

## Spring Rains Bring Issues

With spring rains around the corner, we all need to do our part to help reduce the amount of stormwater run-off and improve the water quality. Here are some helpful tips for all Windsor Heights residents to help us achieve that goal.

**Sump pump drainage:** To help slow down the amount of runoff and improve the quality of water consider discharging your sump pump 10ft back from any property line instead of discharging it directly into the street. By doing this simple step it can reduce the amount of pollutants and slow down runoff which can cause flooding.

**Lawn clippings:** Bagging and properly disposing of lawn clippings, will greatly improve the water quality. Please do not dump yard waste into Walnut Creek as for the yard clippings/waste is Nitrogen rich from fertilizers and will damage any Eco-system in the creek. Also by raking or bagging lawn clippings instead of blowing into the street will reduce the amount of pollutants going into our stormwater system and comply with city ordinances, which prohibit depositing lawn clippings in the street.

**Rain Barrels:** Consider investing in or creating your own rain barrel to help reduce stormwater runoff. By having a rain barrel you can reduce your water bill by reusing the caught rainwater to water your spring flowers or lawn.

**Rain Garden:** By installing a rain garden along the curb you will be helping to divert stormwater runoff into the rain garden where runoff can infiltrate into the ground which will filter out pollutants and slow down runoff before entering storm drain which in the end will reduce the amount of flooding the City may have.

We all can do our part to help with the quality and quantity of stormwater. If you have any questions in regard to what you can do to help out please feel free to call Dave Breese, City Inspector at (515) 645-6826.

## Foundation Donation

The Windsor Heights Foundation recently donated money to purchase a new picnic table and podium for Colby Park and the Community and Events Center. Funding for the picnic table came as a gift from the Windsor Heights Seniors and the Windsor Heights Foundation. The Windsor Heights Seniors are formerly a group that was active in the City but disbanded several years ago, donating their funds to the Foundation.

The podium is a gift entirely from the Foundation. The new Community and Events Center frequently holds public meetings, private parties and weddings and the need for a podium became fairly obvious.

The City of Windsor Heights thanks the Foundation for the generous donations.

## Help for Sewer Problems

Starting on July 1, 2011, the City will begin a partnership with the Neighborhood Finance Corporation, Polk County, and the Windsor Heights-Urbandale Sanitary Sewer District to help homeowners with sanitary sewer problems. The goal of the program is to eliminate the inflow and infiltration of stormwater into sanitary sewer lines. When sanitary sewer lines become overwhelmed with stormwater, it increases the likelihood of a sewer backup in basements. Also, all of the water flowing through the sanitary sewer lines must be treated, which increases costs and is not environmentally sound. Additionally, when stormwater gets into sanitary sewer lines, it is not absorbed into the ground, recharging the aquifers which are so important for clean drinking water. The new program beginning July 1, will help a homeowner replace or slipline a sanitary sewer line from a person's home to the main near the street and/or decouple sump pumps and perimeter tiles/drains from the sanitary sewer. The program will include a partially refundable loan to the homeowner, creating the opportunity for significant cost savings. Continue to read the city newsletter, website and Facebook page for details on this exciting new program.

## Bicycle Collection

May is Bike Month in the Des Moines Metro and as part of the activities, Windsor Heights is helping sponsor a bicycle collection with the non-profit Des Moines Bicycle Collective. Check your garage or basement and take a bike inventory. If you have any unused bikes that you would like to put towards a good cause, please donate them to the Bicycle Collective. The Collective will then refurbish your good used bike and sale or loan those bikes to the public. The money collected from the sale of the bikes is used to conduct bicycle safety and maintenance programs with youth organization, businesses and local schools. The group also uses the funds to help produce the metro trails maps (which are available free of charge at city hall) and many other programming related to bicycling.

During the week-day of May 9-13, a trailer will be located at Colby Park in the parking lot where you can put your bike for the Collective to refurbish. Your donation is tax deductible and receipts will be made available by Bicycle Collective.

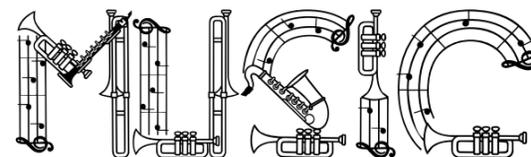
See us on the Web at [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org)!

# City of Windsor Heights

AMERICA'S CROWN COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

### CONTENTS

- 2 Most Beautiful Yard
- 2 Citizen of the Year
- 3 Free Plant Exchange
- 4 Spring Rain Issues
- 4 Sewer Problem Help
- 4 Bike Collection



## Music in the PARK

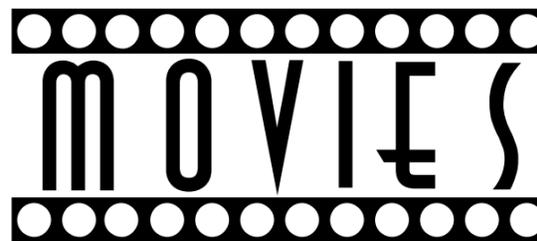
The 2011 Windsor Heights Music in the Park schedule has been set. Sponsored by the Windsor Heights Foundation, the 10 concert series in Colby Park begins Tuesday, June 7, and will feature this year a Jazz in July event on July 12.

Concerts are free and will include free beverages provided by Bankers Trust; free snow cones by the Windsor Heights Lions Club; free popcorn by the Windsor Heights Foundation. There will be door prizes and also opportunity for attendees to make a donation to the Foundation.

The Jazz in July performance on July 12 is under is sponsored by Metro Arts Alliance of Greater Des Moines, and is designed to be family-friendly, with food concessions, art vendors and activities for children (no free beverages or food this evening). Those events begin at 5:30, with the 90 minute concert starting at 7:00. The performing group to be announced soon.

### 2011 SCHEDULE

|          |                                   |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| June 7   | Java Jews                         |
| June 14  | Tijuana Brass                     |
| June 21  | Party Gras Classic Jazz Band      |
| June 28  | Sacred Heart Sax and Brass        |
| July 5   | Urbandale Adult Community Band    |
| July 12  | Jazz in July                      |
| July 19  | Ballyhoo Foxtrot Orchestra        |
| July 26  | Hold On                           |
| August 2 | Greater Des Moines Community Band |
| August 9 | Hot Club of Des Moines            |



## Movies in the PARK

Movies in the Park is back again this year in Colby Park. With a fabulous line-up, it will truly be outdoor cinema at its best, thanks not only to the setting but also to the selections made by an all-volunteer committee. All movies are free and begin at dusk. Lawn chairs, blankets and picnics are all welcome. For more information go to [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org) or call 645-6821.

### 2011 SCHEDULE

|          |                     |
|----------|---------------------|
| June 17  | Shrek Forever After |
| June 24  | Despicable Me       |
| July 8   | The Karate Kid      |
| July 15  | Antz                |
| July 22  | Iron Man 2          |
| July 29  | Blindside           |
| August 2 | Rain date           |



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)

# Most Beautiful Yard Contest

The Most Beautiful Yard contest, sponsored by the Keep Windsor Heights Beautiful Committee, recognizes well-kept properties. All residential yards within the city limits are eligible. Nominations are being accepted now. Visit [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org) or mail or deliver the nomination to Windsor Heights City Hall, to nominate yourself or a neighbor. The nomination must include your name, address and phone number plus that of the property owner. Include a short summary describing why the property deserves recognition.

The first-prize winner will receive a stepping stone valued at \$150. Two runners-up will each receive a \$50 gift certificate from Wild Birds Unlimited. The deadline for entries is 5:00 pm, Friday, June 17.

# Windsor Heights Citizen of the Year

The City is now accepting nominations for "Citizen of the Year". Guidelines and nomination forms may be picked up at City Hall or be available from the web site, [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org). The Citizen of the Year award is a great opportunity for the city to recognize those who make our city great!

Applications are due Friday, May 27. Please consider the following criteria when making a selection:

- The number of years of volunteer/community service to Windsor Heights by a resident or business owner.
- Extent of community involvement.
- Must be living (no posthumous nominations).

## 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:

Charlene Butz  
Betty Glover  
Dave Jenison  
Steve Peterson  
Diana Willits

City Admin. ....Marketa George Oliver

Chief Financial Off. ....Carrie Brannen

Fire Chief .....Christopher Cross

Police Chief .....Dennis McDaniel

Public Works Director Jason Van Ausdall

Director of Comm. Svcs. 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

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

| MAY & JUNE |   |   |           |   |                                      |  |
|------------|---|---|-----------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| SUNDAY     | MONDAY                                      | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY                               | SATURDAY   |
| 1          | 2<br>City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)  | 3   | 4         | 5   | 6                                    | 7  |
| 8          | 9   | 10<br>Mayor's Hour 9-10 AM  | 11        | 12  | 13                                   | 14<br>Plant Exchange 9 AM (Lions Park) City Wide Garage Sale       |
| 15         | 16<br>City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall) | 17  | 18        | 19<br>City Spring Clean-up<br>Items should be on curb by 6 AM. Visit <a href="http://www.windsorheights.org">www.windsorheights.org</a> for information on what can be collected. | 20                                   | 21<br>Firefighter's Pancake Day WHAMM & Health Fair                |
| 22         | 23  | 24  | 25        | 26  | 27                                   | 28<br>Appliance Drop Off (Public Works) Community Coffee Club 9 AM |
| 29         | 30  | 31  | 1         | 2   | 3                                    | 4  |
| 5          | 6<br>City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall)  | 7<br>Music in the Park 7 PM (Colby Park)                          | 8         | 9   | 10                                   | 11   |
| 12         | 13  | 14<br>Mayor's Hour 9-10 AM<br>Music in the Park 7 PM (Colby Park) | 15        | 16  | 17<br>Movie in the Park (Colby Park) | 18   |
| 19         | 20<br>City Council Meeting 6 PM (City Hall) | 21<br>Music in the Park 7 PM (Colby Park)                         | 22        | 23  | 24<br>Movie in the Park (Colby Park) | 25<br>Community Coffee Club 9 AM (Grounds for Celebration)         |

# NEWS BRIEFS

## Pancake Day

The Windsor Heights Firefighters Association will soon be going door-to-door selling tickets for this year's 59th Annual Pancake Day. Tickets may also be purchased at City Hall. This is the Firefighter's annual fundraiser. Residents are encouraged to purchase tickets even if they cannot attend to help support the Association. Please plan to attend on Saturday, May 21, 2011 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Tickets are \$5.00 (Adult) \$10.00 (Family).

## Street Sweeping Begins Soon

Windsor Heights' is scheduled to have our streets swept the week of June 13-17, August 29-September 2 and November 14-18, the exact date the sweeper is on your street is dependent on the weather. Staff asks that residents please refrain from parking on the streets during these weeks so that our streets can be swept properly.

## July 4th Parade and Vendors

If you have a business or organization interested in having a float in Windsor Heights 4th of July Parade or you want to be a vendor at Colby Park on July 4th, please visit [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org) for an application or stop by City Hall.

## Remember Your Building Permit

Do 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 needs a building permit include any electrical and plumbing work and anything that will add square footage to a structure. Decks and fences also require a building permit. 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, this may result in a fine from the city. Please call Dave Breese, the City Inspector, at with any questions or email at [dbreese@windsorheights.org](mailto:dbreese@windsorheights.org).

## Iowa One Call

Residents undertaking projects involving digging and excavating are reminded to call Iowa One Call. Under Iowa statute if you plan to dig deeper than 12 inches, you are required to make the toll-free call at least 48 hours before digging. The service is FREE to anyone who requests it. Before any digging or excavation starts, call Iowa One Call at 1-800-292-8989 to have utilities marked.

# Free Plant Exchange

As the view from your window changes from snow to the first signs of spring, you're probably getting anxious to get outside and get planting! If your current plans involve the same old flowers and plants, or some parts of your garden need thinning out, Keep Windsor Heights Beautiful has a great solution. Diversify your plant varieties and share your favorites during the first-annual Windsor Heights Plant Exchange on Saturday, May 14, from 9:00 am to noon at Lions Park (1133 66th Street, behind City Hall).

This free event gives you the opportunity to brighten up your garden, flower beds, or flower pots in exchange for items you bring to share. Besides plants, you're also invited to bring gently used garden accessories and art to trade for something new (to you!).

"The Exchange provides the ultimate recycling opportunity," said Larry Wilson, a member of Keep Windsor Heights Beautiful and the event's organizer. "Whether planting an elaborate garden or simply looking to spruce up front porch planters, neighbors will be able to get new varieties just for sharing their own."

Facing a vexing gardening challenge? Have questions about what to plant in that shady corner? Polk County Master Gardeners will be on hand to share advice and answer your questions! And be sure to visit the local arts vendors while you're there.

No pre-registration is required; to make the exchange process go smoothly, fill out Plant Information Forms ahead of time. Forms are available at [www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org) or will be available on site at Lions Park.

The success of this event depends on YOU! The more people who attend, the more there will be to share. Start planning what plants you'll bring (you can always stop by a garden center and bring new things to share, too) - and bring a friend! If you have any questions, please call 515-276-0243.