

CITYnews



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MARCH/APRIL 2020

Watch Your Mailbox for Your Census!

In mid-March, homes across the country will begin receiving invitations to complete the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail.

Why the Census is Important for Dubuque

The results of the 2020 Census will help determine how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding flow into communities every year for the next decade. That funding shapes many different aspects of every community, no matter the size, no matter the location.

Did you know?

- Census results influence highway planning and construction, as well as grants for buses and other public transit systems.
- Census results help determine how money is allocated for the Head Start program and for grants that support teachers and special education.
- The list goes on, including programs to support rural areas, to restore wildlife, to prevent child abuse, and to provide housing assistance for older adults.

United States Census 2020



Every family counts.

The 2020 Census is Easy to Complete

You will answer a simple questionnaire about yourself and everyone who is living with you on April 1, 2020. A sample copy of the Census questionnaire is available online at www.2020census.gov.

The 2020 Census is Confidential

Your personal information is kept confidential. The Census Bureau is bound by federal law to protect your information, and your data is used only for statistical purposes. Your responses are compiled with information from other homes to produce statistics, which never identify your home or any person in your home.

The Census Bureau will never ask you for your Social Security number, money or donations, anything on behalf of a political party, or your bank or credit card account numbers. If someone claiming to be from the Census Bureau contacts you via email or phone and asks you for one of these things, it's a scam, and you should not cooperate.

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census facts

2020 Census data will help inform how billions of dollars are distributed to states and communities every year for the next 10 years.



For more information please visit www.2020census.gov or contact the Planning Services Department at 563-589-4210.

Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Public Meetings

These meetings are additional opportunities for residents and stakeholders to learn more about the recommended budget and share their input. All meetings are held in the City Council Chambers on the second floor of the Historic Federal Building at 350 W. Sixth St. All meetings are broadcast on CityChannel Dubuque on the Mediacom cable system on channels 8 and 117.2 and video is streamed live and archived at www.cityofdubuque.org/media.

Date	Meeting Topics
Mon., Feb. 17 - 6 p.m.	Recommended FY2021 Budget Document Presentation to City Council at Regular City Council Meeting
Sat., Feb. 22 - 9 a.m.	Information Services, City Attorney, City Clerk, Public Information, City Manager, Human Resources
Mon., Feb. 24 - 6 p.m.	Health Services, Human Rights, Library, Airport, Finance/Budget
Wed., Feb. 26 - 6 p.m.	Housing & Community Development, Planning, Economic Development, Transportation Services
Thurs., Feb. 27 - 6 p.m.	Purchase of Services, Five Flags Civic Center, Grand River Center, Parks, Recreation
Mon., Mar. 23 - 6 p.m.	Emergency Management, Emergency Communications, Police, Fire, Building Services
Wed., Mar. 25 - 6 p.m.	Water, Water & Resource Recovery Center, Public Works, Engineering
Thurs., Mar. 26 - 6 p.m.	Public Hearing to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

The recommended budget materials will be placed on the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget webpage at www.cityofdubuque.org/FY2020 budget on Tuesday, Feb. 18, and will be available at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 50 W. 13th St., and at the Reference Desk at the Carnegie-Stout Public Library at 360 W. 11th St. For additional information, call 563-589-4110.

Batteries - Recycling or Garbage?

Properly disposing of old batteries is important, but sometimes it's difficult to remember what goes where.

Rechargeable nickel cadmium, nickel metal hydride and lithium batteries can be recycled at many local retailers, City Hall, the Leisure Services offices at Bunker Hill, the Police Department, NICC, the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency (DMASWA) Regional Collection

Center; and many more. Find the complete list of local drop-off locations at www.dmaswa.org.

Regular, non-rechargeable batteries can be thrown in your household trash.

For additional information on items that can and cannot be recycled, use the "Waste Wizard" at www.cityofdubuque.org/rethinkwaste.

The Dubuque City Flag - Did You Know?

You may have seen a Dubuque City flag flying next to the American and Iowa flags at City parks and facilities. Did you know you could purchase one for your own flag pole? Three sizes are available: 3' x 5' (\$43), 4' x 6' (\$55), or 5' x 8' (\$82). For more information, call 563-589-4131 or email tbreitba@cityofdubuque.org.

History of the Dubuque Flag

In 1967, the Dubuque City Council sought entries from the public in a contest to design the official City of Dubuque flag. Both citizens and students at local schools

were encouraged to submit their designs to a jury comprised of citizens. The winning flag was created by Maureen Frommelt. She designed the flag with the City's past, present, and future in mind and represented each with the colors of blue, green, and yellow. The blue signifies the waters of the Mississippi River and its importance to Dubuque's history. The green symbolizes Dubuque's present scenic beauty, and yellow represents Dubuque's bright future. Read the full history of the flag at www.cityofdubuque.org/DBQflag.



Join us for this free, resident-engagement program!

April 21 - May 7

Tuesdays and Thursdays (6-9 p.m.)

- **DISCOVER** the roles of City departments
- **LEARN** about City programs, services, and tour facilities
- **SHARE** thoughts on creating a stronger culture of engagement within the City of Dubuque

Assistance with transportation and childcare is available!

APPLY TODAY!

www.cityofdubuque.org/CityLife
or call 563-589-4190

Regular Yard Debris and Food Scrap Collection Resumes

Seasonal yard debris and food scrap collection for current subscribers starts Monday, April 6. For more information, call the Public Works Department at 563-589-4250 or visit www.cityofdubuque.org/yardwaste.





STATE OF THE CITY

Mayor Roy D. Buol Winter 2020

The Winter 2020 installment of Dubuque's "State of the City" is a focus on the global significance that can be created by our cumulative efforts to positively affect the state of our planet... when we "Think Globally and Act Locally."

While we find ourselves in a time where our nation is divided on many significant issues, there is one issue for which we can take personal action and corporate social responsibility within our own communities and cities: continuing and enhancing our efforts and partnerships to prepare for and respond to climate change.

This global problem, with indisputable facts and scientific consensus, is showing up in real time on television and in our news with increasing regularity. According to the latest climate data collected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and NASA, 2019 was the second hottest year on record globally. This is just the latest in a long series of objective, scientific confirmations that the Earth is steadily getting hotter.

We are in a decades-long trend of increasing temperatures that is expected to continue. Alarmingly, our planet is on track to significantly exceed the temperature targets set by the Paris Agreement, developed to help countries deal with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation and adaptation and ratified by over 180 nations and the European Union.

According to NASA, "Global climate change has already had observable effects on the environment. Glaciers have shrunk, ice on rivers and lakes is breaking up earlier, plant and animal ranges have shifted, and trees are flowering sooner. Effects that scientists had predicted in the past would result from global climate change are now occurring: loss of sea ice, accelerated sea level rise, and longer, more intense heat waves."

Different parts of the planet are being affected by global climate change in different ways. Locally and regionally, warmer average temperatures are affecting our weather patterns. According to the most recent National Climate Assessment, "The frequency and intensity of heavy precipitation events across the U.S. have increased," especially in the northern and central parts of the country.

National Climate Assessment Reports released by the U.S. Global Change Research Program identify the following impacts currently being experienced in the Midwest and say they will continue, "Extreme heat, heavy downpours, and flooding will

affect infrastructure, health, agriculture, forestry, transportation, air and water quality, and more."

Here, in Dubuque, we are seeing more extreme and less predictable weather resulting in dangerous and destructive flooding. Last year, the Mississippi River was above flood stage in Dubuque for a record 86 days and the early predictions for this spring indicate a strong chance for more flooding in the Midwest.

As we look out into the future of our children and theirs, this means that by 2050, Dubuque could experience a 15 percent increase in average rainfall, a 30 percent increase in heavy precipitation; our average annual temperature could increase 11 degrees and we could see an additional 48 days above 95 degrees resulting in a 266 percent increase in air conditioning demand. Our growing season could increase by 48 days and we could have 35 fewer days below 32 degrees, which may sound good to people who don't like winter, but it comes at a significant cost.

What would be the impact to Dubuque? Flooding, more extreme weather, decreased air quality, increased mosquito and tick diseases, power grid failures, food insecurity, and even wildfires. The people most vulnerable to climate-related threats are children, older adults, individuals with disabilities, those in economic stress, people of color, at-risk workers, food-insecure individuals, and people without vehicle access.

As mayor, it is my responsibility to work alongside my city council colleagues to develop policies and provide resources to City staff to identify climate hazards for our community, develop workable solutions to those risks, and build resiliency for Dubuque residents and businesses.

Currently, a group of passionate residents and city employees are working to update Dubuque's Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related climatic impacts. I invite and urge your involvement in that process. Please visit www.sustainabledubuque.org or call 563.690.6038.

"The one who plants trees, knowing that he will never sit in their shade, has at least started to understand the meaning of life."

Rabindranath Tagore, Indian poet

New Faces & Retirements

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

Britnie Bender - Emergency Communications

Brad Cavanagh - City Council

Edward Gau - Transit

Timothy McCloud - Parking

Dennis Ploessl - Engineering

Jarrod Pusateri - Parking

Laura Roussell - City Council

Jennifer Snyder - Emergency Communications

Brendan Nugent - Police

Stephanie Wehr - Police

Antone Dixon - Police

The City of Dubuque congratulates these recent retirees:

Nancy Knipper - Water & Resource Recovery Center

Kyle Kritz - Planning Services

Ray Behnke - Public Works

Teresa Bassler - Housing & Comm. Development

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new board or commission members:

Community Development Advisory Commission

Hilary Dalton

Historic Preservation Commission

Craig Reber

Resilient Community Advisory Commission

Craig Reber

Zoning Advisory Commission

Rebecca Kemp

Brittany Loeffelholz

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 twitter.com/CityofDubuque

Contact Information

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

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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.

CALENDAR

March

2 City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building

12 Successful Rental Property Management Program training, NICC Town Clock Center. Register at www.nicc.edu/solutions or call 563-557-8271, ext. 380

16 City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building

23 FY2021 Budget Public Hearing #5, 6:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building (see full budget public hearing schedule on p. 2)

25 FY2021 Budget Public Hearing #6, 6:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building (see full budget public hearing schedule on p. 2)

26 Final Budget Public Hearing to adopt FY2021 budget, 6:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building (see full budget public hearing schedule on p. 2)

April

1 Census Day - count all people living in your home on April 1

6 City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building

20 City Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building

This calendar does not include all events and is subject to change. Sign up for Dubuque's "Notify Me" e-mail/text alert system at www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme to receive agendas, news releases, event notifications, and other timely news.

Parks Division Emerald Ash Borer Update

The City is actively working to remove dead and dying ash trees due to the devastating effects of emerald ash borer (EAB). Approximately 850 ash trees still need to be removed from City-owned property. The City's forestry crew and City-hired contractors are performing removals of prioritized ash trees throughout Dubuque, most of which are between the curb and sidewalk. Due to the large number of trees that need to be removed, and the urgency of their removal, City staff are not able to alert homeowners in advance that the tree in front of their home will be removed. After the tree is removed, the stump will be ground at a later date. The City is not responsible for privately owned ash trees.



Some street trees have been treated to either prolong the life of the tree or possibly save it. If there is a small, round green tag on the tree, it most likely is one of the approximately 400 that have been treated by the City's forestry crew.

To view the City's Emerald Ash Borer Readiness Plan or for more information about Emerald Ash Borer please visit the City's website at www.cityofdubuque.org/EAB.

City Tree Planting Planned for Spring 2020

The City of Dubuque, in partnership with Dubuque Trees Forever, will be planting trees in April or May, weather pending. Has your tree between the sidewalk and curb been removed recently? Would you like to see it replaced? If so, please call 563-589-4298 and provide your name and address. The urban forester will visit the address to ensure that the tree can be planted in the location requested in compliance with the City's Street Tree and Landscaping Policy. §