

## CITYnews

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JULY/AUGUST 2011

## I&I Program Implemented to Reduce Sewer Backups & Overflows

Over the next five summers, the City of Dubuque will conduct property inspections as part of an Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Program to cut down on sanitary sewer overflows and sewer backups by eliminating storm water inflow and groundwater infiltration into the City's sanitary sewer collector system.

**Inflow** is a direct connection of "clear" water (rain/storm water) into the wastewater (sanitary sewer) collection system. **Infiltration** is an indirect connection of "clear" water to the wastewater (sanitary sewer) system. Inflow is by far the larger problem of the two and occurs in direct proportion to rainfall. Inflow is most often the result of improperly installed sump pumps (used by many homeowners to keep groundwater out of basements), roof downspouts, and foundation drains illegally connected to the City's sanitary sewer system. Sump pumps are also sometimes illegally connected to the sanitary sewer system via a hose leading from the sump to a laundry tub or floor drain. Infiltration occurs when groundwater seeps into sewer pipes



through cracks, leaky joints or deteriorated manholes.

Excessive I&I can cause property damage and health risks as a result of sewer back-ups into basements and sanitary sewer overflows, regulatory actions/fines by state and federal agencies, and unnecessary treatment costs at the Water Pollution Control Plant. Even a single downspout or sump pump illegally connected to the City's sanitary sewer can lead to a sewer backup in the basement of a nearby home.

The City's sanitary sewer master plan, finalized in 2009, identified five sewersheds, or areas of the community, which are the sources of high sanitary sewer flows during rainfall events, indicating excessive I&I. These five areas include approximately 7,000 properties. A major component of the City's I&I program involves the mandatory inspection of these private property connections to the sanitary sewer system. Inspections began in early June. Due to the number of properties involved, the inspections will be conducted in phases during the summers from 2011 to 2014.

Three two-person inspection teams from the City's Engineering Department are conducting the inspections. Property owners will receive a mailing in advance with additional information that will ask them to schedule an inspection appointment. The inspectors will need to enter the yard and basement of each home to observe and

## IN THIS ISSUE

- | 2 | Summer Pools Tips and Reminders  
Art on the River Sculptures Chosen  
Summer Leisure Services Activities
- | 3 | City Manager's Message  
Free Way to Fun City Resumes
- | 4 | The Jule Seeks Public Input  
New Faces and Retirements  
New Requirements for Landlords  
Calendar

record the building's drainage facilities. If an improper connection is found, the City Engineering Department will send a violation notification letter to the property owner and explain the necessary correction and timeframe for correction. A re-inspection must then be scheduled and conducted within 30 days to verify that the correction has been made.

The cooperation and timely response of property owners is needed to provide inspectors access to the properties for these inspections. All inspection team members will clearly display identification as City of Dubuque employees, travel in vehicles with a City of Dubuque label, and wear attire bearing a City of Dubuque logo. A typical inspection is completed in less than 15 minutes. There must be an adult (age 18 or over) present at the property during the inspection.

*- continued on page 2-*

### What Will the Inspectors Review?

- Is there a sump pump? If so, it must discharge outside the basement through rigid pipe (NOT into the sanitary sewer system).
- Are there downspouts that go into the ground? If so, where do they drain? (They CANNOT be connected to the sanitary sewer system.)
- Is there a foundation drain/seepage collection system? If present, does it discharge into a sump pit (proper) or the floor drain (improper)?

THE CITY OF  
**DUBUQUE**  
*Masterpiece on the Mississippi*

Residents who believe their property may not be in compliance are encouraged to make the necessary changes before their property is inspected. Detailed information on correct connections and practices is available online at [www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/i&i) and by calling the Engineering Department at 563-690-6113.

Dubuque's I&I program is part of an agreement with United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Other actions being taken by the City to address I&I include: sanitary sewer capacity upgrades, inspection of manholes and sewer lines to identify inflow and infiltration sources, rehabilitation and reconstruction of manholes and sewer lines prone to infiltration. §

## Art on the River

### 2011 Exhibit Selected

The City of Dubuque has announced the selection of 10 works of outdoor sculpture for the 2011 Art on the River Exhibition, located in the Port of Dubuque. In its sixth year, the temporary public art exhibit drew 70 entries from 39 artists in 12 different states and one foreign country. The pieces will be installed along the Mississippi Riverwalk in early July with an opening event set for Thursday, July 14, at 5:00 p.m. at the Grand River Center. The public is invited to attend.



Art on the River is free, open year-round (sunrise to sunset), and accessible to all. It is part of the Dubuque City Council's Arts and Culture initiative, in conjunction with the Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission.

For additional information, please call 589-4110 or visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/artontheriver](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/artontheriver), where you can vote for your favorite piece! §

## Summer Pool Tips and Reminders

### Six Steps for Healthy Summer Swimming

#### Steps for All Swimmers

Keep germs from causing recreational water illnesses

- Don't swim when you have diarrhea. You can spread germs in the water and make other people sick.
- Don't swallow pool water. Avoid getting water in your mouth.
- Practice good hygiene. Shower with soap before swimming and wash your hands after using the toilet or changing diapers. Germs on your body end up in the water.

#### Steps for Parents of Young Children

Keep germs out of the pool

- Take your kids on bathroom breaks or check swim diapers often. Waiting to hear "I have to go" may mean that it's too late.
- Change diapers in a bathroom or a diaper-changing area and not poolside. Germs can spread in and around the pool.
- Wash your child thoroughly (especially the rear end) with soap and water before swimming. Invisible amounts of fecal matter can end up in the pool.



### Pool Ordinance Reminders

Dubuque's ordinance defines a "swimming pool" as any constructed or prefabricated pool over 18 inches deep. Residents must obtain a pool permit from the City's Building Services Department for all pools except prefabricated pools less than 24 inches deep. All pools over 18 inches deep must meet fencing requirements outlined in the ordinance, even if they are exempt from a permit. The location of swimming pools is governed by the zoning ordinance of the city.

For a complete copy of Dubuque's swimming pool ordinance, or more information, please contact the Building Services Department at 589-4150 or e-mail [building@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:building@cityofdubuque.org). The ordinance is also available on the City website at [www.cityofdubuque.org/buildingservices](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/buildingservices).

## Summer Leisure Services Activities

Below are just a few of the dozens of activities the Leisure Services Department has planned for the summer. For a complete listing of activities, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/leisureservices](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/leisureservices) or check out the summer brochure:

- July 6 - 6:30 p.m. City-wide Dodgeball Tourney at Allison-Henderson Park for ages 8 - 14.
- July 10 - 7-9 p.m. Family Pool Party at Sutton Pool
- July 13 - 6:00 p.m. Registration - Tot Olympics at Allison-Henderson Park for ages 3 - 5.
- July 20 - 6:30 p.m. Water Carnival at Flora Pool. A variety of races for ages 5 - 14.
- July 27 - 6-8 p.m. City-wide Playground Carnival at Allison-Henderson Park. Fun-filled evening for all ages. A variety of booths, refreshments and drawings for prizes throughout the evening. A minimal fee will be charged.
- August 3 - 6:15 p.m. Registration - City-wide Amateur Night at Allison-Henderson Park, upper patio area. Show at 6:30 p.m. Bring your blanket, talent and join the fun!



*One piece of a mural painted by Prescott Elementary students. The mural is on display on the north side of the Iowa Street parking ramp.*



## A MESSAGE from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

*DubuqueWorks* is a community partnership to analyze and revitalize existing workforce strategies, identify and address workforce gaps, and work together to seamlessly provide the strongest workforce solutions for companies that choose to make the Dubuque area their home. Partners include the Greater Dubuque Development Corporation, Telegraph Herald, Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce, Northeast Iowa Community College, Dubuque Area Labor Management Council, Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, and Iowa Workforce Development. Financial support is provided by the City of Dubuque, Dubuque Racing Association, and the Dubuque County Board of Supervisors.

In short, the goal of *DubuqueWorks*

is to recruit and retain a talented workforce. A key tool in doing so is the AccessDubuqueJobs.com website, a product of the Telegraph Herald. The site was launched in December of 1997 as one of the first niche community job sites in the country. More than 110 employers now invest in the site and post their positions online attracting talent from around the world. Nearly 3,000 resumes are part of the site's searchable database for employers. So far in 2011, the site is averaging 116,436 visitors per month.

A component of *DubuqueWorks* concentrates on recruiting former Dubuquers back to Dubuque; convincing existing Dubuquers, including college students, to stay; and getting the appropriate training for unemployed and underemployed Dubuquers so they are

prepared for the available jobs in the Greater Dubuque area.

A new campaign entitled "Post It!" was initiated in March to increase the number of resumes posted to the AccessDubuqueJobs.com site and to connect employers with 2011 graduates. The campaign utilized print ads, direct mail, social media, and direct contact with employers and area college graduates. **In just March and April 2011, 890 new jobs and 689 new resumes were posted to the site!**

Key indicators are showing that our national, regional, and local economies are slowly but surely recovering. Dubuque's April 2011 unemployment rate was 5.6 percent, compared to the statewide rate of six percent and the national average of nine percent. If we want existing Dubuque employers to expand and if we hope to recruit employers, it is critical that we are able to meet their workforce needs. *DubuqueWorks* and its partners are working with businesses and educational institutions to identify gaps, address education and training needs, and meet their shared goals. §

## Glass: What Are the Options?

The last day for curbside glass recycling collection in Dubuque is July 1.

### Sustainable glass management options include:

#### REDEEM FOR REFUND:

Many local retailers and the redemption center refund 5 cent deposits on redeemable Iowa beverage containers.

#### DROP OFF FOR RECYCLING:

Dittmer Recycling at 1755 Radford Road will recycle glass placed in the special container at this address.

*\*labels on glass do not need to be removed*

#### DROP OFF FOR BENEFICIAL REUSE:

The Dubuque Metropolitan Area Landfill at 14501 Highway 20 West is providing a special container for glass just inside the landfill gate. Monday - Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

#### SET OUT WITH WEEKLY TRASH:

You may also put the glass in your trash for weekly refuse collection. Glass is an inert, non-toxic material and will be landfilled.



## Free Way to Fun City Program Expanded



The Jule (formerly Keyline Transit) is offering an expanded version of the "Free Way to Fun City" program to

Dubuque youth in grades K - 12. Any Dubuque student can ride The Jule's fixed-route buses throughout the city for free this summer just by wearing the new Free Way to Fun City bracelet. The bracelets can be picked up at the City's Leisure Services Department at Bunker Hill Golf Course, The Jule offices at 2401 Central Avenue, and Carnegie-Stout Public Library at 360 W. 11th Street. For more information on the Free Way to Fun City program, call 563-589-4196 or visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/thejule](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/thejule). §



# 'Help Drive' The Jule



The Jule, Dubuque's public transit system formerly known as Keyline, is seeking public input on how to increase the use of public transit in Dubuque. All submitted ideas will be discussed at a public forum at 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15, at Comiskey Park, hosted by the Transit Advisory Board and Housing and Human Rights Commissions. To submit your idea(s): email [humanrgt@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:humanrgt@cityofdubuque.org); pick up and submit a form at the Human Rights Department at City Hall Annex, 1300 Main St.; or hand it to a Jule driver. For more information, call 563-589-4190 or visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/thejule](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/thejule). §

## Retirements

Congratulations to the employees who recently retired from the City of Dubuque:

**Tim O'Brien**  
Legal

**Dave Birch**  
Leisure Services

**Randy Koster**  
Public Works

## New Faces

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

**Thomas Flynn**  
Airport

**Todd Shoemaker**  
Engineering

**Mark Lorenzen**  
Police

**John Goerd**  
Airport

**Lynne Kramer**  
Library

**Matthew Moressi**  
Police

**Chad Gooden**  
Airport

**Ryan Clark**  
Police

**Deborah Pottebaum**  
Transit

**Paul Shive**  
Airport

**Tyler Hunt**  
Police

**Carl Plumley, Jr.**  
Water

**Lynn Sutton**  
City Council

### Contact Information

The City of Dubuque welcomes comments and suggestions about your city government or news appearing in this newsletter.

Please contact:

City Manager's Office  
50 W. 13th Street  
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-4864  
(563) 589-4110 phone  
(563) 589-4149 fax  
[ctymgr@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:ctymgr@cityofdubuque.org)



### Editorial Information

City News is published by the Public Information Office and is inserted in the City of Dubuque utility bills six times per year. For the most up-to-date City news and events, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org](http://www.cityofdubuque.org).

## New Requirements for Landlords

Two recent amendments were made to the City Code of Ordinances which impact the owners/managers of rental property: 1) The property owner, manager, or licensed real estate professional must conduct background checks for all prospective tenants whose tenancy commences on or after July 1, 2011. A background check may be performed using the City's free background check service or by another background check service approved by the city manager. 2) The property owner or manager must complete the Crime Free Multihousing Program or a program of continuing education approved by the city manager. For more information, call the Housing Department at (563) 589-4231. §

# CALENDAR

## July

- 4 City Offices closed for Independence Day.
- 5 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 5 Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room 1, City Hall Annex
- 11 Human Rights Commission Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
- 12 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course snack bar
- 13 Safe Community Advisory Committee, 6:00 p.m., Location TBD
- 14 Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Room 223, Historic Federal Building
- 14 Art on the River Opening, 5:00-6:30 p.m., Grand River Center
- 18 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 19 Housing Code Appeals Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 25 Airport Commission Meeting, 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center
- 26 Housing Commission, 4 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 26 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, C-S Public Library
- 27 Investment Oversight Advisory Commission Meeting, 3:00 p.m., Conf. Room A, City Hall
- 27 City Wide Playground Carnival, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Allison-Henderson Park
- 28 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Library auditorium

## August

- 1 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 2 Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room 1, City Hall Annex
- 8 Human Rights Commission Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
- 9 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course snack bar
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- 23 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, C-S Public Library
- 23 Housing Commission Meeting, 4 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 25 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room

City Hall: 50 W. 13th St.  
City Hall Annex: 1300 Main St.  
Historic Federal Building: 350 W. 6th St.  
Carnegie-Stout Public Library: 360 W. 11th St.  
Bunker Hill Snack Bar: 2200 Bunker Hill Rd.  
Dubuque Jet Center: 11000 Airport Road