

# More Front Page News



Subscribe to the Ely Social for once a month event updates via email

## Sunday, April 2

Legion Pancake Breakfast

## Saturday, April 8

Ely Easter Egg Hunt

## Saturday, April 22

Park & Trail Clean Up

## Saturday, April 22

Plant Swap

## Saturday, May 5

Electrify Ely

## Saturday, May 6

Citywide Garage Sale

## Saturday, May 13

Village of Persephone

## Saturday, May 20

Trash Amnesty Day

## Friday, June 2

Library Summer Block Party

## Tuesday, July 4

Ely Firefighters' Breakfast

## Saturday, August 12

Ely Open Golf Outing

## Sunday, September 17

Fall Fest 5k

## Saturday, September 23

Fall Fest



Ely Website  
[www.elyiowa.com](http://www.elyiowa.com)

Library Website  
[www.ely.lib.ia.us](http://www.ely.lib.ia.us)



## National Poppy Day® Friday, May 26

The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms. Wear a poppy to honor those

who have worn our nation's uniform. All donations received will be used by The American Legion Family for their programs that support veterans, the military community and their families. Poppies will be available for distribution in May.

## Ely Fishing Derby

Come cast a line with us as we spend a summer morning at the City Park Pond for fishing and fun! On Saturday, June 10th Ely Parks and Recreation will host a free event for anglers of all ages. Children & adults will need to reserve their spot online prior to the event. Participants are required to provide their own gear, bait, and valid fishing license. Concessions will be open and available for purchase. Prizes will be given away to winners of different categories. Stay tuned for more information and registration details!

## Salute to the Fallen

Salute to the Fallen is a 501-c3 nonprofit organization bringing awareness and financial assistance to multiple military causes including Gold Star Families, veteran suicide, PTSD, homelessness and much more. With the increase in military suicides this organization will be hosting multiple events throughout the area to help raise funds to care for our Heroes. More information will be announced in the coming months regarding these fundraising and awareness events, stay tuned.

## Register or Renew Your Ely Golf Cart & ATV Permit

A new UTV/Golf Cart/ATV ordinance took effect in 2022. Your UTV/Golf Cart/ATV permit is an annual permit that must be renewed by July 1. The city is working to have the flags in at City Hall by May 1. The registration fee is \$25 per year for Golf Carts and ATV's only, there is no fee for UTV's but you still must register with the city. The City Clerk or Deputy Clerk must inspect the vehicle before issuing a new registration. The permit and more information can be found online or in person at City Hall.

## Water Meters - Radio Reads



With the warmer weather and yards being cleared from melting snow, Public Works will be pushing to get the new radio reads mounted on the outside of homes throughout Ely. These boxes will replace the black rubber rectangles that were previously used to manually read each homes water meter. With this new system, staff will be able to gather meter reads for large sections of town wirelessly, all at once. The goal is for all homes in Ely to have radio reads mounted within two years.

## Pets in Ely

As the weather improved, please remember that pets must be on a leash when they are outside the home or not in a fenced area. We also ask that you please clean up after your pets when you are walking them. There are pet waste stations located along the trail behind City Hall, at the corner of Dows & Main Street and two at City Park.

## Public Works Will Flush Water System in April & May

This is routine maintenance that is performed to maintain good water quality in the system. Throughout this time period you may occasionally notice minor discoloration to the water while the flushing is taking place; the water poses no health risk and is safe to drink. Public Works has a goal of flushing every Ely hydrant in 2023.

## Pool Fills / Outside Water Use

In 2017, the City Council passed an ordinance allowing residents to purchase a second meter to track water that is used outside for watering, pool fills, washing cars, etc. Due to this water not going into the sewer, the City will give a credit for the sewer portion. For more information on the two options available, visit [www.elyiowa.com](http://www.elyiowa.com)

## Legion Flag Program

The Ely Sons of the American Legion invite you to show your patriotism in the community by participating in the 2023 Honor Flag Program. A \$50 donation will provide your home or business with a 3x5' sized US flag, which will then be displayed in front of your property on Memorial Day, Flag Day, July 4th and Veterans Day. Their volunteers will do all of the work - you enjoy proudly flying the flag! For complete details visit [www.elylegion.com](http://www.elylegion.com).

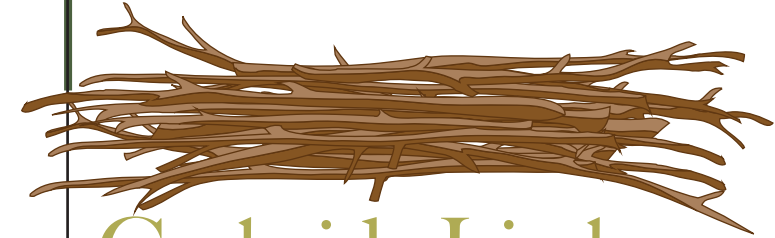
## Ely's Community Garden

Do you want space to grow your own fresh vegetables? If so, Ely's Community Garden plots are your opportunity for quality gardening space. Garden plots are located near Ely's water tower on Jappa Road and must be rented at the start of the season. Gardeners must sign off on and follow the written rules or be subject to losing their deposit. Contact Theresa Grieder 319-848-3074 or City Hall 848-4103 by April 12 if you are interested in a plot of your own.

## Iowa Big – Student Organized Events

**Electrify Ely** is the first event of 2023 organized by Iowa Big Students. Come out to the Ely Legion on Friday, May 5 (Cinco de Mayo!) from 5-8pm for a family friendly event, showcasing performances by various bands from the Eastern Iowa Arts Academy. They will be covering songs from the last four decades, guaranteeing all attendees will have something to enjoy! The cash bar will be open at the Legion and there will be a concession stand with snacks for sale! \$10 entry at the door benefits Eastern Iowa Arts Academy, a local non-profit and Ely Parks & Recreation fundraising.

**Village of Persephone** is the second event organized by Iowa Big Students. This Fairy Festival's intent is to get children excited about nature. The festival will be held May 13 from 9am-6pm and will include craft tables, inflatable jousting, a small craft fair, a costume contest and meet in greets with mythical creatures such as fairies and mermaids. Stay tuned for more information!



## Curbside Limb Pickup Policy April - October

**1** | Brush and limbs will be picked up at your curb by the City of Ely Public Works Department every Tuesday starting at 8am during the months of April - October at no charge.

**2** | All limbs must be cut to a length not to exceed 8' and must be less than 6" in diameter.

**3** | All limbs must be trimmed of their smaller branches.

**4** | All limbs and brush shall be placed by the curb in a neat pile. Please avoid one large pile but rather put in smaller piles for easy hand pickup.

**5** | **DO NOT** tie or bundle brush together. Simply place them in a pile at curbside.

**6** | All brush and limbs will be chipped on site and may leave a small amount of debris. The homeowner will be responsible to "sweep" this up occasionally.

**7** | This service is not intended for the removal of an entire tree but for trimmings only. If you are removing an entire tree, you should arrange to have it removed and hauled away. In the case of a windstorm or an emergency event, this policy may be changed to accommodate the extra material.

**8** | **DO NOT** place leaves, garden waste or grass clippings at your curbside, they will **NOT** be picked up. These items can be taken to the compost bunker near the water tower at 370 Jappa Road.

**9** | If your brush pile does not follow the guidelines listed above, it will not be picked up by the City.

**10** | Questions can be directed to Public Works at 319-848-4260.

**CITY OF ELY**  
1570 ROWLEY ST  
P. O. BOX 248  
ELY, IA 52227

PRSRT STD  
POSTAGE  
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**APR-JUNE  
2023**

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**City of Ely**  
**1570 Rowley Street**  
**P. O. Box 248**  
**Ely, Iowa 52227**  
**Phone: 848-4103**  
**www.elyiowa.com**

**Council Meetings:**  
1st and 3rd Monday  
each month 7:00 p.m.  
in the Council Chamber  
2nd floor.

# Ely Expression

## 2023 Jim Miller Ely Citizen of the Year Award



The Jim Miller  
**Ely Citizen  
of the Year**

Upon the submission of a wonderful nomination, the Selection Committee has named **Rob Smith** the recipient of the **2023 Jim Miller Ely Citizen of the Year** award! Volunteers are the heart and soul of every community which is why Ely is fortunate to have someone like Rob helping

make Ely a better place for us all to call home. After reading through the nomination letter, it was easy to see why.

“Rob Smith has been an important part of the City of Ely for the past 25 years; he is a highly valued member of this community and is appreciated by so many people”. Over the two decades he has lived in Ely, Rob has been active with the Ely American Legion, St. John’s Church Council and various boards and commissions, just to name a few. He has been a preservationist of Ely’s History and was a wealth of knowledge and support throughout the planning process of the Sesquicentennial in 2022. On top of all the hard work that Rob has put into this community, his entire family has also given back in so many ways. Denise, Adam, Abby, and Sam share his passion for altruism.

**For these reasons and so many more, it is our pleasure to announce Rob Smith as the 2023 Ely Citizen of the Year!**

## Earth Day Celebration in Ely

**Saturday, April 22 • Clean Up Day • 9am**

Help us celebrate Earth Day! Volunteers are invited to join the Ely Public Library and Ely Parks and Recreation for a morning of spring cleaning. Together, we will clear winter litter around three local parks, as well as along the bike trail and Ely Road/State Street. Volunteers are asked to meet at the city parking lot on Rowley Street by 9:00am on April 22. Wear long pants, good tennis shoes or boots and gloves to protect your hands. Breakfast snacks and drinks will be provided for volunteers between 8:30 – 9:00am.

**Saturday, April 22 • 10th Annual Plant Swap**

10:00am – 12:00pm in front of Ely City Hall. Plants of all types and sizes are welcome along with other garden related items at the Annual Plant Swap. The number of items you bring can be swapped 1 to 1. Bring your split plants, yard art, mulch, tools, pots, planters, and bird baths! Be sure to bring your split plants in a pot, box, bucket or pail that can go home with the new owner. In case of rain, the plant swap will be held inside the Ely Community Center. If you are interested in helping with the swap, call Teri Billick at 319-389-6808.



### COMMUNITY NEWS

The City of Ely has a website!

Check it out at  
**ELYIOWA.COM**



### Nixle Voice & Text Alerts

The City uses Nixle to notify residents of important alerts and reminders. These alerts include snow emergencies, water main breaks, upcoming events and more. Sign up by texting 52227 to 888-777 or sign up at the bottom of the home page on the city website. If you have questions or need assistance, please call City Hall at 319-848-4103.



### Mayor Miller’s Updates

Stay up to date on the most recent council meetings and city projects by signing up for Mayor Miller’s monthly newsletter. To sign up, send your email address to eldy@elyiowa.com. Contact City Hall if you do not have access to email or you would like a hard copy.

### Like Us on Facebook; Follow Us on Twitter!

That’s “City of Ely, Iowa” on Facebook and Twitter for the most up-to-date information on what is happening with the City of Ely.