of year again. Mowing and gardening season. If you bag your clippings or have yard waste to dispose, it is NOT allowed in your garbage or recycling carts.

Luckily, the City of Des Moines does offer convenient 64 or 96-gallon yard waste carts for disposing of grass clippings, leaves, trimmings and garden waste at your curbside. Otherwise the City accepts one-time use MWA **Compost It!** Bags available for purchase at local grocery and hardware stores.

If you're regularly disposing of yard waste, a year-round cart may be more economical for you. Yard waste carts require a 12-month commitment, subject to an early cancellation fee. Yard Waste must be placed in acceptable bags, boxes or bundles:

- Paper **Compost It!**® bags do not require a sticker
- Paper store-brand or generic bags will require one (1) green **Compost It!**® sticker for each bag.
- You may use a cardboard box no larger than 2x2x3 feet. A green **Compost It!**® sticker must be attached to each box.
- Branches and limbs must be 2 1/2 inches in diameter or less and be cut to 4-foot lengths or less, bundled and tied and must have a green **Compost It!**® sticker attached for collection.

To order a Yard Waste cart, contact the Public Works 24-hour Customer Service Center at **(515) 283-4950** or visit DSM.city/yardwaste.

Guide to Spring and Summer 2021 Fun in Des Moines Parks



Bike Back to School 2021

Bike Back to School returns on August 7 at Stone Park (2100 SE 5th St.) and is again presented by the Des Moines Street Collective, Des Moines Police Department and Des Moines Parks and Recreation. Bikes to be given away to the first 100 eligible children based on qualifications for free and reduced meals. Thanks to Blank Children's Hospital for donating helmets to this event. To donate a bike or to learn how to get involved with providing bikes to our community, contact the Des Moines Street Collective.



Yoga in the Park

Des Moines Parks and Recreation and UnityPoint Health - Des Moines invite you to start off your Saturday with free yoga at Gray's Lake Park. Join us every week from June 5 - September 25 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. These classes, taught by volunteer instructors from around the metro, are perfect for all skill levels, from curious beginner to advanced yogi. Please note: we will not hold a yoga session on June 19.

The Des Moines Parks and Recreation team has been working diligently on a plan for all to take part safely. Social distancing will be in place and participants are required to wear masks to/from their designated yoga area and outdoors when social distancing of six (6) feet or more cannot be maintained. New this year, participants are required to complete their participant waiver in advance online. For Yoga in the Park details, visit dmparks.org.



Yoga in the Park
DES MOINES

Volunteers Needed

Volunteer for the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project! We need hundreds of people to help conduct counts and surveys on September 14, 15 and 18. The information gathered allows our team to assess trail use in the community.

Volunteers can earn \$10 in Bike Ped Bucks (good for admissions, activities, memberships, facility/equipment rental, and more!) as a thank you OR sign up for multiple shifts and receive a FREE 2021 or 2022 Mayor's Annual Ride and Run registration.

Select an afternoon shift on Sept. 14 or 15 from 4:15 - 7:30 p.m. or earlier in the day on Saturday, Sept. 18 from 11:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

We provide all supplies and training. This is a great volunteer event to sign up with a partner/friend and give back to our community together! Sign up online at dmparks.org.



Ride for Trails!

On Saturday, Sept. 18, join Des Moines Parks and Recreation from the 2021 Mayor's Annual Ride and Run.

The proceeds from this year's event will go towards funding fix-it stations along our trails. Meet us at Principal Park (1 Line Drive) to kick off the day with a 4-Mile Run and Family Fun Walk, starting at 8 a.m. The 20-mile bike ride follows at 10 a.m. and the route starts and finishes at Principal Park and will go lake to lake (Gray's Lake to Easter Lake).

Registration fees:

- Adults 18 and up: \$35 per person
- \$5 per youth (5 - 17); no t-shirt included
- Free for children 4 & under
- For an additional \$5 participants can enter in both the run and ride

Sign up online through Sept. 17 at bit.ly/MARR2021.



New Bridge Plaque Program

Mirroring the popular Gray's Lake Park program, residents can now purchase commemorative plaques on three different Des Moines bridges to support a variety of local causes. For just \$200 each, you can have your custom text placed on a plaque on your choice of locations:

- Chris and Marcie Coleman Bridge supporting the Youth Recreational Scholarship Program
- Riverview Park Bridge supporting Riverview Park Operations
- SW 5th Street Bridge supporting the Des Moines Trail System

Here's how it works:

1. Choose your bridge and place your order online at dmparks.org.
2. Our staff will review submitted text. Names and dates only, two lines per plaque. Unapproved orders will receive a full refund.
3. Orders are installed in groups of 50 and include any combination of locations, not limited to a single bridge.
4. You will receive notice once we install your plaque with its location so that you will be able to easily find it.

Place your order today at bit.ly/dmprcsbridgeplaques.



Adopt-A-Park/Trail Program

New for 2021, community members, public/private organizations, local businesses and individuals can now join in the clean up of their favorite park and/or trail segment with the Adopt-A-Park/Trail Program.

Adoptees select from any available park or trail segment in the city and agree to host volunteer workdays, once per quarter, for a minimum of one year. The program will focus on litter removal, but adoptees may be utilized for other small projects as needed. After the initial event is held, a sign with the adopter's group or individual name will be posted at the site.

To learn more about the Adopt-A-Park/Trail Program and sign up for your favorite location, visit bit.ly/adoptaparktrail2021.



Tuesday, 1st

Adult Fall Pickleball Registration Opens
Adult Flag Football Registration Opens
Adult Fowling Registration Opens
Pre-K Flag Football Registration Opens*
Mayor's Annual Ride and Run
Registration Opens
Drake and Bates Sprayground Grand
Opening

Friday, 4th

Free Fishing Friday
Riverview Park Grand Opening

Saturday, 5th

Pools and Aquatic Centers Open for
Season
Splash Pools Open for Season
Wading Pools Open for Season
Yoga in the Park
Carp Fest

Sunday, 6th

Stand Up Paddleboard Intro Class

Friday, 11th

Family Day - Pools

Saturday, 12th

Yoga in the Park

Monday, 14th

Swim Lesson Session 1 Starts*
iEarth Camp Grade 3-4
Lifeguard 101 Session 1 Starts
Springboard Diving Session 1 Starts

Tuesday, 15th

Session 2 Softball Registration Closes
iEarth Camp Grade 3-4

Wednesday, 16th

iEarth Camp Grade 3-4

Thursday, 17th

Stand Up Paddleboard with the
Naturalist
iEarth Camp Grade 3-4
UPCYCLE

Friday, 18th

FORE! Our Parks Bike and Golf Event
iEarth Camp Grade 3-4

Saturday, 19th

Juneteenth
Art in Nature with Julia

Sunday, 20th

Father's Day Special at all Pools

Monday, 21st

Swim Lesson Session 2 Starts*
iEarth Camp Grade 1-2
Lifeguard Session 2 Starts
Springboard Diving Session 2 Starts

Tuesday, 22nd

iEarth Camp Grade 1-2

Wednesday, 23rd

iEarth Camp Grade 1-2

Thursday, 24th

National Swim a Lap Day at all Pools
iEarth Camp Grade 1-2

Friday, 25th

iEarth Camp Grade 1-2

Saturday, 26th

Paddle and Pick Up
Yoga in the Park
Woodland Cemetery Historic Tour

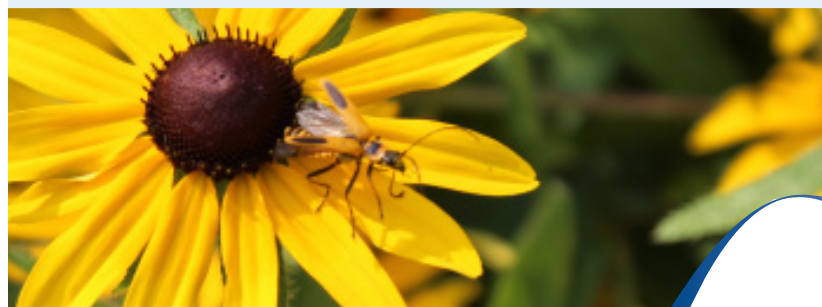
Monday, 28th

Swim Lesson Session 3 Starts*
Lifeguard 101 Session 3 Starts
Springboard Diving Session 3 Starts

Tuesday, 29th

Stand Up Paddleboard with the
Naturalist

*Scholarship eligible



JULY AUGUST



Thursday, 1st

Adult Fall Futsal Registration Opens
Adult Fall Softball Registration Opens
Adult Fall Kickball Registration Opens
Adult Fall Bags Registration Opens
Adult Summer Pickleball Registration Closes
Summer Esports League Registration Closes
Fall Esports League Registration Opens
Back to School Esports Tournament Registration Opens

FREE FLICKS Free Flicks - Witmer Park
"Sonic the Hedgehog"
Cemetery Decoration Clean Up Begins

Saturday, 3rd

Yoga in the Park

Sunday, 4th

Fourth of July Slip and Slide at Nahas
Military Appreciation Day

Monday, 5th

iEarth Camp Grade 3-4

Tuesday, 6th

Mermaid Princess Pool Party at Nahas
iEarth Camp Grade 3-4

Wednesday, 7th

Buggin' Out in Ashby Park
iEarth Camp Grade 3-4

Thursday, 8th

FREE FLICKS Free Flicks - Fourmile Community
Recreation Center "Abominable"
iEarth Camp Grade 3-4

Friday, 9th

Family Day - Pools
iEarth Camp Grade 3-4

Saturday, 10th

Stand Up Paddleboard Introduction
Yoga in the Park

Monday, 12th

Swim Lesson Session 4 Starts*
iEarth Camp Grade 5-8
Springboard Diving Session 4 Starts

Tuesday, 13th

Swim Lesson Session 4 Starts*
iEarth Camp Grade 5-8
Springboard Diving Session 4 Starts
Stand Up Paddleboard with the Naturalist

Wednesday, 14th

Buggin' Out in Ashby Park
iEarth Camp Grade 5-8

Thursday, 15th

FREE FLICKS Free Flicks - Clare and Miles Mills
Rose Garden "Trolls World Tour"
iEarth Camp Grade 5-8
UPCYCLE

Friday, 16th

iEarth Camp Grade 5-8

Saturday, 17th

Yoga in the Park

Monday, 19th

iEarth Camp Grade 1-2

Tuesday, 20th

Swim Lesson Session 5 Starts*
iEarth Camp Grade 1-2
Springboard Session 5 Starts

Wednesday, 21st

iEarth Camp Grade 1-2
Buggin' Out in Ashby Park

Thursday, 22nd

FREE FLICKS Free Flicks - Weeks Middle School
"The Addams Family"
Buggin' Out in Ashby Park
iEarth Camp Grade 1-2
Stand Up Paddleboard with the Naturalist

Friday, 23rd

Swim Lesson Session 6
iEarth Camp Grade 1-2

Saturday, 24th

Yoga in the Park
Woodland Cemetery Historic Tour

Sunday, 25th

National Parent's Day - Pools

Monday, 26th

Swim Lesson Session 6 Starts*
Springboard Diving Session 6 Starts

Thursday, 29th

FREE FLICKS Free Flicks - Riverview Park
"Arctic Dogs"

Saturday, 31st

Yoga in the Park

Sunday, 1st

Adult Ultimate Frisbee Registration Closes
Adult Flag Football Registration Closes
Youth Flag Football Registration Closes*
Youth Basketball Registration Opens*
Rec Pack #3 (Bird Watcher) Available
Gray's Lake Park Concession Hours Change

Monday, 2nd

iEarth Camp Grade 5-8

Tuesday, 3rd

iEarth Camp Grade 5-8

Wednesday, 4th

iEarth Camp Grade 5-8

Thursday, 5th

iEarth Camp Grade 5-8

Friday, 6th

iEarth Camp Grade 5-8

Saturday, 7th

Yoga in the Park
Bike Back to School

Tuesday, 10th

Stand Up Paddleboard Introduction

Wednesday, 11th

MLK and Pete Crivaro Splash Pools Close
Wading Pools Close

Friday, 13th

Family Day at All Pools

Saturday, 14th

Star Party
Yoga in the Park

Sunday, 15th

Adult Fall Futsal Registration Closes
Adult Fall Softball Registration Closes
Adult Fall Kickball Registration Closes
Adult Fall Bags Registration Closes
Adult Fall Fowling Registration Closes
Pre-K Flag Football Registration Closes*
Adult Fall Pickleball Registration Opens
Back to School Esports Tournament Registration Opens
Pools and Aquatic Centers Close for the Season

Thursday, 19th

Stand Up Paddleboard with the Naturalist
UPCYCLE

Saturday, 21st

Yoga in the Park
Nahas Aquatic Center Open

Sunday, 22nd

Nahas Aquatic Center Open

Saturday, 28th

Stand Up Paddleboard with the Naturalist
Yoga in the Park
Woodland Cemetery Historic Tour
Nahas Aquatic Center Open

Sunday, 29th

Nahas Aquatic Center Open

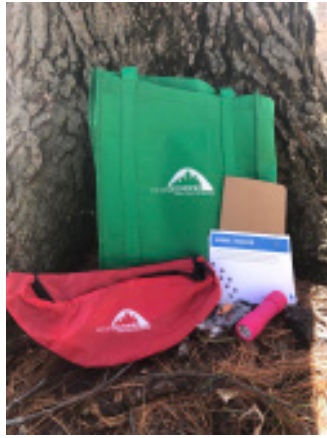
Tuesday, 31st

Rec Pack #3 (Bird Watcher) Last Day



Upcoming Rec Packs

Be sure to mark your calendars for the final two rec packs of the year—Bird Watcher and Basketball Pro. Rec Packs, designed for kids 5-12, include fun-filled activities centered on a particular theme. We will provide the supplies, along with directions on how to stay active. Each pack is \$20 and available for purchase online at bit.ly/2021recpacks on the dates shown below.



Rec Pack #3: Bird Watcher

Available for Purchase: August 1–31

Pick Up Date: Wednesday, September 8

Rec Pack #4: Basketball Pro

Available for Purchase: September 1–30

Pick Up Date: Wednesday, October 6

New E-Sports League



Game on! Registration is open for the new Des Moines Parks and Recreation E-Sports League. Play games on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday nights from the comfort of your own home on a variety of platforms.

The cost is \$30 per player, per league. All ages welcome, but participants 13 and under must get parent/guardian approval. Registration for summer (July 10–Aug. 14) is open through July 1. The Back to School Tournament (Date TBD) is open for registration July 1–Aug. 15. Fall season (Oct. 2–Nov. 6) registration is open July 1–Sept. 15. Sign up online at bit.ly/dmpresports2021.

League	Platform	Format
Rocket League®	PC, PlayStation® Xbox® and Nintendo Switch™	3v3 and 1v1
Madden NFL 21	PlayStation®, Xbox®	1v1
Super Smash Bros.™	Nintendo Switch™	1v1

More Spraygrounds = More Summer Fun



Two new spraygrounds open this spring at Drake Park (2300 Drake Park Ave.) and Bates Park (330 Clark St.). A generous gift from the Mary K. and Daniel M. Kelly Family Foundation made these new amenities possible, partnering with the City to replace outdated existing wading pools.

The new Drake Park sprayground includes several upright and flush water spray features, new shade structures and seating. Park access was also improved through the addition of stairs to the west side of the park and additional ADA compliant walks around the park perimeter. Besides the new sprayground, a new open-air shelter was added to the park and the 1930's WPA era shelter is being remodeled during the 2021 summer and will be open for rentals in 2022.

The new Bates Park sprayground includes new upright and flush mount spray features, new shade structures and outdoor seating options. A new open-air shelter and new swing set were added to the park as part of the project. We also built a new main pathway system to provide greater ADA access to the new water feature.

Find the full list of sprayground locations at dmparks.org

Coming Soon to a Trail Near You...

Des Moines Parks and Recreation has teamed up with the Friends of Des Moines Parks and design firm Project 7, to create graphic identities for the City's trail system. The graphic identities, representing the nine most notable trail segments, will be installed in Fall 2021 with the new E-911 signage. The project goal is to improve the safety and identity of our trail system by providing system-wide informational signage which effectively communicates important information for trail users in a concise format.

The first three identities released feature the Neal Smith, Carl Voss, and Bill Riley Trails, shown on the right. The Friends of Des Moines Parks are selling merchandise featuring the graphics, available for purchase online at friendsofdmparks.org. Proceeds will help fund future trail projects.

Watch for updates as we look to release the remaining six trail identities this fall.



Do I Need a Permit for That?

Summertime means home projects, and the City of Des Moines wants to help you prepare. Below are some of the more popular projects that need permits before construction begins.

Fences: Wood fences no more than three (3) feet high and chain-link fences no more than four (4) feet high located outside the front yard are exempt from permits. All other fences require permits, and all fences, even those exempt from permits, must comply with City fence regulations.

Interior Renovations: Cosmetic changes like replacing cabinets, patching drywall, painting, and installing new flooring do not require permits. However, removing more than 64 square feet of sheetrock, gutting a room to the studs, building new walls, removing or relocating existing walls, and finishing basements require permits.

Exterior Changes: Exterior renovations such as building an addition, adding a roof over a patio, or replacing a deck require permits. Many exterior nonstructural cosmetic repairs can be done without permits. Examples include replacing shingles on roofs, replacing siding with similar siding materials, and window and door replacements that do not involve changes to wall framing. It is always best to contact the City's Permit and Development Center to ask questions before starting a project.

Sheds: Sheds that are no more than 120 square feet in area, located in the rear yard, and located at least three (3) feet away from dwellings and two (2) feet away from property lines do not require permits. Anything larger does require a permit, and all sheds, no matter the size, are subject to planning and zoning requirements.

Garages: A permit is always required for a new garage or garage addition. Plans must be submitted with a garage permit application that show where the garage will be built, how it will be built, and what it will look like.

Tax Abatement: 10-year 100% tax abatement is available for most home improvement projects. All who apply for permits are encouraged to also apply for tax abatement. Tax abatement requires a separate application form to be submitted. More information is available on the Permit and

Development Center webpage under the Tax Abatement link. **Links and Contact Information:** All permit applications are now electronic and available on the Permit and Development Center webpage. This webpage is also a good source for informative handouts on permit processes and City requirements. City staff are available and happy to answer questions.

Permit and Development Center webpage - DSM.city/pdc
Fence Permit Questions - Email DZ@dmgov.org
Other Construction Permit Questions - Email permits@dmgov.org or call (515) 283-4200
Inspector Contact Information - showmemyhouse.dsm.city



Spring Cleanup to Reduce Urban Blight (SCRUB) Days 2021

June
19

MWA Compost Center
1601 Harriet Street

7 AM – 2 PM

MWA Transfer Station
4198 Delaware Avenue

7 AM – 2 PM

[MEGA SCRUB] Capitol
Complex Lot #3, west of
East 14th, south of Court Ave

7 AM – 1 PM

July
17

MWA Compost Center,
1601 Harriet Street

7 AM – 2 PM

MWA Transfer Station,
4198 Delaware Avenue

7 AM – 2 PM

August
21

MWA Compost Center
1601 Harriet Street

7 AM – 2 PM

MWA Transfer Station,
4198 Delaware Avenue

7 AM – 2 PM

For guidelines and restrictions, visit DSM.city/SCRUB or call (515) 283-4950.



Building a Crown Jewel: Birdland Park & Marina Master Plan



The most ambitious parks and recreation endeavor in the history of Des Moines is taking shape.

Touted as an unparalleled project for Des Moines and central Iowa, the Birdland Park and Marina Master Plan is a \$54.4 million-dollar multi-phased vision that will transform a diamond in the rough into one of the brightest “jewels” in the crown that is the City’s park system.

“Once completed, this area will truly be a four-season recreational destination. I cannot think of one other park in central Iowa with all the features this park will have,” said Parks and Recreation Director Ben Page. “This effort is decades overdue.”

Page said the development of the Master Plan was a community and stakeholder-driven effort which leveraged input from 200+ attendees across three public meetings and 350+ follow-up survey responses. A project Advisory Committee provided additional direction to the consulting team and included 23 individuals representing 18 unique interest groups, thus representing a broad cross-section of the community resulting in

unanimous approval by the City Council.

Funding for the project would require a variety of sources including state and federal grants, public fundraising, redevelopment funds and more. The Master Plan also identifies annual net revenue ranging from \$300-\$400,000 per year once fully implemented.

The five-phase project could take anywhere from five to 20+ years to complete depending on the success of grant writing and additional fundraising efforts.

“ I cannot think of one other park in central Iowa with all the features this park will have. ”
— Ben Page, Parks and Recreation Director



The Master Plan Features:

- Ecological restoration (23 acres)
- Paddling/rowing launches
- Three fishing piers
- A beach
- Five shelters
- Trail expansion to 3.1 miles
- Triple amount of “play space”
- Double number of marina slips
- Two-story boathouse for water trail outfitter, rowing club, park operations and new Captain Roy’s restaurant/bar

Phase 1

Destination Play and Boat Ramp
(\$8.8 million)

Phase 2

Dredge Lagoon and Relocate Birdland Drive
(\$9.1 million)

Phase 3

The Island, Boathouse and Bridge
(\$25.9 million)

Phase 4

Marina (\$8.0 million)

Phase 5

Public Overlook (\$2.6 million)



To learn more about the plan, visit DSM.city/birdlandplan or call (515) 237-1386.

To make a contribution to the project, visit the Friends of Des Moines Parks website at friendsofdmparks.org.



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Keep Reading and Learning All Summer Long at the Library

Children on average lose about two months of reading skills over the summer months if they stop reading regularly while school is out, which is why the Des Moines Public Library's summer reading program, **All Summer Long**, is so important this year. This summer's program will aim to keep school-aged children engaged with books and learning to help stop the "summer slide."

All Summer Long runs June 7-August 7. How it works:

- Earn a free book (to keep) just by signing up! Starting June 7, participants under 18 years can register in person and get a game board at any Des Moines Public Library location. Or they can register online at dmpl.org/summer-reading.
- Each time a child reads for 20 minutes or completes one of our recommended learning activities, they can cross off a space on the **All Summer Long** game board.
- Once all 18 spaces are crossed off, kids just have to fill out a completion slip and return it to any library location to be entered into a special prize drawing. (Or, log all your activities online.)
- The program may be completed more than once, but only one book will be given to those who sign up, and participants may only be eligible for the prize drawing once.

Participants can also expect special programs, events, and fun surprises **All Summer Long**. Find more information, download a game board, and more at dmpl.org/summer-reading.



COMPLETION SLIP

DES MOINES PUBLIC LIBRARY ALL SUMMER LONG JUNE 7-AUGUST 7, 2021

FULL NAME: _____
PHONE NUMBER: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
AGE: _____

A Library Card is Your Ticket to Family Fun

A Des Moines Public Library card is your pass for free family fun this summer. Use your library card to check out an Iowa Adventure Pass and visit some of the best family spots in Des Moines for free: the Blank Park Zoo, the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, and the Science Center of Iowa.

You can learn more about Adventure Passes by going to dmpl.org/adventure-pass or by calling the library at **(515) 283-4152**.



Celebrating Juneteenth

This year, the City of Des Moines joins cities and states across the nation in officially observing Juneteenth. The holiday commemorates June 19, 1865, the day when Union troops ordered enslavers to free a group of enslaved people of African descent in Galveston, Texas. Taking place two years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation and two months after Confederate General Lee's surrender, the order reflected the refusal of enslavers to recognize the humanity and rights of people of African descent.

Juneteenth is not an official federal holiday, but Iowa was the seventh state to officially designate it as a day of recognition. In total, 46 states and the District of Columbia observe Juneteenth.

For the first time in City history, Des Moines will recognize this important celebration as a paid holiday for all City staff. Residents and City employees are encouraged to mark the day by learning about our country's histories of slavery and emancipation and considering their legacies in the present day. City buildings and offices will be closed each year on June 19, or the adjoining weekday when the date falls on a weekend.

Celebration events will take place between June 12 and June 19 this year, encompassing a statewide scope of programming that focuses on educational and commemorative activities related to freedom and justice. Learn more at iowajuneteenth.org.