

Winter Weather Reminders

With winter upon us, the City of Windsor Heights would like to remind residents of the ordinances that pertain to snow and ice. If you have any questions or concerns about the City's snow ordinance, please do not hesitate to call City Hall at 279-3662.

What are the rules regarding parking a vehicle on the street during the winter? City code states that it is unlawful to park on any street during the time of any snowfall and within the 24 hours following the end of the any snow event (60.10.10). Any vehicle parked on the street during a snowfall or within 24 hours after a snowfall faces the possibility of receiving a \$25 parking ticket and/or impoundment. It is important to remember the times when you cannot be parked on the street and that the snow ordinance automatically goes into effect when snow begins to accumulate. This allows for timely removal of snow from the streets and is needed to maintain the safety of our main thoroughfares to get emergency response apparatus to residential areas expeditiously.

What about my sidewalks during or after it snows? It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow and ice accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If the property owner does not remove snow and/or ice accumulations within a reasonable time, the City may do so and ultimately assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as property tax. For purposes of enforcement, a reasonable time period is generally 48 hours after the snow or ice accumulations end. While the City realizes it can be frustrating to finish clearing your driveway and then have the plow come by, the snow removal policy adopted by the City Council indicates that snow placed in driveways by City plows is the responsibility of the property owner to remove. Snow from a private driveway may not be placed on or pushed across a City street.

Be a Dear – Don't Feed the Deer

The City of Windsor Heights joins with many other state and local agencies in asking you to refrain from feeding wildlife, particularly deer in the area. This practice almost always carries with it negative consequences for the wildlife involved. (These include increased disease transmission and increased mortality due to vehicle collisions). In addition, there could be safety and social concerns for members of the public, such as the potential increase in vehicle collisions, as well as damage to property and nuisance problems.

There are a number of deer along Walnut Creek and throughout the community. We realize that people who feed deer, do so with good intention. However, even though you may feel you are helping them if you feed them, please bear in mind that wildlife should remain wild. They should find their food and shelter in natural habitats. This gives them the on-going ability to adapt and survive.

People are often tempted to feed deer during winter in order to "save" them from winter conditions. This practice causes a particular set of problems. Research has shown that there is actually little or no benefit from feeding deer during winter. In fact, there are a number of nega-

tive consequences. Here is why you should not feed deer or provide salt licks:

- Artificial feeding may not actually improve winter survival.
- Deer visiting feeding areas lose their natural wildness and aversion to people.
- Feeding manufactured food products removes their natural adaptations to cope with severe winters in their natural habitat.
- Natural migration patterns to their wintering areas may be disrupted if the animals are enticed to remain at a feeding area.
- Deer become concentrated around feeding areas, resulting in destruction of natural habitat.
- Concentrations of deer at feeding stations also increase the risk of disease transmission among the animals.
- The digestive system of deer adapts to the typical natural food that is available during winter. Improper feeding of other food types can cause digestive problems that may result in death.
- Deer that become accustomed to feeders and are then not fed proper quantities or quality of food will also die.

More information at www.windsorheights.org

City of Windsor Heights

AMERICA'S CROWN COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER 

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Traffic Safety Meeting

The City of Windsor Heights, in conjunction with the Windsor Heights Police Department, will be holding a traffic safety forum in a "town hall" style meeting on Wednesday, December 14, at 6:00 pm at the Windsor Heights Community and Events Center in Colby Park to discuss a proposal by the police department to introduce Automated Traffic Enforcement systems into the city's jurisdiction.

A public presentation will be given to discuss information and data to support the introduction of a fixed, section control system of automated speed enforcement on westbound I-235 between the 63rd Street and 73rd Street exits and deployment of a mobile speed unit to be utilized within the community. The police department has been studying recurring traffic safety problem areas within their jurisdiction and will present solutions to addressing these on-going issues.

The Windsor Heights city council and city officials will be in attendance for this presentation and to hear from residents on their questions and support or opposition to the proposal. Scheduled to speak that evening are Windsor Heights Police Chief Dennis McDaniel, Cedar Rapids Police Chief Greg Graham, Gatso USA President Andrew Noble, and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Region 7 liaison, Dean Scott.

Sustainable Community

As a community completely surrounded by other cities, we simply cannot grow our borders to expand our city. Instead, we have to improve everything we have. An important step towards a healthy, sustainable community is educating our citizens on the efforts the city has undertaken to become more green. In addition, individuals can do a tremendous amount themselves to make their own home more green. Throughout the beginning of the next year, we will be offering a sustainability series in the Community and Events Center on a variety of topics. Below are the first two scheduled events.

Emmons and Oliver Resources (EOR) will speak in the Community and Events Center about the Walnut Creek Watershed Assessment on Wednesday, January 18th at 6 p.m. The city of Windsor Heights recently contracted with EOR to complete a watershed assessment and stormwater management plan in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act, EPA and State of Iowa guidelines. The information presented to attendees will focus on the findings from the assessment of the City as well as the Walnut Creek watershed. The presentation will include approaches to improve the watershed and Walnut Creek.

3E, Electrical Engineering and Equipment Company based in Windsor Heights, will be presenting on different types of lighting, occupancy sensors, etc available and how evolving technology can be used in a person's residential home to save electrical costs and help the environment. Specific information on how up-front costs can be negated by the significant long term energy cost savings will be available. Please join us February 16 at 6:00 pm at the Community and for this informative presentation.



City of Windsor Heights
the heart of it all

1133 66th Street
Windsor Heights, IA 50324
(515) 279-3662
www.windsorheights.org

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 1

Sewer Help is Now Available

Does your home have Orangeburg or have you ever had roots removed from your sewer line? Help is now available. The S.O.S. (Save Our Sewers) program offers partially forgivable loans to property owners who need to make upgrades and replace their sewer lines. The loans are up to 50 percent forgivable, depending on property owners' income levels. We are excited to be able to offer this to residents, thanks to the partnership and support with Polk County, the Urbandale-Windsor Heights Sanitary Sewer District and the Neighborhood Finance Corporation. However, there is limited amount of funding available to provide the forgivable portion of the loan. In other words, future funding levels for the S.O.S. program are uncertain so this may be available for a limited time only, meaning it is important to act quickly.

Visit www.windsorheights.org for more information. For more details about the financing your repairs, you can call the Neighborhood Finance Corporation at 515-246-0010. As always, feel free to call City Hall at 515-279-3662 if you have any additional questions.

Contact Us! City of Windsor Heights

Emergency Phone Numbers

Fire Department911
Police Department911

Non-Emergency Phone Numbers

Police/Fire286-3632
City Hall279-3662

MayorJerry Sullivan

Council Members:

Charlene Butz
Betty Glover
Dave Jenison
Steve Peterson
Diana Willits

City Admin.Marketa George Oliver

Chief Financial Officer.Carrie Kruse

Fire ChiefChristopher Cross

Police ChiefDennis McDaniel

Public Works Director Jason Van Ausdall

Community Svcs Director Josh Heggen

Police Department:

Police Dispatch286-3632
Police Admin/Records277-4453
Police Investigations277-4455

Fire Department279-3662

Public Works Dept.279-3662

Colby Park Reservations ..279-3662

Building Inspector279-3662

Animal Control279-3662

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City Council Meetings - 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month, unless posted otherwise.

DECEMBER 2011 & JANUARY 2012						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4	5 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Mayor's Hour 9-10 AM	14 Traffic Safety Public Meeting 6 PM (Community & Events Center)	15	16	17
18	19 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	20	21	22	23 City Hall Closed	24
25	26 City Hall Closed	27	28	29	30	31
1	2 City Hall Closed	3 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Mayor's Hour 9-10 AM	11	12	13	14
15	16 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Community Coffee Club 9 AM (Grounds for Celebration)

NEWS BRIEFS

Christmas Tree & Yard Waste Collection

Once the holidays pass, be sure to set out your Christmas tree on your garbage collection days from January 2-13. The city provides collection of Christmas trees (be sure to remove the decorations), through Metro Waste Authority's Compost It! sticker program. Purchase a \$1.10 sticker at participating grocery and hardware stores. You can also set out brush bundles, Compost It! bags and carts for these two weeks.

Vacation Watch

The Windsor Heights Police Department is a full service Police Department that recognizes its most valuable assets are a close relationship with the community and the members of the Department. To provide the best possible service, the Department has made it as convenient as possible to request vacation house checks on your home. To sign up to have your home checked while on vacation, visit www.windsorheights.org or call 279-3662.

Adopt-a-Family for the Holiday Session

Sponsors are needed for the 2011 Holiday Adopt-a-Family Program to provide a holiday meal and presents to residents in Windsor Heights who qualify for utility assistance (LIHEAP). Last year, sponsors assisted 106 families during the holiday season. Participants must first qualify for the low-income energy assistance program administered by West Des Moines Human Services or through Red Rock Human Services. To volunteer as a sponsor or for more information, call the Urbandale/Windsor Heights Food Pantry at (515) 251-6688.

Special Winter Classes Boost Creativity

Registration is now being taken for three classes offered at the Windsor Heights Community & Events Center. To sign up, e-mail, tlevine@windsorheights.org.

Right Brain Journaling (\$44.00)

January 9, 16, 23, 30 - evening
Learn new ways to problem solve and enhance your creative spirit through journaling exercises.

Introduction to Drawing (\$84.00)

January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13 - early afternoon,
Learn about Right Brain art theories and how to use them to improve your drawing. Material list provided.

Colored Pencil Drawing (\$64.00)

February 20, 27, March 5, 12 - early afternoon
Try your hand at color. Students create a still life drawing. Material list provided.

Annual Holiday Lighting Contest

The Windsor Heights Foundation is pleased to announce the annual holiday lighting contest. The Foundation will divide the city into six zones, and award a \$50.00 prize to the winner in each zone and a "Best of the Best." The contest winners will receive a recognition signs to place in their yard. The Foundation also appreciates the businesses that decorate for the holidays.

The Foundation will continue a tradition started last year, by awarding a \$25.00 prize for the best decorated door. Residents who wish to compete for the best door honor will need to notify Carroll Bennink at 252-6122, or George Hanusa at 255-6367. For information on judging criteria and the judging period, please go to www.windsorheights.org.

Yoga Class

The Windsor Heights Community & Events Center is pleased to announce a winter line up of one hour yoga classes with Stephanie Abbott, beginning Tuesday, January 10, 5:30-6:30 pm and continuing for 10 consecutive weeks. The first class is FREE. There is a per class charge of \$8.00 after the first class.

Stephanie Abbott has been a student of yoga since 2001. She received her Yoga Alliance 200 hour RYT certification in 2011. Stephanie has studied with other well known teachers in the yoga world and is extremely highly regarded in the field.

The 1 hour level 1 class explores body, breath, and the basics of Yoga. The fundamentals of Yoga are explored in a safe and playful environment. The class is appropriate for beginners and ongoing students alike. A yoga mat, comfortable clothing and the desire to go deeper in your yoga practice are all that's required. For more information or to sign up, please contact Stephanie Abbott, steph4yoga@yahoo.com.

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