



Windsor Heights
the heart of it all

Windsor Wave

Pass it on • “Wave” to a Friend

MARCH 2012

City of
Windsor Heights

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

Help Windsor Heights Keep Walnut Creek Clean.

Please help Windsor Heights ensure that Walnut Creek is clean by choosing ice and snow removal products that do not contain harmful chemicals.

MARCH IS THE LAST MONTH TO REGISTER YOUR PETS BEFORE INCURRING A FINE!

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 need to be picked up. It also verifies that 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 1st, 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.

WINDSOR HEIGHTS VALUES SUSTAINABILITY

The Community and Events Center has hosted two separate events this year so far meant to educate our citizens on sustainability and the environment we all live in. So far, a watershed analysis has been shared and 3E showed how you can save money and electricity with simple home upgrades. Please join us for our future events. See below for information.

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 our 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.

RAIN BARRELS • APRIL 19 • 6:00 P.M. COMMUNITY AND EVENTS CENTER

Did you know the roof of a house literally sheds thousands of gallons every rain event? That water can be harvested and used to help water your lawn, plants, and gardens. But all too often, that water rushes into our stormwater system and ultimately to our streams, leading to increased flow that eats away at the stream bed, causing erosion, siltation, and flash flooding. Rain barrels are not a new idea, but constructing them and installing them on your house may seem like a lot of work, when in reality, it is fairly simple.

Join us this April in the Community and Events Center to learn about rain barrels, different types and sizes and installation for your house.

CITY CLEAN-UP DAY

This year’s Spring Clean-up will start on Friday, May 18th. Your “Solid Waste” should be placed on the curb by 6 a.m. on Friday, May 18th. “Solid Waste” means garbage, refuse, commercial, agricultural, and domestic activities. The term “solid waste” shall exclude yard waste, Household Hazardous Waste*, and other similarly discarded solid or semisolid materials including but not limited to such materials resulting from industrial materials, as defined by the Metro Waste Authority and may exclude other materials as defined by the Authority.

ITEMS EXCLUDED FROM THE COLLECTION

- Tires
- Vehicles and/or major auto parts
- Buildings, major building parts, or large piles of building materials
- Concrete chunks (ALL SIZES)
- Asphalt shingles over 65 lbs. in total weight
- Banned substances such as lead acid, batteries, waste oil, explosive material, medical waste, drugs, poisons, highly combustible material, paint and other toxic or hazardous substances
- Any appliances
- Animal carcasses

ALL ITEMS MUST BE PLACED AT THE CURB, PREFERABLY IN BOXES OR TRASH CONTAINERS.

- All items must be put out at the curb no later than 6:00 a.m. on your regular trash pick up day, and no earlier than the night before.
- Brush waste will be accepted on Friday also, provided you have the correct stickers/bags/ premium compost it container needed for your brush waste.

*The City reserves the right to refuse service if a request is not within the intent of the program or is considered unreasonable.

For disposal options on the Items Excluded from the Collection above, go to www.MWAtoday.com.

ANNUAL KEEP WINDSOR HEIGHTS BEAUTIFUL SPRING CLEAN-UP

Spring is not so far away in Windsor Heights! In fact, the annual Spring Clean-Up of the Windsor Heights community has been announced for Saturday, April 21st from 8:30 to 10:30 AM.

It has been said “many hands make light work,” so the more the merrier. Bring your family, your nonprofit group, your friends or anyone interested

in making a difference in our community! Meet us at our home base in the white tent north of Burger King on 73rd Street at 8:30 – 10:30 AM on April 21. You’ll get gloves, refuse bags and an assigned clean-up area. Refreshments will also be available at the meeting site.

Two hours of work from each of us will help keep Windsor Heights beautiful! Thanks for doing your part – please spread the word! The cleanup day is sponsored by Keep Windsor Heights Beautiful committee. Refreshments and supplies are being furnished by Grounds for Celebration, HyVee and Sam’s Club. We are appreciative of our corporate citizens!

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

When: Saturday, April 7th at 9 a.m.

Where: Colby Park

Ages: Three age groups
(3 years and under, 4-7 years, 8-12 years)

Prizes: Eggs marked with a star get a prize



CodeRED COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION

In preparation for the upcoming storm season, the possibility exists that Walnut Creek may experience flooding conditions. If your property is near an area that may be affected by flooding, please visit the Polk County Emergency Management website at www.polkcountyiowa.gov/emergencymanagement and take the time to register your home or cellular phone with the CodeRED Emergency Community Notification system. The City of Windsor Heights can utilize the CodeRED system to notify residents when flooding conditions are imminent.

CodeRED can, by using the E911 system, recognize an address’s phone number if they utilize a “land line” for phone service. If the residence uses a cell phone instead, the residence will not be called by CodeRED. In order to be called by the CodeRED system in the event of an emergency, the resident must register their mobile number with the system by visiting the Polk County Emergency Management website and clicking on “CodeRED” to register your mobile number and property address.

READY, SET, WHAMM!

Windsor Heights Mini-Marathon will be here before you know it!

Runners and walkers alike are invited to participate in this year’s Windsor Heights Annual Mini-Marathon (WHAMM) on Saturday, May 19th at 8 a.m. Whether you’re a novice runner and want to run the 5k or are training for the Dam to Dam race and want to run the 10k, the run is both challenging and rewarding alike. Registration is open, now is the time to start training! All proceeds benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Please visit www.windsorheights.org to get registered.

WINDSOR HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT SAYS, “THANK YOU!” TO THE COMMUNITY

At the end of 2011 the police department received word that it would receive an award from the National Association of Town Watches (NATW) for agency and community partnership involving this city’s celebration held on August 2nd for National Night Out. For this event the police department partnered with the community to collect “goodies” and resources to send to troops overseas serving in Afghanistan. One of Windsor Heights’ own police officers was serving as a First Sergeant with the Air National Guard at an airbase where troops were being treated for wounds suffered in battle and being stabilized prior to airlift to Germany.

WHPD Officer Hector Arias worked to coordinate the donations received from the city and had them re-disseminated among troops through the Wounded Warrior Project and to service men and women serving at forward operating bases that didn’t have regular access to “treats” or personal care products. Because of this overwhelming show of support by our community, we donated over 800 pounds of materials! The NATW chose to recognize our police department as a National Award winner. The Windsor Heights department was one of only 31 departments across the nation in its class (population under 15,000), and the only one in the state of Iowa that received this recognition.

We are proud of this award, grateful to the council and Mayor for their support, and for the outstanding community effort given to the men and women that choose to serve our country. And because of this outpouring of resources by the community, we have decided to make a community service project a part of each year’s National Night Out celebration. We are currently looking for suggestions of worthwhile organizations to target for our 2012 event that is scheduled for August 7th at Colby Park.

WEST SIDE HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFFS

Hazardous materials are used in day-to-day life without even giving it a second thought. When you care for your home, you often use hazardous products. Metro Waste Authority partners with western suburbs to help you recycle and dispose of these materials – all while protecting the environment you live in. This year, you can recycle and safely dispose of these old products at any of these events from 8 a.m. to Noon:

- **March 31:** Johnston Public Works (6400 NW Beaver)
- **May 12:** Waukee Middle School
- **June 30:** Valley Stadium in West Des Moines

Latex paint, electronic waste and pharmaceuticals are NOT ACCEPTED at these events. Sharps are not accepted, unless contained in a laundry detergent bottle or sharps containers. For a complete list of accepted and not accepted items and other drop off dates scheduled in nearby suburbs, visit www.MWAtoday.com and click on Residential > Hazardous Waste Drop-off Events.