

VAN METER NEWS



March 2018

City of Van Meter

SPRING NUISANCE REMINDERS

The City has codes in place that regulate “nuisances.” Definition of Nuisance: Whatever is injurious to health, indecent, or unreasonably offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property so as essentially to interfere unreasonably with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property is a nuisance.

Nuisance Abatement: Whenever the Mayor or other authorized municipal officer finds that a nuisance exists, such officer shall cause to be served upon the property owner a written notice to abate the nuisance within a reasonable time after notice.

A nuisance can be “junk” and/or the accumulation of “junk.”

“Junk” means all old or scrap copper, brass, lead, or any other non-ferrous metal; old or discarded rope, rags, batteries, paper, trash, rubber, debris, waste or used lumber, or salvaged wood; dismantled vehicles, machinery and appliances or parts of such vehicles, machinery or appliances; iron, steel or other old or scrap ferrous materials; old or discarded glass, tinware, plastic or old or discarded household goods or hardware. Neatly stacked firewood located on a side yard or a rear yard is not considered junk.

The City contracts garbage service with Waste Connections. They will haul away most items with your regular trash pickup on Mondays, if you have purchased the appropriate sticker. Special arrangements need to be made for the removal of appliances.

Also addressed in the nuisance section of the code are junk vehicles, noise control, animal protection and control, and dangerous and illegal animals.

In part, the dog ordinance prohibits an owner to allow a dog to run at large within the corporate limits of the City. It is unlawful for the owner of an animal to allow or permit such animal to pass upon the premises of another thereby causing damage to, or interference with, the premises.

It is unlawful for the owner or custodian of a dog to permit barking or any other noise excessively, continuously, or intermittently, for any unreasonable period of time so as to create an annoyance or disturbance of any person at any time of day or night.

Copies of the code can be obtained at City Hall or find them online. If you have questions or concerns call 996-2644.

Elected Officials:

-Allan Adams, Mayor

Council Members—

-Kim Sacker,
Mayor Pro Tem

-Adam Coyle

-Joe Herman

-Lyn Lyon

-Steve Meyer



City Staff:

Jake Anderson-
City Administrator

Liz Thompson- City Clerk

David Herman-
Public Works

Michael Abbott-
Public Works

Suzanne Lindaman-
Librarian
515-996-2435

Bill Daggett-Police Chief

Craig Greer-Police

Dispatch: 515-993-4567

Jon Bruen-Fire Chief
515-996-9253



Library Hours
Mon, Wed, Fri 10-5
Tues & Thurs 12-8
Sat 10-3

SPRING INTO THE LIBRARY

Our special programming for the March

Special Saturday Story on March 3, from 10:30 – 11:15A. We will be twisting ourselves into yoga animals with special guest Miranda Steinfeldt.

Tween/Teen Interactive Movie on Tuesday, March 13, from 6:30 – 8:30P. Our movie will be Suicide Squad (PG-13), and it will be shown simultaneously in fifteen libraries across Iowa. During the movie your text messages will appear on the screen through the site muvchat.com. See what others think of your favorite scenes!

The library did a survey to determine how to best serve the community. Having better hours was mentioned, to give more access and allow for programming. To answer that need the library has changed our hours!!



Prohibition! on Tuesday, March 20, from 6:30 – 7:30P. Author and speaker Linda McCann will discuss the 13-year period of time when it was illegal to manufacture, sell, or transport liquor in the U.S. Des Moines was known as Little Chicago at one time, based on the liquor activities. Al Capone was in Iowa; there were murders in Iowa; and gunfights also. Linda has been able to speak with the children of moonshiners and bootleggers and shares their memories. She will also have instances of moonshining or bootlegging in the Van Meter area.

Dallas County Conservator on Wednesday, March 21, from 3:30 – 4:15P. Critter Cindy will be here for her last visit this school year. This month she will talk about bison and covered wagons.

In addition, we have our regular programs each week:

Tech Tuesdays, where you can drop in with your techie toys or have any question answered. If we cannot answer it that day, we will find it! If there is interest, we will schedule classes on e-books, Facebook, or Microsoft programs. Let us know what you need.

Story Time, Tuesday evenings at 6:30P. There will be stories, puppets, rhymes, songs, and we will end with a craft!

Tween/Teen Crafting on Wednesday afternoons after school you can join us for a fun craft, all supplies will be provided.

Movie Matinee every Friday, a child friendly movie will be shown after the early school dismissal at 1:45P.

Just so you know...

All Iowa libraries are governed by a Library Board of Trustees. According to the State Library of Iowa their roles include: to be an advocate for the library in the community and advocate for the community as a member of the library board, plan for the future of the library, monitor and evaluate the overall effectiveness of the library, set library policies, and hire and evaluate the library director.

If you are interested in joining the Library Board of Trustees, you can pick up an application at the Van Meter Public Library or print one from our website. <http://vanmeteria.gov/library/about/library-board/>

SAVE JUNE 1, 2 *the* DATE and 3

VM ALUM BAND MEMBERS— RACCOON RIVER DAYS

Calling all Van Meter alumni and other community instrumentalists. It's time to dig those old band instruments out of the closet and get the chops back in shape. To help celebrate the Van Meter Sesquicentennial during the Raccoon River Days celebration we are hoping to put a band together to either march/walk/ride in the parade or do a short concert following the parade.

Please contact Bob Long by March 15 if you'd like to be involved: bob.long@vmbullogs.com

PS: Help get the word out by contacting everyone you know that may be interested.

TIME TO CELEBRATE!

The library is compiling recipes for a cookbook. Send us your old favorites or recipes that will be classic for our next milestone. You can drop off recipes at the library or send them to library@vanmeteria.gov. Please include your name and any history of the dish.

NIXLE

The City of Van Meter Police Department has engaged with Nixle to provide real time alerts and information to residents.

Nixle keeps you up-to-date with relevant information from your local public safety departments & schools.

Nixle you will be notified of such things as:

- *Snow Ordinance Activation
- *Criminal Activity in the Community
- *Community Events
- *City Policy Changes
- *Etc.



We're going all out for this year's Raccoon River Days in honor of Van Meter's Sesquicentennial, and we need your help to make it happen!

We're looking for individuals, families, teams or businesses to: coordinate special one-time events such as old fashioned games or food; create floats / be a part of the parade; design and create games or activities; volunteer during the event; become a sponsor and help fund this great community event.

We are still in need of sponsors!

Email us at

raccoonriverdays@gmail.com

and let us know how you can help!

Find the link on the city website at



www.vanmeteria.gov

City of Van Meter

310 MILL STREET
PO BOX 160
VAN METER IA
50261

Phone: 515-996-2644



**"LIKE" City of
Van Meter
on Facebook!**

Easter Dates for VM

United Methodist Church

Palm Sunday

March 25th
10:45A service

Good Friday

Friday, March 30th; 7P

Easter

April 1st

Sunrise Service

6:30A

This service will be followed
by a delicious breakfast of
eggs, sweet breads, fruit cups
and other breakfast treats.

Children's Egg Hunt

9:30A

Join the fun as we turn the
kids loose to hunt for eggs.

Regular Service

10:45A



Agreement For Preauthorized Payments

To sign up for AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL, please complete the form below and mail or bring to City Hall along with a VOIDED CHECK from your financial institution.

I (we) hereby authorize the CITY OF VAN METER to initiate debit entries to my (our) checking account indicated below and the depository named below, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY, to debit the same to such account.

DEPOSITORY NAME _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TRANSIT ABA NO. _____ ACCOUNT NO. _____

(Transit ABA Number is the first 9 numbers from left on the bottom of your check)

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until the City of Van Meter and Depository have received written notification from me (either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford the City of Van Meter and Depository a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

NAME(s) *(print)* _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

*******You will still receive your monthly bill as usual.
The amount due will be deducted from the
assigned account on the 15th of the month*******

The city also offers you the opportunity to pay your bill online. You can even view your account information. To take advantage of this opportunity, visit our website:

www.vanmeteria.gov/; click on the "Pay Bill" tab.