

AUGUST 2022  
Newsletter

**\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\***

**Smoke Testing in 'Old Town' on August 10th.** Keep a look out for door hangers, with more information, to arrive on August 8th!!!

McClure Engineering, working with the City of Cumming, will be smoke testing sanitary sewers in Old Town. The smoke is: Odor-Free, Non-Staining, Creates No Fire Hazard, Not Harmful to People, Not Harmful to Pets, White to Gray in Color.

The purpose of the smoke testing is to identify locations where storm water and groundwater are entering the sanitary sewer collection system. This burdens the sewer system by unnecessarily increasing its capacity. It is normal for smoke to come out of your roof vents.

Smoke should not enter buildings unless there are leaks or defects in your plumbing. To help keep smoke from entering your building, pour 24 ounces of water into your basement floor drains and all drains in sinks, bathtubs, showers. (For assistance checking or filling drains, please call our project manager at the number on the back of this flyer)

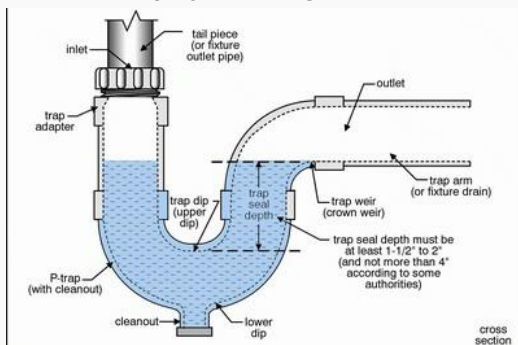
If smoke enters your building, open a door or window to ventilate the room and notify the field crew leader in your area or contact the project manager for additional assistance.

Persons with respiratory concerns are advised to leave the premises during smoke testing.

**If you are disabled, have respiratory problems, or are aware of any shut-ins, please call the field crew member at the number listed below. In the case of an emergency, call 911.**

To reduce the potential of smoke entering your home, pour approximately 24 ounces of water into drains that are seldom used. Also adding vegetable oil will help to slow down the evaporation of water in the P-Traps.

If you need special assistance or know of any individual in your neighborhood who may need assistance, or if you would like additional information concerning schedules or technical info, please contact our **project manager, James Fisher, at 785-393-4499.**



IN THIS ISSUE

Upcoming Events Page 2

August Meetings Page 2

Movie Night Page 2

Volunteers Needed Page 3

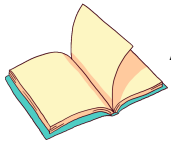
Hometown Pride Page 3

Park and Recreation Page 3

Know Your Neighbors Page 4

City Contact Information Page 4

# Upcoming Events



August 9th - Book Lovers Day

August 10th - Front Porch Cumming



August 20th - National Honey Bee Day



## West Des Moines Public Library

There are fun activities for all ages at the library. Here are a couple of the events this month!

August 5th - 1:30 - 3:15 pm  
Friday Flicks - Turning Red

August 10th - 10:00 - 11:00 am  
Babies on the Move - Treasure Basket

August 12th - All Day  
Friday Craft for Adults

August 22 - 7:00 - 8:00 pm  
Music Literacy: Collecting Vinyl Records

For more information and to register for any classes go to [www.wdmlibrary.org](http://www.wdmlibrary.org)

## August Meetings

All meetings are held in person at City Hall and via Zoom

**August 2nd**

Park & Rec 7 pm

**August 8th**

City Council 7 pm

**August 17th**

Hometown Pride 6 pm

**August 22nd**

City Council 7pm

**August 23rd**

Planning & Zoning 7 pm

## Playing Soon!

**When:** August 26th at 8:00 pm

**Where:** Middlebrook Farm,  
4300 Cumming Ave



Cumming Community Church is providing free popcorn! Make sure to thank them!



## Hometown Pride Banner Project

The banners are the same design but now will be mounted to the ground on a cement pad rather than on poles. The hope with this is to create an art walk where you can walk around town and look at the different banners



Hometown Pride also has been organizing the Front Porch Cumming Events with a lot of success.

Potential Project being worked on by Hometown Pride and Park & Rec is a Little Free Library for City Park.

## Park and Recreation

They have been working on planning the Fall Fest, with such a good turnout last year we are hoping to add more activities. Also, pairing that event with a Founders Day Event to celebrate Cumming.

The Park and Rec Board are also the ones helping with movie night set up and they take care of the flowers at the park. If you enjoy the outdoors, and planning events this could be for you!



## Reasons to volunteer in your small community

- You're needed!
- You can meet new friends
- Learn new skills
- Strengthens the community
- Keeps you aware of what is happening in your community
- Planning projects and events is fun!
- You help make a difference in the community
- Good for your mind and body



## Cumming City Hall

649 N 44th St. PO Box 100  
Cumming, IA 50061

**Hours:** 10AM - 2PM

**Phone:** 515-981-9214

**City Administrator:** Bob Fagen  
bfagen@cumming.iowa.gov

**City Clerk:** Angie Ritchie  
aritchie@cumming.iowa.gov

**Deputy Clerk:** Jessica Smith  
jsmith@cumming.iowa.gov

### The power of knowing your neighbors

Click the title above to read the full article  
by Erica Pandey, author of Axios Finish Line

FRONT PORCH  
CUMMING

JUNE 8  
JULY 13  
AUGUST 10  
6-8 PM

Let's meet our neighbors!

Host or attend a "front porch"  
night in your neighborhood.

Sign-up to host, or find a location  
near you on our facebook page:  
@CummingHometownPride



A majority of Americans don't know most of their neighbors — and they barely talk to the ones they do know.

Why it matters: Strong neighborhoods boost the health, happiness, and longevity of their residents. But over the last several decades, our connections with our neighbors have been fraying.

What's happening: We're leaving our homes with our screens in our hands. The pandemic made us even less likely than we were before to stop and chat with new folks. The stakes: The benefits of knowing thy neighbor abound.

1. Lives saved: In well-connected neighborhoods, fewer lives are lost in tragedies, including natural disasters and mass shootings.
2. Happier aging: Older adults who know their neighbors report a far higher sense of psychological wellbeing.
3. Safer streets: Tight-knit neighborhoods have lower rates of gun violence.
4. Boosted wellbeing: People who know their neighbors are generally cheerier, healthier, and spend more time outside.