

RAGBRAI COMING JULY 23RD



RAGBRAI will be following the above route with the option of heading to the American Legion for other festivities as well.

Come join us in celebrating our community and help support the American Legion! RAGBRAI will be coming through town on Tuesday, July 23rd. Although Van Meter is a “pass-through” town, we can expect a full day of visitors and entertainment. Join the festivities and be a friendly face for Van Meter!

Community members can expect a crowd of approximately 25,000 people passing through. Live music will be provided on two stages, activities will be available, and food and beverages will be sold to visitors and locals alike. All additional proceeds raised during the event will go to the American Legion in an effort to help raise money for the new building that is now in place.

RAGBRAI committee members are still looking for at least 300 volunteers to help set up, run, and tear down the event. If interested, please visit the Van Meter city website to sign up and learn more. Time dedicated to the event will fulfill Van Meter School students’ service hours. Any and all help will be much appreciated!

Vendors interested in joining the event will be able to find the vendor application and regulations on the Van Meter city website. Additional inquiries about vending can be sent to the email address below.

T-shirts are being designed and will be available for sale to those interested. More information on t-shirts will be posted on the Van Meter city website.

<http://vanmeteria.gov/ragbrai-2/>
ragbrai@vanmeteria.gov

Elected Officials:

Mayor-Allan Adams

Council-

- Becca Wiederholt, Mayor Pro Tem
- Richard Booge
- Adam Coyle
- Bob Lacy
- Kim Sacker

City Staff:

- Jake Anderson-
City Administrator
515-954-6094
- Liz Thompson-
Deputy Clerk
515-669-6396
- Dave Herman-
Public Works
515-240-9280
- Chad Gillespie-
Assist. Public Works
515-371-9933
- Bill Daggett-
Chief of Police
515-202-4154
- Jolena Welker-
Library Director
515-996-2435
- Vickie Benson-
Assistant Director
- Gary Herrick-
Fire Chief
- Dallas County-
515-993-4567
- Emergency—911

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Dig Into Reading and Beneath the Surface are the themes this year for the KIDS and TEENS!

Van Meter Public Library June 3rd to July 26th

June 3rd Kick off to Summer Reading for the kids and teens. We will hand out your bags and log sheets. We will be serving lemonade and cookies from 10 am to 3pm in the park.

Kids and teens are encouraged to bring your pets that day (a parent or guardian needs to accompany the pet and child). The first 25 to sign up get a free Casey's coupon for a Jolly Rancher ICEE.

Farmers Market — There will be Reading and Crafts at the library. We will be doing many things that go along with the theme "**Dig Into Reading.**"

We will continue to have a weekly story time on Wednesdays at 10am.

There will be face painting in July. The date will be announced later. Wells Fargo donated a prize pony for a summer reading prize. We will also be handing out free Blank Park Zoo tickets after you read your first ten books. Please stop in every week or two to turn in the number of books you have read. We will have small prizes for you each time. Coming soon! An E-Train ride through town!

Teens earn extra points by bringing in laptops, iPads or other electronic devices. Read to a younger sibling, cousin or friend and you both earn points.

Okay! There is not room to tell you EVERYthing, but prizes are: **DRUMROLL...**

Be sure to come to the library this summer and read! Our new hours starting June 1st: Mondays and Fridays 9-5pm, Tues. 3-8pm, Wed. and Thurs. 9-8pm and Saturdays 9-noon.

We are very excited about the new hours and hope to see you all soon!

Kids

1st place
"Their own little Garden and root view"
we will have one for a girl and one for a boy

2nd place
"A Turtle Tote" and "Root View"

3rd place
"A water can" and "A root view"

Teens

1st Place
Vivio Tablet

Runner-up
Toshiba Thrive

2nd place
\$25.00 gift card to 1/2 Price book store and movies

3rd place
books and a summer reading t-shirt

City Parks, Trails, and Recreational Facilities are now Tobacco-Free!

The Iowa Smokefree Air Act prohibits smoking in nearly all public places and enclosed areas. However, outdoor spaces such as parks, biking trails, and recreational facilities may still allow smoking in some areas. Because parks are not regulated under the Smokefree Air Act, the City of Van Meter has chosen to implement a tobacco-free parks and trails policy in an effort to uphold the overall goal of park systems, which is to promote community wellness and healthy environments.

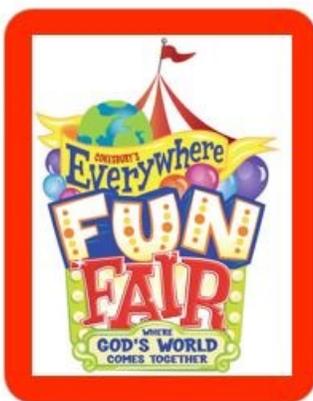
As of May 13, 2013, tobacco use is prohibited in all City of Van Meter parks, trails, and outdoor recreational facilities at all times. No person shall use any form of tobacco at/or on any City-owned or operated outdoor park, trail, or facility, which includes, but is not limited to, any park, playground, athletic field and complex, shelters, restrooms, trails and parking lot areas. This tobacco-free policy incorporates all forms of tobacco including: cigarettes, spit tobacco, snus, dissolvable tobacco products, and e-cigarettes.

While it is expected that visitors will voluntarily comply with the policy, City staff will post signs and promote enforcement via community awareness measures. More than 90% of all adults who smoke began in their teens or earlier; and more than half became regular, daily smokers before they reached the age of 19. This type of policy reinforces to youth the dangers of tobacco in hopes that they themselves will not become users.

Along with the City of Van Meter; Adel, Dallas Center, and Perry have all implemented a tobacco-free parks and trails policy with the assistance of the Central Iowa Tobacco-Free Partnership (CITP). CITP is dedicated to reducing tobacco use and associated death and disease in Central Iowa. CITP serves Polk, Dallas, Warren, Jasper and Madison counties (www.TobaccoFreePartnership.com).

If you have any questions regarding the policy, please feel free to contact your City Administrator.

JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Wednesday Evenings:
June 5, 12, 19 and 26

Summer is coming quickly!

That means...

Vacation Bible School!

Vacation Bible School at the Van Meter United Methodist Church will be held Wednesday nights on June 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th from 6:30 - 8:30pm. The theme is the "Everywhere Fun Fair." Youth ages 3 through 5th graders will learn that we are all neighbors in God's world as they explore a different country each week. We will travel to Japan, Zimbabwe, Mexico and Australia, learning what a good neighbor is through God's word.

VAN METER FARMERS MARKET

SATURDAYS FROM 8:30 AM TO 11:30 AM

The Van Meter Farmers Market kicks off June 1st and concludes October 5th. We will be open until 1 p.m. on June 1st, during Raccoon River Days.

Stop down and support your favorite vendors each week in addition to welcoming an exciting mix of new vendors. We invite everyone to take advantage of the fresh weekly offerings including seasonal produce, baked goods, and handmade items.

LOCATION

The Farmers Market takes place in downtown Van Meter, on Grant Street, by City Hall and the Public Library, rain or shine! In the event of severe rain or inclement weather, vendors will set up indoors at the **b. organic exchange**, 408 Grant Street.

VENDOR INFORMATION

The vendor fee is only \$5.00 per vendor and is paid on a weekly basis. Everyone is looking forward to a jam-packed market each week, so bring the entire family and join in on the fun!

You will also want to make time to stop into the Library for their Saturday morning festivities

b. ORGANIC EXCHANGE

The b. organic exchange, 408 Grant Street invites everyone to stop in for their open house on June 1st during the Farmer's Market hours. The b. organic exchange is a unique learning center with workshops, classes, open studio hours, and an eclectic market stocked with handmade goods out of natural and reclaimed materials, modern homesteading supplies and other healthy offerings. The b. organic exchange will also be the pick-up site for Van Meter's Organic Garden Destination CSA members each week - Fridays from 3:30p.m.-5:00p.m. To inquire about any remaining CSA member shares, visit them online at: www.gardendestination.com; or by phone: 515.993.4100.

We continue to work on ways to grow the Van Meter Farmers Market, if you are interested in becoming a vendor (or) farmers market volunteer please don't hesitate to contact us:

vmfarmers-market@gmail.com

HOLLY ADAMS

515-996-2702

LISA BOYD

515-987-4798

vmfarmersmarket@gmail.com

2012 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR VAN METER MUNICIPAL WATER WORK

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is groundwater. Our water quality testing shows the following results:

| CONTAMINANT | MCL - (MCLG) | Compliance | | Date | Violation | Source |
|---|----------------------|------------|------------------|------------|-----------|---|
| | | Type | Value & (Range) | | | |
| Copper (ppm) | AL=1.3 (1.3) | 90th | 0.41 (ND - 0.42) | 09/30/2011 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood |
| Lead (ppb) | AL=15 (0) | 90th | ND | 09/30/2011 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| 950 - DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM | | | | | | |
| Chlorine (ppm) | MRDL=4.0 (MRDLG=4.0) | RAA | 1.4 (1.02-1.92) | RAA | No | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) [TTHM] | 80 (N/A) | SGL | 16.00 | 08/09/2010 | No | By-products of drinking water chlorination |
| 02 - WELLS #2 ('68) AND #3('04) AFTER TRTMNT | | | | | | |
| Combined Radium (pCi/L) | 5 (0) | SGL | 1.1 | 01/19/2012 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | N/A (N/A) | SGL | 19 | 08/01/2011 | No | Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process |
| Nitrate [as N] (ppm) | 10 (10) | SGL | 1.68 | 12/31/2012 | No | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 4 (4) | SGL | 1.5 (0.8-1.5) | 8/2012 | No | Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits |

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -- The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

ppb -- parts per billion.

ppm -- parts per million.

pCi/L – picocuries per liter

N/A – Not applicable

ND -- Not detected

RAA – Running Annual Average

IDSE – Initial Distribution System Evaluation

Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is

GENERAL INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. VAN METER MUNICIPAL WATER WORK is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

This water supply obtains its water from the North Raccoon River sand and gravel of the alluvial aquifer. The alluvial aquifer was determined to be highly susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials provide little protection from contamination at the land surface. The alluvial wells will be highly susceptible to surface contaminants such as leaking underground storage tanks, contaminant spills, and excess fertilizer application. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is available from the Water Operator at 515-996-2644.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this information or how you can get involved in decisions regarding the water system, please contact VAN METER MUNICIPAL WATER WORK at 515-996-2644.

Decisions regarding the water system are made at the city council meetings held on 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 505 Grant Street, and are open to the public. An agenda is posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at the following locations: city hall, library, and the post office. The information is also available on the city's website: www.cityofvanmeter.com

Water Quality Study Complete – Higher Water Rates To Come:

Over the past year the City of Van Meter in partnership with the City of DeSoto examined alternative methods for improving water quality in both communities. That study is now complete and a jointly operated water treatment facility will not be pursued. The study did recommend that each community move forward with its own water treatment facility, however the Van Meter City Council is not yet ready to raise water rates by 500% to build a water treatment plant. That said, the Council did take particular note of a key finding: The Van Meter Water Utility is operating at a break-even point. As responsible stewards, on May 13, 2013 the Van Meter City Council took action and voted unanimously to increase the minimum monthly water rate by \$5.00 for customers in town and \$10.00 for out-of-town customers. The cost of each thousand gallons above 2000 gallons did not increase. The increase is expected to generate approximately an additional \$2000.00 per month and utility customers can expect to see the increase in their July bill.