



June 2018

Volume 123

### Fireworks and Summer Safety Tips

Public Safety Officials from the City of Hiawatha want to remind you that the display and use of consumer fireworks are allowed in Hiawatha, on a very limited basis during the times below. This does not include the display of commercial fireworks. It is important to remember that fireworks may only be used by someone age 18 or older, on their own property, or the property of someone that has consented to use. Do not assume you have permission. Fireworks cannot be used on streets, roads, or other public right-of-ways. That also means the use of fireworks is forbidden in all city parks without a permit. It is your responsibility to know what you are doing and what you are using is legal. The fine for violating any of these laws will be \$250.00. If you cause an injury, fire, or damage to property, you may be charged with additional crimes. The display of consumer fireworks is allowed only during the following designated times:

- July 4th - 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- December 31st - 6:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. on January 1st

Here are a few summer safety tips to go along:

- Attend public fireworks displays and leave the lighting to the professionals.
- Enjoy outdoor celebrations and cookouts but remember to keep a three foot “safe zone” around grills and campfires.
- Build campfires at least 15 feet away from buildings, shrubs or other materials that burn.
- Fireworks must only be used with proper adult supervision and never shoot fireworks while intoxicated or impaired. Always expect the firework to do something unexpected.
- When lighting fireworks or having a campfire, keep a garden hose or fire extinguisher nearby in case of problems.
- Keep a bucket of water to put wire sparklers in. Sparklers account for nearly 1/4 of all fireworks injuries. Sparklers can burn at 1,200 degrees, can cause 3rd degree burns in a fraction of a second and improperly discarded sparklers can cause fires.
- DO NOT AIM bottle rockets, roman candles and other fireworks toward people, buildings, vehicles or others property. Keep a distance of 20 feet from buildings or people when lighting fireworks.



### Save the Date: HEDCO State of the City Luncheon

**Date:**  
Thursday, July 12, 2018

**Time:**  
11:15 AM Doors Open

**Location:**  
Kirkwood Linn Co. Regional Center  
1770 Boyson Road, Hiawatha, IA 52233

The Hiawatha State of the City Luncheon is an annual lunch and educational event for local businesses and economic development leaders. The 2018 Luncheon will feature an interactive conversation with HEDCO Chair Kyle Kunz and Mayor Bill Bennett.

Topics: affordable housing and single family housing needs, economic development focusing on creating jobs, attracting new businesses, boasting downtown development, law enforcement shifts, complete street improvements and workforce initiatives.

**ADMISSION**

Business Sponsor  
\$400 for a table of eight. Also receive recognition in all electronic and printed materials.

**Individual Tickets**

\$40 per person

**Registration is open on the HEDCO website:**

<https://www.hedco.org>



## Emerald Ash Borer Update

As many of you are aware the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), which attacks and kills Ash trees, has been found in Linn County, specifically the Cedar Rapids and Toddville area. We have researched and developed a plan to addressing City parks, right of way and City owned property trees. There are approximately 385 Ash trees in these areas alone. Currently, our plan is to monitor these Ash trees and remove them as needed. You will be contacted before any removals take place in front of your property within the right-of-way. The City has decided not to chemically treat any ash trees at this time because of the long-term cost of treatments. We will replace these trees with a variety of tree species utilizing grants and city funds as they become available.

Residents who have an Ash tree in the right of way and would like it inspected can call 393-6601 or email [rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com](mailto:rjasa@hiawatha-iowa.com). We are unable inspect trees on private property.

Link for finding an Arborist: [www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist/findanarborist](http://www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist/findanarborist)

Ash trees on private property are the responsibility of the property owner. The decision to remove or chemically treat trees on private property rests with the property owner. Property owners are encouraged to do their own research before making any decisions.

We will be holding a public informational meeting concerning EAB. State District Forester Mark Vitosh from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will be there to give a short presentation and answer questions.

**Tuesday, September 25 from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM**  
**Hiawatha City Hall lower level Multi-Purpose Room**

Here are additional useful links with information about EAB:

[www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info)

[www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Forest-Health/Emerald-Ash-Borer](http://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Forest-Health/Emerald-Ash-Borer)

[www.nrs.fs.fed.us/disturbance/invasive\\_species/eab/](http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/disturbance/invasive_species/eab/)



## Another Good Neighbor Policy: Lawn Care

As warmer weather and seasonal rain approaches the Hiawatha Community Development Department would like to remind our residents of our good neighbor policy regarding tall grass and weeds.

The Hiawatha City Code of Ordinances Section 50.02(10) requires property owners to keep grasses mowed so that grass and weeds are less than eight inches in height. This includes the individual lot, along with parking adjacent thereto, alleys, public ways or areas up to the centerline of said ways.

By maintaining the grass and weeds at the required height it will help eliminate certain health and safety concerns. An additional benefit to proper lawn maintenance is the enhancement of our storm water management.

Spring is here and the spring showers will be a welcome change from all the snow and ice. When it rains, the storm waters end up back in our water sources. The storm drain leads to lakes, streams, and rivers. Storm water transports pollutants into our drinking and recreational bodies of water. So please help protect our water quality by following a few simple rules.



Grass and weeds should be kept at 8" or less. The recommended grass length is 3". When your lawn is 3" tall, it allows water more time to absorb into the soil versus running into the street or onto the sidewalk and towards the storm drains.

Grass clippings should never go into the street. This clogs storm drains and affects the quality of our water.

Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces. All drainage needs to be dispersed on your own property. This helps to prevent pollutants such as motor oil or detergent from entering our water sources.

Thank you for your help in keeping Hiawatha beautiful and in preserving our valuable water sources. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Community Development Department at 393-1515.

### Hiawatha Council Action

The Hiawatha City Council meeting minutes may be obtained on-line at [www.hiawatha-iowa.com/government/city-council-documents/](http://www.hiawatha-iowa.com/government/city-council-documents/) or by request to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall.

#### Police Department Summer Safety Reminders

School is out and summer is here. The Hiawatha Police Department would like to encourage everyone to have a safe and enjoyable summer. Please watch for children who are riding bicycles or walking near the roadway. Be prepared to stop as children are not always watching for you. It is also a good time to revisit safety tips with each of your children.

- \* Never play in the street
- \* Make sure your parents know where you are and when you will return
- \* Always wear your safety helmet when riding a bike or skateboard
- \* Never talk to strangers; report any attempts by a stranger to an adult

**Curfew Reminder** - A curfew is in effect for anyone under the age of 16. Persons under 16 years of age are not permitted to be or remain upon any alley, street, or public places between the hours of 11:00 PM and 5:00 AM unless accompanied by a guardian, parent or other person charged with the care and custody who is over 18 years of age. The curfew does not apply to a minor traveling between his or her home or place of residence and the place where any approved employment, church, municipal or school function is being held.

Also, please be considerate of your neighbors if you own a dog. Do not let your dog(s) run at large. Each owner is responsible to ensure their dog(s) do not bark or howl excessively causing neighbors to be unduly disturbed.

#### EMS Open House



More than 100 people stopped by the Hiawatha Fire Station on Sunday, May 20, 2018. The Fire and Ambulance service hosted what is hoped to be the first of many annual open houses celebrating the work of our Emergency Medical Providers who staff the ambulances. Visitors to the station participated in a number of activities, including CPR demonstrations, 911 simulator for kids, stroke awareness display, bleeding control and

tourniquet demonstrations and tours of the ambulance and fire trucks. Kids also got to enjoy face painting and coloring books!

In 2017, the fire department based ambulance responded to 929 emergency medical calls. Not every call results in a trip to the hospital; 784 people were transported to the hospital. The ambulance is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year by a team of dedicated volunteer and paid firefighters, EMT's and Paramedics. Currently the fire department has 58 members including 29 Emergency Medical Technicians and 13 paramedics.



#### Street Reconstruction Project Updates

Emmons Street reconstruction from City Hall driveway to railroad and the area between 9th Avenue and 10th Avenue. Detours will be established.

- Construction begins June 4, 2018
- Estimated completion date August 24, 2018
- For updates contact the City Engineer at [jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com](mailto:jbender@hiawatha-iowa.com)

Edgewood Road reconstruction from City limits north of Tower Terrace Road to County Home Road. Detours will be established.

- Construction begins June 4, 2018
- Estimated completion date July 27, 2018
- There is a notification system called 'Notify Me' and residents can subscribe to the Linn County system on the website ([www.linncounty.org/list.aspx](http://www.linncounty.org/list.aspx))

#### June Calendar

- 03 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 06 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 10 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 11 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 11 Board of Adjustment Meeting 6:00 PM
- 12 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 12 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 13 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)
- 17 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 19 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 20 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 24 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 25 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 27 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)

#### July Calendar

- 01 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 04 Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 08 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 09 History Committee Meeting 1:30 PM
- 09 Board of Adjustment Meeting 6:00 PM
- 10 Parks Commission Meeting 6:00 PM
- 10 Library Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 12 HEDCO State of the City Luncheon 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- 15 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 17 Water Board Meeting 5:30 PM
- 18 City Council Meeting 5:30 PM
- 22 Farmers Market 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Guthridge Park
- 23 P&Z Meeting 5:30 PM
- 25 Council meeting airs 6:00 - 7:30 PM Ch 4 (IMON) 7:00 PM Ch 18 (Mediacom)



### Save the date for Fun Fest 2018

Is your business, organization or club looking for ways to market? Be a part of the Fun Fest Parade! Starting at 12:00 PM on August 25, 2018, parade entries will line up at the Kirkwood Regional Center and end by the Guthridge Park festivities. Pick up an application or visit the Hiawatha Fun Fest Facebook page for more information.



### Backflow Prevention Devices

**REMINDER TO HIAWATHA RESIDENTS:** If you have a Backflow Prevention Device on your water or irrigation line, please remember the device is required to be tested yearly (preferably in the spring) by a registered technician per City Ordinance.

In addition, any commercial business in Hiawatha requiring a Backflow Prevention Device on the water, irrigation or fire line is also required to have the device(s) tested yearly.

The inspection forms can be found at the City Hall or your registered technician should have similar forms. Failure to have these devices tested yearly may lead to a municipal infraction. If you should have any questions, please call the Water Department at 393-5556.

### City Wide Amnesty Day Recap

Another City wide yard waste and refuse pickup is complete. This is the 22nd year of this service. Things are going fairly smooth. Over the last several years the total tonnage of refuse picked up has been about the same. Here are the totals from this year: 22.4 tons of yard waste, 40 appliances, 2.0 tons of tires and 69.4 tons of refuse.

This year we received several reports of citizens allowing others to bring rubbish from outside of Hiawatha and placing it on the curb for pickup. This is not the intent of our City Wide Amnesty Day. If we observe this happening, we will NOT pick up this debris. If this were to continue to happen, City Council may have to eliminate this city event due to cost, time commitment of staff and lack of compliance.

The Solid Waste Agency has changed their rules over the years to encourage our citizens to recycle as much as possible and dispose of hazardous materials properly. Please contact the Solid Waste Agency if you have any questions regarding materials at 377-5290.

A big Thank You to ABC Disposal for letting us use their trucks at NO cost to the City! Thank you to the citizens that follow the guidelines in the newsletter. Remember, please recycle!

### Precision Driver Training



On May 16, members of the Hiawatha Police Department took part in precision driver training at Hawkeye Downs Speedway as part of their monthly in-service training. The training was provided by Investigator Rod Fiser, who is our in-house certified precision driving instructor and a driving instructor from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. This training included pursuit driving on a closed course at the race track as well as vehicle operations and handling on low speed driving courses.

Hawkeye Downs provided an excellent opportunity to practice on a safe, closed course. Officers were required to maneuver around the course at various speeds and stress levels. This training helps officers know their capabilities as well as the equipment they are working with. Each officer attended a two hour block of training. Every member of the police department receives a minimum of two hours in-service training every month. This helps ensure officers are receiving the best possible training to better serve our residents.



### 2018 Building Codes Adopted



The City of Hiawatha has completed the process of adoption of the newest model building codes. Keeping current with modern codes allows us to take advantage of the most current building technologies for methods and materials, gives us an opportunity to evaluate our standards for promoting safety in our built environment and facilitates uniformity of codes with the surrounding jurisdictions.

On the local level the adoption is simplified since Hiawatha has already participated in the updates through the International Code Council (ICC); a non-profit organization overseeing uniform building code development. Our Building and Fire Appeals Board reviewed the new codes and significant changes. The Board also considered input from the surrounding jurisdictions and the country for maintaining uniformity. Their review provided a recommendation to Council for final adoption.

The significant changes were very limited during this cycle and included:

- Simplified method for accepting solar panels on single family dwellings
- Added safety with smoke compartmentalization in institutions such as hospitals
- Recognition of family style living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Inclusion of required storm shelter standards for new schools
- Improved wind bracing requirements for new residential buildings
- Increased electrical safety with arc fault requirements in the electrical code



Maintaining current codes is important to the construction industry and for public safety. Updated codes facilitate the appropriate use of new materials, new methods and new technologies while keeping public safety, health and sanitation the main goal for these regulations.

### 6th Annual Hiawatha Police K9 Golf Outing



On Sunday, August 5, 2018 the Hiawatha Police K9 Unit will be hosting our annual 4-Person Best Shot Golf Outing at Hunters Ridge Golf Course in Marion to raise funds in support of the K9 Program.

Registration forms can be found at [www.hiawatha-iowa.com](http://www.hiawatha-iowa.com) on the Events Calendar.

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 Team Registration Due - \$85/Golfer

Sunday, August 5, 2018 Golf Outing      Hunters Ridge Golf Course  
 Check-in                                      11:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
 Shotgun Start                                1:00 PM

*Dinner, Raffle Drawing and Prizes, and K9 Demo following dinner*

The proceeds from this fundraising event provide for the continued financial support of the Hiawatha Police K9 Unit and the purchase and training of future K9 teams. The Hiawatha Police K9 Unit, which was established in 2005, has been funded and supported thanks to the generous donations of numerous individuals and businesses in the Hiawatha, Marion, and Cedar Rapids community.

Approximately 20 teams participate each year in the fundraising event. The event is supported annually by approximately 50 sponsors that participate as Tournament and Hole Sponsors or donate Raffle Prizes.

To make a donation or ask about different Sponsor possibilities, or if you have questions about the Golf Outing contact Officer Erik Naaktgeboren at [K9@hiawathapolice.com](mailto:K9@hiawathapolice.com). Follow us on Facebook at **Hiawatha Police K9 Unit**.

### Concession Stand Goes Green

Hiawatha Kids League will be installing a green energy producing alternative; solar panels atop the Guthridge Park concession stand. The four solar panels (3.5' x 5.5') will help offset the energy consumption and will produce the most solar power on the concession roof section facing the south. These solar panels will demonstrate to the youth and families of the league the benefits of green energy alternatives and how solar energy is converted into useful applications in the concession stand. The solar panels have a life span of over 20 years and will help HKL meet the cost and use of traditional energy for years to come.

City of Hiawatha  
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 www.hiawatha-iowa.com

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**06/09/2018**

# Postal Customer

## Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

Big 10 Mart is excited to show you their new addition to the service model. Now offering a Drive Thru service for your convenience. This service is a great benefit for mothers with small children, senior citizens and disabled individuals. No need to get out of your vehicle, they will do the shopping for you! They have all items available for sale except lottery when using the drive thru.

**Drive thru hours:**  
 Monday - Friday  
 6:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
 Saturday and Sunday  
 CLOSED

For specials and coupons go to Big 10 Mart's website: [www.big10mart.com](http://www.big10mart.com) and Like Big 10 Mart on Facebook for weekly specials!

### History Committee Newly Appointed Board Member

The Hiawatha History Committee would like to welcome their newest member, Marilyn James. Marilyn will serve a term ending on December 31, 2020. Welcome Marilyn!



## City Directory

### Main Phone: 319-393-1515

**Mayor:**  
 Bill Bennett X525  
[mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com](mailto:mayor@hiawatha-iowa.com)

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