

More Front Page News

Ely's Community Garden

Do you want more (or any) space to grow your own fresh vegetables? If so, Ely's community garden is your opportunity for more gardening space. Garden plots will be near Ely's water tower on Jappa Road and awarded on a lottery basis. Gardeners need to follow Ely's community garden rules. The City will not be responsible for the vagaries of gardening in a public place. Please contact City Hall by April 15 if you are interested in a patch of your own in Ely's community garden.

Highland Road to be Resurfaced in 2015

The City Council scheduled Highland Road to be resurfaced in 2015. The work will involve removing the existing surface, placing an improved roadbed, and then placing a new hard surface. The exact schedule of when work will be done is still being put together, with the goal for work to be done before the 4th of July.

Keep Up to Date with American Legion Post #555

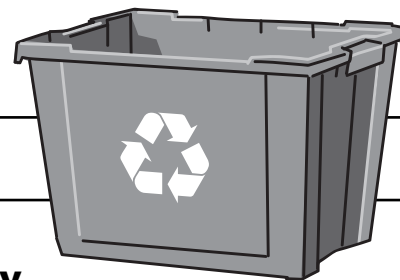
Go to www.elylegion.com to find out what is happening at the Ely American Legion Post, St Quentin Post #555; learn more about the American Legion, and get involved with this great group of people. The American Legion focuses on service to veterans and our community; their website is a great way to learn more about this fine organization and its members, stay up to date with their activities, and learn how you can support their mission and join in the fun.

Direct Payment Authorization is a Convenient Way to Pay Your Ely Utility Bill

We offer the option for you to pay your Ely utility bill by a Direct Payment Plan through your bank checking or savings account. It saves you time (fewer checks to write and mail), saves you money on postage (no stamps) and makes sure your bill is paid on time (so you don't have to pay late fees and so forth). You authorize your payment to be made directly from your bank checking or savings account automatically on the 10th day of the month. Contact City Hall at (319)848-4103 if you want more information about Direct Payment Authorization, or if you want to sign up.

Emerald Ash Borer

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources recently announced Emerald Ash Borer has been confirmed in over a dozen counties in Iowa. The Iowa DNR and IDALS issued a statewide quarantine restricting the movement of hardwood firewood, ash logs, wood chips, and ash tree nursery stock out of Iowa into non-quarantined areas of other states. Specifically, ash trees or firewood must not be moved to any location outside the quarantine area. Tree removal companies must not haul logs or firewood outside the quarantine area unless inspected and treated as required by the regulations." The Iowa DNR reports that all varieties of Ash tree are susceptible to the EAB infestation.



TELL ME ABOUT...

Curbside Garbage Collection and Recycling in Ely

Garbage and recyclables are collected every Monday morning in Ely. Collection begins as early as 6:00 a.m. in the north portion of Ely and ends in the south area of town around noon. If a holiday falls on Monday collection will be the next day. Ely contracts with Waste Management Services, (319)362-9900, for residential curbside collection of garbage and recyclable material. Waste Management uses two different vehicles for collection, one to collect recyclables and the other for garbage/solid waste. Ely residents are charged a base \$7.00/month Sanitation Fee to cover the cost of curbside collection. Garbage needs to be in either a tightly closed 33-gallon can or bag, neither of which should weigh more than 40-pounds when filled and at the curb for pickup. A City of Ely garbage sticker needs to be on each can or 33-gallon equivalent bag out for collection at the curb. Multiple bags/cans are collected at curbside as long as each has an Ely garbage tag. The tags cost \$1.00 each, which pays the landfill fee. Annual tags are available at City Hall for \$52/year, \$1.00 tags can be purchased at City Hall, Casey's General Store or Cleppe's Service Station.



A Reminder to Remove Snow and Ice from Sidewalks

It is the duty of property and homeowners to keep sidewalks abutting your property clear of natural accumulations of snow and ice. Sidewalks need to be free of snow and ice within 24 hours of the precipitation. Our sidewalks will be safely cleared of snow and ice accumulations for our families, friends and visitors with everyone's cooperation.

Use Caution Driving in Winter

Winter has arrived, along with snow and ice accumulations on area streets and roads. Snow and ice on streets and highways requires drivers to be more cautious; and can be very challenging for Ely's Public Works crew to remove. Please keep vehicles off streets whenever possible immediately after snow or ice accumulations so the city crew can remove it efficiently. Also, please stay at least 50 feet behind snowplow trucks during snow and ice removal.

Snow Emergencies

Snow Emergencies are likely to be declared by the Mayor during or immediately after heavy snowfall or ice events. Parking is not allowed on any public street, alley or city owned parking area in Ely during a Snow Emergency or for 48 hours after the snow or ice storm has ended. Parking may be allowed on public streets and alleys sooner than 48 hours after precipitation has stopped only after snow and ice have been cleared from both sides. Notification that a Snow Emergency has been declared will be televised on local TV stations in the same manner as school and other closings. Visit the City's website at www.elyiowa.com for more information.

Winter is the Best Time to Trim Trees

A reminder that the property owner is required to keep trees trimmed so overhanging branches are at least 15-feet above the street and 8-feet above the sidewalk. Please trim your trees between the sidewalk and street to make sure they are not a problem for pedestrians on the sidewalk, or vehicles on the street. By trimming them, or having them trimmed for you, you make sure they remain attractive and do not pose a hazard to people or traffic.

DANGER - THIN ICE!

4-5 inches of solid ice is the recommended absolute minimum thickness to even think about going out on the ice for walking or small group activities. The depth of ice on area ponds, streams and other bodies of water can vary dramatically depending on many factors, it is very important to be aware of the possibility of changing conditions. At one point or another we have all been told we are on "thin ice"; make sure you know how thick the ice is so you can avoid truly being on thin ice.



NEWS FROM OUR TABLE TO YOURS

Our Table to Yours is a food pantry for those in need in the Ely area and a partnered dining service that prepares and serves congregate meals Tuesdays and Fridays at the Ely Community Center. Our supplies come to our shelves housed in St John Lutheran Church, 1420 Walker St, Ely through the kindness of the community donating supplies of food items, paper goods and basic staples. Pantry and dining services began May, 2014 with generous donations of a refrigerator, chest freezer and monetary donations. Thank you for all the support and kindness.

Our Table to Yours is working hard to continue providing delicious and healthy lunches for our friends and neighbors at the Community Center and delivery every Tuesday, Friday and the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We happily accept volunteers to help make dishes for lunch, help serving lunch, deliver meals and help in many other ways. Contact Teri Billick 319-389-6808 for more information.



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

PRSR STD
POSTAGE
PAID
ELY, IA
PERMIT NO. 249

ECR WSS
ELY, IA 52227



Ely Expression

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2015**
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City of Ely
1570 Rowley Street
P. O. Box 248
Ely, Iowa 52227
www.elyiowa.com

Ely Community TV
Channel 266
South Slope Digital Video

Phone/Fax: 848-4103
After Hours Emergency
Only: 848-7603

Regular business hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Council Meetings:
2nd Monday each month
7:00 p.m. in the Council
Chambers 2nd floor.
Public is welcome and
encouraged to attend.

How Can I Dispose of My Christmas Tree?

You can drop-off your once-live Christmas tree at the Ely Public Works area December 26th through January 16th for free. Trees must be cleared of all decorations except for flocking, and should be dropped at the designated tree area by the Ely Public Works shop at 1124 Vista Road. Call City Hall (848-4103) for more details or directions to the drop-off site. Remember that Waste Management will not pick up Christmas trees, so please dispose of your tree properly.

Support Your Friendly Neighborhood Ely Businesses

There are lots of opportunities for you to support Ely businesses, even though Christmas time has sped past for another year. Ely's businesses offer services, goods and other great things ranging from the foundation of your house to the roof, and can build you almost everything in between. Or, step out of the house for a drink or a bite, coffee and delicious baked goods, get your hair styled, get custom shirts and other treasures. Check the EDGE website (elyedge.org/home) for more information on Ely area businesses. Support your friends and neighbors by buying local!

Awesome New Stuff at Ely City Park

New playground equipment designed for kids ages two through twelve and swings were added at Ely City Park in 2014. The new playground gear includes a small climbing wall, slides and other fun attractions. Work on a new restroom and concession building was also finished in early 2015. The new building includes restrooms, a shaded picnic area, and a concession area that will be open during organized sports activities such as youth baseball.

Ely's Grant to Extend Hoover Trail to Ely Community Center

Ely will use grant money through the "Transportation Enhancements Program" to help pay the cost of extending the Hoover Trail from Ely City Park to the Community Center at 1570 Rowley Street. Project bids will be solicited through IDOT's bid system in January 2015, with trail construction to be complete by September 18, 2015.

St John Lutheran Church Expansion

The expansion at St John Lutheran Church is nearly complete after construction of a new, larger sanctuary, foyer, social area, classrooms and staff offices. The church continues to be open during construction.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Website

Have you visited our website?

 elyiowa.com

Need a Space for Your Meeting, Social or Family Gathering?

The City of Ely offers space for meetings, family gatherings, and other social activities at the Ely Community Center (1570 Rowley St.). The building is a non-smoking facility.

Meeting/Activity Room: accommodates up to 25 people.

- \$15.00 ½ day rental - \$25.00 full day rental
- \$25.00 deposit, refundable (ask for details)

Gladys C. Holets Dining Room and Kitchen facility: accommodates up to 60 people

- \$60.00 ½ day rental - \$100.00 full day rental
- \$25.00 deposit, refundable (ask for details).

Call City Hall (319-848-4103) for more information or to arrange your rental.

Cook's Corner

JM Blanchard, Ely Iowa, from the *FallFest 2014 Cookbook*

Eggplant Lasagna

INGREDIENTS:

2 eggplants	1 green pepper - diced
1 jar marinara sauce	Garlic powder
1 pt. mushrooms - diced	Mozzarella cheese
1 onion - diced	

INSTRUCTIONS:

Slice the eggplants lengthwise into ¼" thick slices; coat with olive oil and sprinkle with garlic powder. Broil them in the oven for 10 minutes, turn and broil 10 more minutes. Cook the veggies. Coat baking pan with a thin layer of marinara sauce, place eggplant slices over the sauce (the eggplant slices are your lasagna noodles). Add a layer of veggies, then add layer of marinara sauce and top with mozzarella cheese. Repeat this process for two more layers. Bake for 20 minutes at 350° or until the cheese is golden brown.

This and a bunch of other great recipes are in the FallFest 2014 Cookbook available at City Hall for \$10. All proceeds from cookbook sales go toward FallFest to support Ely's parks and recreation activities.



Visit Ely's Winter Farmers Market for a great variety of locally produced food and goodies in the Library Meeting room from 9:00 a.m. to noon on the following Saturdays: January 10 & 24, February 7 & 21, March 14 & 28, and April 11 & 25. Contact Ali Alldredge, 848-2036 or elyfarmersmarket@gmail.com, if you are interested in being a vendor. Come by for the best in locally made goodies and sundry to brighten your winter.