

# CITYnews

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MAY/JUNE 2013

## City Offers Rain Garden Assistance Program



Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship-Division of Soil Conservation Photo

gardens are usually planted with native flowers, plants, or grasses. The deep root structures of the plants manage the stormwater on site by allowing the water and runoff to infiltrate back into the ground, rather than runoff carrying pollutants like lawn fertilizers and pet waste. Rain garden designs vary depending on the site condition and the owner's preferences.

The City of Dubuque offers a material assistance program to help property owners, schools, churches, and other nonprofit organizations

defray the costs of building a rain garden. Material assistance is provided on a case-by-case basis, is dependent on available funds, and is not to exceed half of the total project cost. Assistance is for materials only and does not cover labor costs and other expenses such as hauling materials to the site. Material assistance is also available for stream bank stabilization for property owners who have a deteriorating stream or drainage way passing through their property. To receive an application, please contact Dean Mattoon with

When stormwater from a rain event runs across streets and other impervious surfaces such as roofs or driveways, it picks up particles of gas, oil, and other pollutants and carries them directly into streams and rivers through the City's storm sewer system. A preventative solution to this stormwater pollution is an infiltration-based practice such as creating a rain garden.

A rain garden is a specially designed garden with a man-made depression that collects and infiltrates stormwater runoff. Rain

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the City of Dubuque Engineering Department at 563-589-4202 or by email at [dmattoon@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:dmattoon@cityofdubuque.org).

For more information on rain gardens, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/raingardens](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/raingardens).

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

## Volunteers Needed for Smarter Discards and Smarter Health Pilot Studies

Two new pilot studies are planned as part of the Smarter Sustainable Dubuque initiative to provide Dubuque residents the information and tools they need to make smarter choices about resource consumption and achieving their personal goals.



The **Smarter Discards Pilot Study** will review Dubuque's curbside trash and recycling performance. The information collected through this 12-month pilot study will be used in decision making related to policies, staffing, and equipment issues related to discard management and curbside collection. Volunteers will authorize their weekly setout data (trash, recycling, and organics/yard debris weights) to be collected by the City in anonymized form. There is no cost to volunteers to participate in this research. To volunteer, or for more information, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/smarterdiscards](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/smarterdiscards) or call 563-690-6111.

The **Smarter Health and Wellness Pilot Study** is designed to explore how a combination of new technology and community engagement assists participants in achieving health and wellness goals. Two Android smartphone-based applications will provide 1) "micro-sensing" technology sensing activity and movement and 2) data collection on activities, goals, and comparative "how am I doing" feedback. Volunteers are needed to download the free applications to their Android smartphone. To volunteer, or for more information, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/smarterhealth](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/smarterhealth) or call 563-690-6111.



## Going, Going, Almost Gone!

Before they leave town in June, vote for your favorite 2012 Art on the River sculpture for the People's Choice Award. Visit the exhibit at the Port of Dubuque's Riverwalk or look at the selections online at [www.cityofdubuque.org/artontheriver](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/artontheriver). Cast your ballot now!



Ten new works of outdoor sculpture have been selected for the 2013 Art on the River Exhibit, located in the Port of Dubuque. In its eighth year, the temporary public art exhibit drew 79 entries from 47 artists from 18 states and one foreign country (Vienna, Austria). The 2013 Art on the River Exhibit will be installed in July along the Riverwalk with the opening reception scheduled for Thursday, July 11 at 5 p.m. at the Grand River Center. Mark your calendars – the public is invited to attend!

Art on the River is free, open year-round sunrise to sunset, and is accessible. 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, call Jan Stoffel at 563-589-4110 or email [janstoff@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:janstoff@cityofdubuque.org).

## Applications for Reduced Monthly Fees

The City of Dubuque recently updated its application for the Refuse and Stormwater Fee 50 Percent Reduction program. Low-income customers who qualify are able to receive a 50 percent reduction in monthly refuse and stormwater fees. The credit does not apply to water and sewer fees.

Annual renewal applications have been mailed to customers who currently receive these credits. To apply, visit or contact the Utility Billing Department at City Hall, 50 W. 13th St., 563-589-4144. The application is also available online at [www.cityofdubuque.org/utilitybilling](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/utilitybilling).

## Kroger Named Recreation Director

Dan Kroger has been named the City's new recreation division manager. As the City's recreation division manager, Kroger is responsible for performing administrative, technical, and supervisory work in planning, operating, and directing the City's Recreation Division through recreation programs, services and facilities including Flora and Sutton Pools as well as Bunker Hill Golf Course. Kroger will also work with the department's many partnerships and initiatives.



Kroger came to Dubuque from Glen Ellyn Park District in Illinois, where he most recently was facility manager for the 88,000 square-foot Ackerman Sports and Fitness Center. His experience there spanned from concept, to building, to operation of the facility.

Kroger holds a bachelor's degree in leisure studies/recreation management from the University of Illinois-Champaign and is a Certified Park and Recreation Professional. Kroger replaces Pat Prevenas, who retired last August.

## Home Improvement Project Permits



It's home improvement season! As a reminder, many home improvement projects require building permits. Roofing, siding, window replacements, retaining walls, decks and storage sheds are examples of projects that require a permit.

For more information about whether a project you are planning needs a permit, please contact the Building Services Department at 563-589-4150 or by email at [building@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:building@cityofdubuque.org). All permits are available online at [www.cityofdubuque.org/constructionpermits](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/constructionpermits).

## Third Annual "Kids to Parks Day" is May 18

Dubuque parks reopen on May 4, and the Dubuque City Council has joined the National Park Trust and communities across the country in proclaiming May 18 as the third annual "Kids to Parks Day." This is a national grassroots movement to encourage youth to discover America's parks through play.

Attendance at America's parks and forests has declined steadily each year since the late 1980s, and many children today are not connected to the outdoors in the same way as past generations. The City of Dubuque offers 49 parks covering 959 acres and features trails, tennis, picnicking, fishing, skateboarding, inline hockey, softball and baseball, playgrounds, disc golf, golf, camping, and more. The Dubuque County Conservation Board manages 16 parks, preserves, and recreation areas encompassing over 2,293 acres. The Mines of Spain Recreation Area and E.B. Lyons Interpretive and Nature Center are located on 1,380 acres of wooded and prairie land, which includes 22 miles of hiking trails, and are managed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. For more information on Dubuque parks, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/parks](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/parks) or call 563-589-4263.

## Household Hazardous Materials Collection Program

During spring house cleaning, many residents find themselves with leftover fertilizers, paint thinners, antifreeze, and other hazardous materials that they know they'll never need again. The Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency's (DMASWA) Regional Collection Center for Household Hazardous Materials can help. If you have materials you cannot use, give away, or safely manage at home, take them to the Regional Collection Center (RCC). This service is FREE to Dubuque and Delaware county households and farms. Materials may be dropped off anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from April through October. The RCC is located at the Dubuque Metro Landfill on the north side of U.S. Hwy 20 West. For more information, call 563-557-8220 or visit [www.dmaswa.org](http://www.dmaswa.org).



# A MESSAGE from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

The completion of the Southwest Arterial remains the #1 surface transportation priority for the City of Dubuque, Dubuque County, the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce, Greater Dubuque Development Corporation, East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA), and the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (DMATS). I am pleased to report that Mayor Roy D. Buol presented an exciting concept to the Iowa Transportation Commission at their April 9, 2013, meeting which I believe creates the potential for this to become a reality sooner than expected.

Since last summer and following the suggestion of Iowa DOT Director Paul Trombino, City of Dubuque and ECIA representatives have been discussing the possibility of a “transfer of jurisdiction” which would expedite the Southwest Arterial project. The agreed-upon proposal would turn the Southwest Arterial project over to the Iowa DOT and make it a State of Iowa project, rather than a local project. In return, the City of Dubuque

would assume the operation, maintenance, and capital improvement costs for the Northwest Arterial (Iowa Highway 32) and the portion of US Highway 52 (US 52) within the Dubuque city limits (parts of Central Avenue and White Street).

As part of this agreement, the portion of US 52 and Iowa Highway 3 (IA 3) between Dubuque and Luxemburg, that portion of US 52 would become IA 3 only. US 52 would instead continue south on Iowa Highway 136 (IA 136) from Luxemburg to Dyersville where it would connect to US 20 and become US 20/52 from Dyersville to the Seippel Road interchange and then the Southwest Arterial becomes part of US 52. The goal of this redesignation of roadways is to create a safer, more efficient freight corridor between Luxemburg and Dubuque and remove downtown Dubuque from the freight route. Importantly, it would also make the Southwest Arterial part of US 52.

In recent months, City of Dubuque and ECIA staff met with officials from Dubuque County and all seven communities directly

affected by this proposed plan, as well as the four communities indirectly affected, and we were grateful to receive their support.

Next, we will pursue a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Iowa DOT for the continued development and advancement of the Southwest Arterial.

Once the Southwest Arterial Project is fully constructed, the Iowa DOT will take over jurisdiction of the Southwest Arterial and, in return, the City will take over jurisdiction of the Northwest Arterial and US 52 now in Dubuque.

While discussions to finalize these arrangements continue with the Iowa DOT, I am confident they will be approved in the near future. While the Iowa DOT cannot promise a construction schedule (it will be based on funding availability), this arrangement represents the best opportunity for expedited completion of the Southwest Arterial, will remove a significant amount of freight traffic from downtown Dubuque, will provide some relief to residents of the Fremont Avenue and Kelly Lane area, will make Central Avenue and White Street much safer streets for residents, and will open land along the Southwest Arterial for future expansion for existing businesses, will attract new business to our region, and lead to the creation of more jobs. §

## CityChannel Dubuque Now Mobile-Friendly

An upgrade to the City of Dubuque’s online video service now makes the live stream of CityChannel Dubuque and other City videos accessible to mobile devices including tablets, iPhones, and Android. In conjunction with this upgrade, the video web page has received a redesign. The page now includes a “Recent Programs” section that displays programs premiering within the past 30 days. Take a look at [www.cityofdubuque.org/media](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/media). §



## City Partners on New Senior Housing Option

The City of Dubuque has partnered with The Rose of Dubuque Affordable Assisted Living Community to provide a new option for income-qualified seniors. This new 70-unit senior residence is located on Lake Ridge Drive and offers one- and two-bedroom private apartments with 24-hour monitoring and assisted living services on site. Through affordable rents, elderly service assistance programs and housing programs, The Rose enables low- to moderate-income seniors to reside in a full-service, assisted-living community, which otherwise might be beyond their financial means. For information on the 17 City-sponsored units, contact Jessica Kieffer in the Housing and Community Development Department at 563-589-4230 or email [jkieffer@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:jkieffer@cityofdubuque.org). §



Spring bike-riding season is here and The Jule's Rack & Ride program helps Dubuque's bike commuters combine bicycling with public

transit, promoting less traffic congestion, fewer parking constraints, reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and a more physically active lifestyle. The Rack & Ride Program is open to all passengers on a first-come, first-serve basis. An instructional video and downloadable flyers detailing the program can be found at [www.juletransit.org](http://www.juletransit.org). Printed flyers are available at the following locations: The Jule office, 2401 Central Ave., City Hall, 50 West 13th St., and Carnegie-Stout Public Library, 360 W. 11th St. For more information, please contact The Jule offices at 563-589-4196 or visit [www.juletransit.org](http://www.juletransit.org).

## New Faces

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Lawrence Brooks</b> - Transit  | <b>Corey Leach</b> - Public Works |
| <b>Dave Hanson</b> - Transit      | <b>Manda Mattoon</b> - Water      |
| <b>Gina Hodgson</b> - Engineering | <b>Michael Menon</b> - Airport    |
| <b>Joshua Kelly</b> - Library     | <b>Blaine Telford</b> - Water     |
| <b>Daniel Kroger</b> - Recreation | <b>Katelyn Wolff</b> - Library    |
| <b>Doug Kuehn</b> - Transit       |                                   |

## Retirements

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

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| <b>Rick Bankston</b> - Fire                             | <b>Scott Neyens</b> - Fire |
| <b>Sue Brennan</b> - Planning                           | <b>Bob Prine</b> - Police  |
| <b>William Hallahan</b> - Fire                          |                            |
| <b>Tom Moriarity</b> - Water & Resource Recovery Center |                            |

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 [twitter.com/CityOfDubuque](http://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:

City Manager's Office  
50 W. 13th St.  
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).

## May

- 1 Swim passes available for purchase from Leisure Services
- 1 Cable TV Commission Meeting, 4 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 1 Zoning Advisory Commission Meeting, 6 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
- 4 City parks officially open
- 6 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 7 Jule 101 Informal Drop-In Session, 4:30 p.m. C-S Public Library Program Rm.
- 7 Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 9 Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Room 223, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 13 Human Rights Commission Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
- 14 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course
- 15 Long-Range Planning Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
- 15 Community Development Advisory Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 16 Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
- 18 National Kids to Parks Day
- 20 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 21 Housing Code Appeals Board, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 21 Jule 101 Informal Drop-In Session, 4:30 p.m. C-S Public Library Program Rm.
- 23 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room
- 23 Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting, 4 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 25 Sutton and Flora Pools officially open
- 27 City offices closed for Memorial Day. Trash/recycling collection on Sat. May 25.
- 28 Housing Commission, 4 p.m. Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 26 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, C-S Public Library

## June

- 3 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 4 Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 5 Cable TV Commission, 4 p.m., Conf. Room I, City Hall Annex
- 5 Zoning Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
- 10 Human Rights Commission, 4:30 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
- 11 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course
- 13 Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Room 223, Historic Federal Building
- 14-16 America's River Festival, Port of Dubuque
- 17 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 18 Housing Code Appeals Board, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 19 Long-Range Planning Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
- 19 Community Development Advisory Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 20 Historic Preservation Commission, 5:30 p.m., Historic Federal Bldg.
- 24 Airport Commission, 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center
- 25 Housing Commission, 4 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Bldg.
- 25 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Lacy Board Room, C-S Public Library
- 27 Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting, 4 p.m., Historic Federal Building
- 27 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees, 4 p.m., Lacy Board Room

*This calendar does not include all events, and is subject to change. Are you using Dubuque's "Notify Me" e-mail/text alert system? If not, please sign up today at [www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme) to receive agendas, news releases, event notifications, and other timely news.*

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.