

# 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 year, we will be offering an informational series on sustainability on a variety of topics. Below are the first two scheduled events.



## February 16 • 6:00 pm • Community and Events Center

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 savings will be available.

## March 29 • 6:00 pm • Community and Events Center

Every year, the sanitary sewer pipes in Windsor Heights, through broken and deteriorating pipes, leaking joints and manholes and also through private residential lines with the same problems (and other connections like perimeter home drains and sump pumps), send thousands of gallons of rain and ground water into on sanitary sewer lines. As you can imagine, this creates a massive problem for our environment, the city as a whole and sometimes, individual property owners. Not only does all the water in our sanitary sewer lines have to be treated in a waste water treatment plant, costing millions of dollars, but this also causes sewer backups into people's homes - a problem no one wants to deal with. The City of Windsor Heights has worked with the Windsor Heights-Urbandale Sanitary Sewer District and Polk County to create a fund, administered by the Neighborhood Finance Corporation, to help residents offset the costs with fixing their private sanitary sewer problems. Plan to attend and learn more about financing available to help solve your home's problems.

## Special Winter Classes Boost Creativity

Registration is now being taken for two classes offered at the Windsor Heights Community & Events Center. Artist and educator, Barbara Vaske leads these classes. Barb is a fourth generation Iowan and from age five knew she wanted to be an artist. She received her BA in Art from the University of Northern Iowa and her Master's degree from the prestigious California College of Arts and Crafts. A former art professor at Iowa State University, Barb has managed art galleries in both Los Angeles and Des Moines. Currently she is the director of the Ankeny Art Center. Her artwork has been exhibited both nationally and internationally as well as in galleries and universities throughout Iowa. To sign up, contact Tracy at tlevine@windsorheights.org or 645-6821.

### Right Brain Journaling (\$35.00)

February 27, March 5, 12 • 7:00-9:00 pm

Learn a new way to journal that is fun and easy. Use it to solve problems, expand your creative side and pursue your dreams in a relaxed and supportive environment. No writing experience necessary. Just come prepared to try new ideas and share your creative spirit with others.

### Colored Pencil Drawing (\$44.00)

February 20, 27, March 5, 12 • 1:00-3:00 pm

Have fun and try using colored pencils and the new watercolor pencils for a day of interesting experience in drawing with color. A small finished piece will be completed in class. No prior artistic or drawing experience is necessary. All materials provided.

More information at [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org)

# City of Windsor Heights

AMERICA'S CROWN COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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## Budget Information Meetings

March is almost here again, which means the City of Windsor Heights will soon review and approve a city budget for the next fiscal year. The city budget gets approved every year in March and is effective the following July 1. The budget process also includes approving the city's capital improvement plan, which dictates what major projects, like water line replacement, road resurfacing, etc., that the city will complete the next several fiscal years.

Council committees are currently reviewing staff suggestions for the next fiscal year and the budget will be presented publicly on February 20, at the Council meeting. Additionally, on February 25, at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, the city will have a public information meeting where the City Administrator and Chief Financial Officer will walk through the budget with citizens and answer questions. There will also be a formal public hearing, tentatively scheduled for March 5 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Please visit the City's Web site at [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org) or join the City's email distribution list at <http://www.windsorheights.org/emailsingup.htm> so you receive notices regarding the public input and public hearings.

## Sheena Danzer, City Inspector



Sheena began working for the City of Windsor Heights in October of 2011 as the City Inspector. She is responsible for performing building reviews and inspections to manage the National Building Codes adopted by the City, as well as enforce the City's Nuisance Ordinance. Sheena also serves as the Chair for the Stormwater Advisory Committee and is responsible for the Stormwater Management Program. She belongs to several regional groups including the Iowa Association of Code Enforcement (IowACE) as a Board member, The Iowa Association of Building Officials, and the American Planning Association.

Sheena is a 2007 graduate of Iowa State University with a Bachelor's degree in Community and Regional Planning. Sheena's career started in Planning, where she worked mostly on comprehensive plans in North Carolina. She is currently working to help Windsor Heights complete their Comprehensive Plan. She was

most recently employed with Story County in Nevada as the Code Enforcement Officer prior to her appointment as City Inspector for the City of Windsor Heights, where she worked to enforce the Zoning Ordinance and Floodplain Management Program.

Sheena has enjoyed the unique, small town character of Windsor Heights. "I have been given an extraordinary opportunity in helping to protect the public's safety, health, and welfare and will carry through by helping the public better understand the importance of these issues."



City of Windsor Heights  
the heart of it all

1133 66th Street  
Windsor Heights, IA 50324  
(515) 279-3662  
[www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org)

# Remember Building Permit



**D**o you have a project on your to do list around the house? If you plan on doing any remodeling or additions to your home, most likely you need a building permit from the City of Windsor Heights. Building permits are important so that the city can insure any work done in a home in the city is done up to the most current building code. Examples of work that need a building permit include any electrical and plumbing work and anything that will add square footage to a structure. Decks, fences, and signs also require building permits. It is always better to ask if you need a permit than to do the work without a permit and find out later you needed one, which may result in a fine from the city. Please contact Sheena Danzer, City Inspector, at 279-3662 or [sdanzer@windsorheights.org](mailto:sdanzer@windsorheights.org) with any questions.

## Contact Us! City of Windsor Heights

### Emergency Phone Numbers

**Fire Department** .....911  
**Police Department** .....911

### Non-Emergency Phone Numbers

**Police/Fire** .....286-3632  
**City Hall** .....279-3662

**Mayor** .....Jerry Sullivan

### Council Members:

- Diana Willits
- Charlene Butz
- Betty Glover
- Dave Jenison
- Dave Bugress

**City Admin.** . . . .Marketa George Oliver

**Chief Financial Officer.** . . .Carrie Kruse

**Fire Chief** . . . . .Christopher Cross

**Police Chief** . . . . .Dennis McDaniel

**Public Works Director** Jason Van Ausdall

**Community Svcs Director** Josh Heggen

### Police Department:

Police Dispatch .....286-3632  
Police Admin/Records .....277-4453  
Police Investigations .....277-4455

**Fire Department** .....279-3662

**Public Works Dept.** .....279-3662

**Colby Park Reservations** . . .279-3662

**Building Inspector** .....279-3662

**Animal Control** .....279-3662

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

FEBRUARY & MARCH						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5	6 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Mayor's Hour 9-10 AM	15	16	17	18
19	20 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	21	22	23	24	25 Community Coffee Club 9 AM (Grounds for Celebration)
26	27	28	29 Leap into Spring Open House 5-8 PM (Community Center)	1	2	3
4	5 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	6	7	8 WH Chamber Spaghetti Dinner 5:30 PM (Community Center)	9	10
11	12	13 Mayor's Hour 9-10 AM	14	15	16	17
18	19 City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)	20	21	22	23	24 Community Coffee Club 9 AM (Grounds for Celebration)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Leap into Spring Open House

Please join us for a Leap into Spring Open House on Wednesday, February 29, 5:00-8:00 p.m. Since Leap Year comes around every four years, we are going to celebrate at the Windsor Heights Community Center. Reasonable cost. For further information, visit: [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org)

### Spaghetti Dinner

The Windsor Heights Chamber of Commerce invites you to its Annual Spaghetti Dinner. Dinner will be held at the Community Center at Colby Park on Thursday, March 8 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Tickets will be available in mid-February, and can be purchased at Bankers Trust, Matt Cale State Farm or City Hall. There will be a silent auction, activities and lots of family fun. We hope to see you there! A big thank you to our sponsors: Barilla and Windsor Heights Hy-Vee.



### Join the Special Events Committee

Do you like July 4th, Oktoberfest, Movies in the Park? Event planning requires a full range of skills including organization, communication, following a budget, implementing a plan – all important. We value your input as a member of the Windsor Heights Special Events Committee. So, don't delay! Should you be interested, the Committee meets monthly on the second Monday from 5:15-6:30 pm. Contact Tracy at 645-6821 or [tlevine@windsorheights.org](mailto:tlevine@windsorheights.org)

### Renew Pet Licenses

It is the time of year when dog and cat owners are reminded to have their pets licensed and tagged. This allows the City to quickly notify their owners should the pets stray and be picked up. It also verifies animals have proper rabies vaccinations. Licenses cost \$10 for altered pets and \$20 for unaltered pets. There is an additional fine if your pet is not licensed prior to April 1, so license your pet as soon as possible. Pets must have proof of their current rabies vaccination from their vet. Registration forms are on the city website or you can stop into city hall and license your pet today! City offices are open late on Council meeting nights, so you can stop by on your way to the meeting.

### Street Lights

Have you noticed your street light is burned out, dimmed or staying on during the day? If you have a light on your street that is in need of repair, please visit the city's website: [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org), and click on the Street Light Repair link or contact MidAmerican Energy directly at 1-800-799-4443. All street lights in Windsor Heights are repaired by MidAmerican Energy.

### Windsor Wave Email Newsletter

It is easier than ever to get updates and news from the City of Windsor Heights. In addition to our monthly newsletters found in the water bill and the Windsor Heights Living Magazine, you can sign up to get email updates, known as the Windsor Wave, sent directly to you. This is the best way to get up-to-date updates on things like special events, council meetings, etc. In addition, emails are sent out when things like the snow ordinance goes into effect. You can sign up for the Windsor Wave at [www.windsorheights.org/emailsingup.htm](http://www.windsorheights.org/emailsingup.htm)

In addition, you can get updates from the city by following us at Twitter or visiting our Facebook page. Windsor Heights has one of the most comprehensive and up-to-date open communications with our citizens and businesses and we appreciate everyone who participates in this process.

### Emergency Access

When recovering from a major snowfall, it's easy to forget emergency responders not only need access to your front door, but to the equipment that will help save your home in the event of an emergency. The Windsor Heights Fire Department is recommending citizens clear a three foot perimeter around fire hydrants that are covered with snow. It's also smart to shovel an access path to the road, so fire fighters can easily thread a water hose to the hydrant from the street.

In general, for every minute a home fire goes un-suppressed or undetected, it doubles in size. Every second counts. If a fire occurs in your home or in your neighborhood, you don't want firefighters wasting those seconds shoveling snow to gain access to the fire hydrant.