

# HORIZON

## CITY HALL IS MOVING LOCATIONS

City Hall will be **closed** September 14<sup>th</sup> to complete the move to the new City Hall location at **501 4<sup>th</sup> Street**. During this time the staff at City Hall will be unavailable to be reached by phone. We expect that transition to be brief, but please be patient as delays in availability could extend into the 15<sup>th</sup>.



## SECURITY CAMERA PARTICIPATION

The Sergeant Bluff Police Department is asking residents with exterior security cameras, Ring doorbells, or any other video recording system that would be willing to assist them in future investigations that affect their neighborhood to complete the Security Camera Participation Form.

You can download the form here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y8s5xzet> or stop by City Hall to pick up a form. Contact Sergeant Bluff Police Department at 712-943-9603 (M-F, 9-5) or Assistant Chief Rosendahl, [brentr@cityofsergeantbluff.com](mailto:brentr@cityofsergeantbluff.com) with questions.



September 17<sup>th</sup> is National Thank a Police Officer Day. Thank our officers if you see them and turn on your blue light. Blue lights are available for free at City Hall if you don't already have one.

## SEWER RATE CHANGES

This is a reminder that the new sewer rates are in effect for the bill that will be due September 20<sup>th</sup>. Please see the breakdown of those changes at: [www.cityofsergeantbluff.com](http://www.cityofsergeantbluff.com)

## IT'S A TOILET NOT A TRASHCAN

Remember to be cautious about what you put down the drain or into toilets. Household items such as rags (even disposable rags), hair, and hypodermic needles can travel down the mains to a lift station and may cause severe damage to pumps. Once rags are wrapped around the blades, the system is shut down so the rags can be ripped, cut, or torn to untangle them from the pump. In addition, many man hours are required to repair the system and the possibility of rate increases may be needed to pay for the damage. When the system is shut down for repairs, the potential for sewage backing up into basements increases significantly. Please properly dispose of cloth, rags, hair, and other garbage.

## CALENDAR

- Sep 5 – Labor Day  
City Hall Closed
  - Sep 13 – Planning & Zoning Meeting @ 5:30 pm
  - Sep 13 – Council Meeting @ 5:30 PM
  - Sep 14 – City Hall Closed
  - Sep 20 – Utility Bill Due Date
  - Sep 21 – Library Meeting @ 5:30 PM
  - Sep 21 – Parks Board @ 5:30 PM
  - Sep 27 – Council Meeting @ 5:30 PM
  - Sep 27 – Community Action Team @ 12:00 PM
- Recycle Calendars are available at City Hall.
- Food Pantry – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of each month 8-11am

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## ATV ORDINANCE CHANGES

You may now use your ATV/UTV within City limits without registering at City Hall. The following regulations apply to ATV and UTV Vehicles

- ATV's must be registered with the DNR and the registration carried with you
- DNR Registration Decal must be displayed
- You must be 18 years of age and have a valid drivers license
- Liability insurance and proof of coverage must be carried with you
- You must obey speed limits, but may not exceed 35 miles per hour on any road
- ATV must have headlights, tail and brake lights, horn and rearview mirrors
- ATV's may **NOT** be operated in any park or playground, or on any sidewalk



Additional rules and regulations apply. To view the ATV Ordinance and the changes to State law please visit [www.cityofsergeantbluff.com](http://www.cityofsergeantbluff.com)

## SCHOOL IS IN SESSION! BE ALERT!

School days bring congestion: School buses are picking up their passengers, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings, harried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work. It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school.

- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic
- If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.
- Be alert; children are often unpredictable.
- We have a few crosswalk signals in town that have flashing yellow lights - they exist on First Street by Dollar General, at the intersection of Warrior Road and Coffie Farm, and the Intersection of Sergeant Square Drive and Topaz Drive . When they are flashing yellow and pedestrians are present, stop at the lights.





# ILLICIT DISCHARGE REMINDER

## DRAINING POOLS & SPAS

### How can water from pools and spas be harmful?

Water from a spa or pool is routinely treated with chlorine to prevent bacterial growth that can be hazardous to humans. However, chlorinated water is deadly to freshwater aquatic life in Iowa. In order to protect the quality of water that is entering nearby ponds, rivers, and streams, water from a pool or spa is prohibited from being discharged directly into the storm sewer system.



*Chlorinated and saltwater can directly enter nearby streams if discharged into a storm sewer intake (ISWEP)*

### How should you drain your pool or spa?

Prior to draining your pool or spa completely, you must discontinue the addition of salt and chlorine. Test to ensure chlorine is below 0.1 mg/L and the pH is between 6.5 and 8.5 before draining. There are two options for non-salt water discharges. First, discharge directly to the sanitary sewer via a drain in the home. All salt water discharges should be directed to the sanitary sewer. Contact local wastewater authorities to make sure this is a viable option. Or, discharge the pool and spa water across a flat vegetated area (not directly onto paved surfaces). Drain water over at least 15 feet of grassy landscape first to allow the remaining chemicals to dissipate before reaching the storm drain. Keep the water flow low, about 12 gallons per minute to prevent erosion of soil and vegetation. Wastewater from backwash filter systems should be directed to the sanitary sewer through a drain in the home.



*Ensure chlorine levels are below 0.1 mg/L prior to emptying your pool or spa. (PoolCareLab.com)*

### What is an illicit discharge?

“Illicit discharge” is defined as any discharge that is not entirely composed of stormwater (EPA) and can include effluent from septic tanks, car wash wastewaters, laundry wastewaters, improper disposal of auto and household toxics, and water from pools and spas. Pollutants in these discharges significantly degrade water quality in receiving waters and threaten aquatic, wildlife, and human health. Failure to follow the guidelines noted above could result in a fine under City code.

### Learn More!

Contact your City's stormwater coordinator for more information about properly draining your pool or spa. You can also visit [www.IowaStormwater.org](http://www.IowaStormwater.org) to learn more about the importance of preventing stormwater contamination.



*Improper draining of pool backwash onto impervious surface leading to a storm sewer intake. (Cape Water Harvest)*