



We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Liz for her twenty-two years of dedicated service to our community. Over the years, her commitment, leadership, and steady presence have played an instrumental role in the growth and progress we have experienced. Liz has not only helped move important initiatives forward, but she has also built strong relationships and fostered a sense of connection that has truly strengthened our community. Her hard work, integrity, and passion have left a lasting impact that will be felt for years to come.

We are incredibly thankful for the time, energy, and care Liz has poured into her work. While she will certainly be missed, we are excited for her as she begins this next chapter. We wish her nothing but success, happiness, and fulfillment in all her future endeavors.

Elected Officials:

- MAYOR**
Joe Herman
- MAYOR PRO TEM**
Travis Brott
- COUNCILMAN**
Joel Akers
- COUNCILMAN**
Jarin Young
- COUNCILMAN**
Joe Lake
- COUNCILMAN**
Jason Barney

City Staff:

- CITY ADMINISTRATOR**
Vacant
- CITY CLERK**
Travis Cooke
- DEPUTY CLERK**
Vacant
- PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**
Drew McCombs
- PUBLIC WORKS**
Shane Luvaas
- PUBLIC WORKS**
Spencer Leonard
- LIBRARY DIRECTOR**
Jonatha Basye
- LIBRARY ASSISTANT**
Joan Von Ruden Kruger
- PARKS & REC DIRECTOR**
Sam Chia
- POLICE CHIEF**
Mike Brown
- FIRE CHIEF**
Mark Schmitt

- DALLAS COUNTY DISPATCH**
(non emergency) 515-993-4567
- EMERGENCY**
911

MEETING SCHEDULE

- March 9, 2026 - City Council Meeting 7pm
- March 23, 2026 - Workshop 6:15pm
- March 30, 2026 - Property Tax Levy Hearing 6:15pm

MARCH RECYCLING SCHEDULE



Trees in the public right-of-way- The Van Meter Municipal Code does prohibit planting of trees or any other plant in the public right-of-way because of maintenance issues.



The City Code also has Chapter 150.03 that requires trees be trimmed to at least 15 feet above the surface of the street and 8 feet above the sidewalk. Please check your trees this coming spring to see if any trimming is needed.

Clocks will "spring" forward an hour on Sunday, March 8th, 2026. Remember to set your clocks accordingly!



Day Light Savings Time is also a good time to check your fire alarm batteries.

Keeping up with this ritual can help save your life, your families' life, beloved pets, and your home.



Spring CLEANING



Spring is right around the corner! You may be preparing to start on your spring cleaning. You may be focused on inside work or you might be noticing that your yard needs some tending to... broken branches, leftover leaves from the fall, trash, junk that was hidden by snow. Extra garbage tag stickers and bulk waste stickers are available for purchase from City Hall for items that do not fit in your weekly garbage pick up. One extra garbage bag is allowed to be placed on the curb on Mondays and each additional bag may be placed for \$1 per bag. Bulk tag stickers are \$5 and a scheduled pick up time with Waste Connections is required. You must call Waste Connections directly at 844-708-7274 to schedule pick up of old appliances or you may drop off waste items at the South Central Iowa Landfill in Winterset. Metro Waste Authority takes hazardous waste at their drop off site in Bondurant by appointment only.

As a reminder, Chapter 51 of the City's Code of Ordinances defines junk and Chapter 53 provides further details on Weeds and Brush. As Spring Cleaning activities begin, please keep these in mind! All codes are located at www.vanmeteria.gov.

Get ready for another great season of Little League Baseball & Softball in Van Meter! ⚾ ⚾

Registration is currently open but will close March 2. Whether your child is new to the game or returning for another season, this is a great opportunity to get involved.

➡ Sign up before the deadline to secure your spot!

Registration Link:

<https://clubs.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=376389>

Contact schia@vanmeteria.gov with any questions!



JOIN OUR TEAM

APPLY NOW

The City of Van Meter has two current open positions. If interested, please submit an application using the employment application found on our website and email it to info@vanmeteria.gov

<https://www.vanmeteria.gov/city/city-documents/applications-and-forms/>

The current open positions are City Administrator and Deputy Clerk.



Yard waste — Pickup occurs each Thursday, starting the first full week in April through the last full week of November. Remember to bundle up your sticks. Yard waste must be placed in compostable brown bags. Sticks must be bundled, up to 4 feet long and no more than 40 lbs. Your bags should be placed on the curb by 6 a.m. on Thursdays to ensure they are picked up.

Burning — The City does permit the burning of yard waste within city limits.

Please restrict your burning to the backyard. City Code Chapter 135.07 prohibits any person from burning any trash, leaves, rubbish, or other combustible material in any curb and gutter or on any paved or surfaced street or alley.



VM VAN METER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

- Available to children 4 years old by **September 15, 2026**
- Tuition-free program
- Maximum of 20 students per section
- Openings filled by resident students first
- AM or PM sessions available on a first come first serve basis
- Breakfast and hallway supervision begins at 7:50 AM
- Registration information can be found on our website at www.vmbulldogs.com or email **Bree Ary** at bree.ary@vmbulldogs.com

Class Schedule:
 Monday - Thursday
 AM Class: 8:10 - 11:15 AM
 PM Class: 12:15 - 3:30 PM
No school on Fridays.

- Non-resident students enrolled in preschool at Van Meter are not guaranteed a spot in Van Meter's TK or Kindergarten the following school year. The school's open enrollment policy will be followed.
- Bussing is available for arrival to AM session and dismissal from PM session only. No mid-day bussing.
- No before or after school care is available.



VM VAN METER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN PLANNING

for the **2026-27**
Kindergarten & Transitional Kindergarten school year has started!

Please contact **Bree Ary** at bree.ary@vmbulldogs.com to get the link to sign up your child for this fall.

You can also find the link on the Van Meter School Facebook page or our website!

Utility Bill Payment Methods

Residents may pay utility bills online, by mail, or in person. We are unable to take payments over the phone. We accept cash, checks, cards, and money orders.

- To pay online**, visit the City's online bill pay service at vanmeteria.ourcommunityconnect.com
- To pay in person**, visit City Hall Monday-Thursday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. or Fridays between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. or leave a cash or check payment in the lock box located on the front door.
- To pay by mail**, send your payment to **City of Van Meter, PO Box 160, Van Meter, IA 50261.**

MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Library Hours
1	2 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library (Chalk Art Rainbow)	3	4	5 Stories, Songs & Snacks 12:30 PM	6 Kids Care 8:30 AM <u>Inspired Kids</u> 9:15 AM	7 Saturday Storytime 10:30 AM	Library Hours Monday 10am - 5pm Tuesday 10am - 7pm Wednesday 10am - 5pm Thursday 10am - 7pm Friday 10am - 5pm Saturday 8am - 1pm Sunday Closed
8	9 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library (Cat Leprechaun)	10 Stories, Songs & Snacks 10AM <u>Crafternoon with Ms. J</u> 4 PM	11	12 University Kids Outreach 9:30 AM	13 Ricochet Academy 2 PM	14	
15	16 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library (Clover Friend)	17	18	19 Stories, Songs & Snacks 12:30 PM	20	21 Dallas County Silent Book Club @ Century Farm Books & Brew, 5-7PM	
22	23 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library (Gnome)	24 <u>Stories, Songs & Snacks 10AM</u> Books & Banter 6 PM	25	26	27	28	
29	30 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library (Paper Rainbow)	31	STEM Take & Make - Build Snoopy's Dog House St. Patrick's Day Scavenger Hunt - All Month Long St. Patrick's Day I Spy - All Month Long				



Event Details

- **Gettin' Crafty @ the Library** - Each week, the library will debut a brand-new craft for everyone to enjoy! Materials will be available all week, and no registration is required. Crafts are first come first serve!
- **Stories, Songs & Snacks** - Storytime for ages 0-7! Join us once a week on Tuesdays or Thursdays. See Calendar for exact dates!
- **Saturday Storytime** - Saturday Storytime takes place on the first Saturday of each month. Stop by for stories, songs, and snacks with Ms. J!
- **Crafternoon** - It's Crafternoon time with Ms. J! Sign up to create your own shamrock out of buttons! We have 15 slots available! This crafternoon is here for all adults!
- **Silent Book Club at Century Farm Books and Brew** - Enjoy a relaxed evening of silent reading at Century Farm Books and Brew in Perry on March 21st from 5:00-7:00 PM. No assigned reading—just bring yourself, a friend, and whatever you're currently reading! Registration is required and available on the Van Meter Public Library website.
- **Books & Banter** - Calling all library grown-ups! This book club is just for you. Enjoy food, drinks, and lively book discussion at the library on March 24th at 6:00 PM. Registration is available on our website.
- **St. Patrick's Day Scavenger Hunt** - Can you find all of the St. Patrick's Day items in this month's scavenger hunt? Turn in your completed sheet at the circulation desk and choose a prize!
- **STEM Take & Make** - Grab a kit to bring home and build Snoopy's Dog House! While supplies last, all month long!

Library Hours

Monday 10am - 5pm
Tuesday 10am - 7pm
Wednesday 10am - 5pm
Thursday 10am - 7pm
Friday 10am - 5pm
Saturday 8am - 1pm
Sunday Closed



BINGO

Saturday

March 21, 2026

Dinner at 5:30

BINGO at 7:00



**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**

Irrigation Schedule

The irrigation schedule listed below will be in effect throughout the spring & summer until improvements are made.

Odd numbered properties can irrigate on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5 AM to 8 AM.

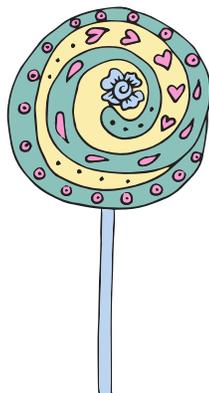
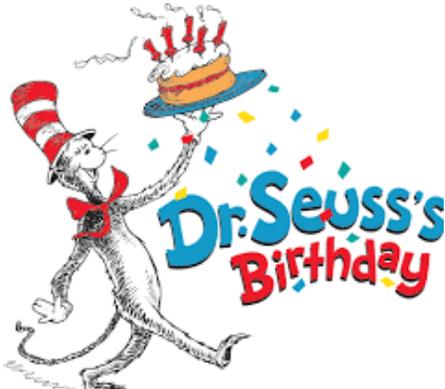
Even numbered properties can irrigate on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 AM to 8 AM.

No irrigation is allowed on Fridays, Saturdays, or Sundays.

New construction will be able to place sod on a case by case basis with watering instructions from Public Works.

Public Works will continue to monitor usage and may change these restrictions if irrigation use endangers the supply of water needed to fight fires.

Dr. Seuss's birthday is Monday, March 2, 2026, which also marks the annual Read Across America Day.



A message from our Code Enforcement Officer:

As the seasons change and we move into the growing season, this is a friendly reminder to all property owners to help keep our community clean, safe, and well maintained.

In accordance with City Code Section 53.02, all properties within the City, other than those used and taxed as agricultural, are required to keep grass and vegetation maintained below 10 inches in height. Regular mowing helps maintain neighborhood appearance and prevents the City from needing to arrange mowing at the property owner's expense if vegetation exceeds allowed limits.

We also ask property owners to ensure that any trash or debris present on their property is promptly cleaned up and properly disposed of. Maintaining clean properties helps prevent health, sanitation, and fire hazards and supports a safe and well-kept community, as outlined in City Code Sections 105.03, 105.04, 105.07, and 105.09. Property owners and contractors should not place or discard construction materials or debris on vacant or neighboring lots, and are responsible for ensuring that adjacent streets and rights-of-way are kept clean and free of construction-related debris.

This notice is intended as a courtesy reminder, and we appreciate your help in keeping our community looking its best. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.



AGREEMENT FOR PREAUTHORIZED PAYMENTS

To sign up for AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL, please complete the form below and attach a copy of a **VOIDED CHECK** from your financial institution. Please mail or bring the completed form to City Hall, 310 Mill Street, PO BOX 160, Van Meter, IA 50261.

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

DEPOSITORY NAME _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP CODE** _____

TRANSIT ABA # _____ **ACCOUNT #** _____

Transit ABA (Routing) Number is the first set of nine (9) numbers from the left 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 (us) of its termination in such time and in such a manner as to afford the City of Van Meter and Depository a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

I (we) hereby authorize the CITY OF VAN METER to provide billing statements electronically via email.

PREFERRED EMAIL _____

SERVICE ADDRESS _____

NAME(S) (PRINT) _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

You will receive your water bill on or near the first of the month. If you choose AutoPay, the amount due will be deducted from the above assigned account on the 15th of each month.