

City of Van Meter

# Newsletter

June 2022



The City of Van Meter has partnered with the Dallas County Emergency Management Agency to bring emergency and weather alerts to residents. These alerts will only be for the Van Meter area. Stay alert and prepared by texting the keyword to the number below to sign up!

- To receive emergency alerts for the City of Van Meter, text "VanMeter" to 67283.
- To receive weather alerts for the City of Van Meter, text "VanMeterWX" to 67283

**For police or fire service call 911 or the non emergency dispatch number (515-993-4567).**

# Weeds & Nuisance

**WEEDS AND BRUSH.** Dense growth of all weeds, vines, brush or other vegetation in the City can constitute a health, safety or fire hazard. Unless a variance is allowed by resolution of the Council pursuant to 53.05, weeds, brush, or other uncultivated plants, except trees, shall be cut, mowed and maintained so as to not exceed the heights set forth specifically in this Chapter.

Any property within the City, other than property used and taxed as Agricultural, whether vacated or non-vacated, is required to be mowed prior to the vegetation reaching a height of ten inches (10"). Once the vegetation has reached the height of ten inches (10") or twenty-four inches (24"), the City will arrange to mow the property at the property owner's expense.

Property used and taxed as Agricultural is exempt from this chapter's height and mowing requirements.

Any property which is not mowed may be mowed by the City or their agents, and a charge of \$75.00 per hour, (with a minimum of one (1) hour, and any additional time over the first hour will be billed in half-hour increments), for such mowing, plus an administrative surcharge of \$100.00, will be charged to the property owner. Any property owner who fails to mow their property, thus allowing the same to be mowed by the City or their agents, and who do not provide payment for the mowing as required, will be assessed by the City for such costs, which will be collected in the same manner as general property taxes.

- **Definition of Nuisance:** Whatever is injurious to health, indecent, or unreasonably offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property so as essentially to interfere unreasonably with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property is a nuisance.
- **Nuisance Abatement:** Whenever the Mayor or other authorized municipal officer finds that a nuisance exists, such officer shall cause to be served upon the property owner a written notice to abate the nuisance within a reasonable time after notice.
- A nuisance can be "junk" and/or the accumulation of "junk."
- **"Junk"** means all old or scrap copper, brass, lead, or any other non-ferrous metal; old or discarded rope, rags, batteries, paper, trash, rubber, debris, waste or used lumber, or salvaged wood; dismantled vehicles, machinery and appliances or parts of such vehicles, machinery or appliances; iron, steel or other old or scrap ferrous materials; old or discarded glass, tinware, plastic or old or discarded household goods or hardware. Neatly stacked firewood located on a side yard or a rear yard is not considered junk.
- It is unlawful for any person to store, accumulate, or allow to remain on any private property within the corporate limits of the City any junk or junk vehicles.
- Also addressed in the nuisance section of the code are junk vehicles, noise control, animal protection and control, and dangerous and illegal animals.
- In part, the dog ordinance prohibits an owner to allow a dog to run at large within the corporate limits of the City. It is unlawful for the owner of an animal to allow or permit such animal to pass upon the premises of another thereby causing damage to, or interference with, the premises.
- **It is unlawful for the owner or custodian of a dog to permit barking or any other noise excessively, continuously, or intermittently, for any unreasonable period of time so as to create an annoyance or disturbance of any person at any time of day or night.**

[A link to the cemetery rules and regulations can be found under the 'Live' tab on our website.](#)

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## Please Pick up After Your Pets

Did you know it's a violation of City Code to not pick up after your dog if they leave their mess in your neighbor's yard? Please remember to be courteous of your neighbors and bring a bag on your next walk.

# MiFiber

In the Fall of 2022, MiFiber will decide what communities they will consider for the next fully sponsored input of internet fiber in the calendar year 2024. There is no cost to the City to bring internet to residents besides signing up to use the paid service.

- What is needed? 60% of Van Meter resident interest is needed to be considered. (Scan the QR code below to sign up)
- When is it needed? By September 2022 to be considered for Calendar Year 2024
- How can you help? Spread the word by sharing the Facebook post or sharing the QR code below.



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## City Boards and Positions

From time to time, the City finds itself with vacancies on the various volunteer boards and commissions that assist with carrying out the business of the City and direction of the City Council. Please use the form found on our website under the 'Boards' section to apply to any board or commission that you would be interested in serving on. The City will maintain responses for up to a year and should a vacancy exist, applicants will be contacted for consideration.

# Van Meter Raccoon River Days, June 3/4 2022



**VAN METER**  
LAND COMPANY



**Van Meter**  
tradition with a vision



BERNHARDT & SMITH  
ORTHODONTICS



Ronald and Debbie Gebhardt



**Fleet 4 Farm.**

## VAN METER RACCOON RIVER DAYS 2022 DETAILS AT [VANMETERLIFE.COM](http://VANMETERLIFE.COM)

Friday, June 3 - American Legion Event Complex

6:00 PM Hotdogs, Family Activities, Tim Cox DJ  
9:00 PM Fireworks

Saturday, June 4 - American Legion Event Complex

8:00 AM 5K Run  
10:00 AM Water Parade  
4:00 PM Bags Tournament, School Reunion and Tim Cox DJ  
6:00 PM Pork Sandwich Dinner  
7:00 PM Pie Auction  
7:30 PM Live Band - Sons of Gladys Kravitz





2022 RRD Pie Contest and Auction  
Contest is for children and adults.

Van Meter All School Reunion  
Starting at 4pm, Saturday June 4  
Raccoon River Days



Register at  
[Vanmeterlife.com](http://Vanmeterlife.com)



2022 RRD Bags Tournament  
4pm Saturday, June 4, Bring Your Boards  
Register at [Vanmeterlife.com](http://Vanmeterlife.com)

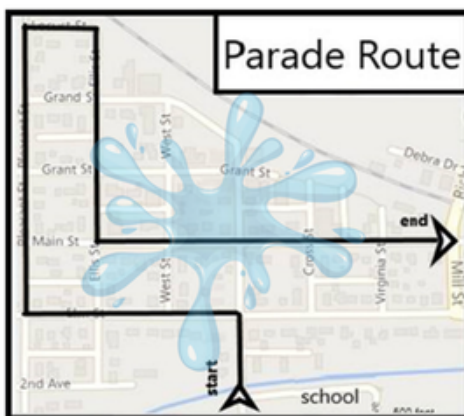
COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS DON'T HAPPEN  
WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS  
PLEASE HELP FOR JUST ONE HOUR



Sign Up to volunteer at:  
[VANMETERLIFE.COM](http://VANMETERLIFE.COM)

# SUPER SOAK PARADE

RACCOON RIVER  
DAYS, JUNE 4, 2022  
10:00AM



Parade Walkers/Riders - Everyone is invited to participate. No registration required. Candy toss to crowd is allowed. Line up at school parking lot if you want to walk/ride in parade.

Parade Attendees: Parade will flow along without water until you see the Fleet Farm Float/Truck. Then the water shooters and water launching can commence.

NO WATER BALLOONS ALLOWED.

Have fun.





## **Children Summer Reading Program**

### **Summer Laugh and Learn- Weekly!**

Wednesday Nights 5:30-6:30pm

Bags will not be available for pick-up.

June 8th: Optical Illusions

June 15th: Father's Day

June 22nd: One Word: Plastics

June 29th: KaBoom! Little Explosions

July 6th: Succulents

July 13th: Chemistry/Art Mashup

July 20th: Board Games

July 27th: Duct Tape Crafts

### **Summer Toddler Time- Weekly!**

Monday Nights 5:30-6:30pm

Wednesday Morning 9:30-10:30am

June 6th and 8th: Camping

June 13th and 15th: Zoo

June 20th and 22nd: Art Museum

June 27th and 29th: Grandma's House

No Toddler Time Week of July 4th

July 11th and 13th: Planes

July 18th and 20th: Boats

July 25th and 27th: Trains

### **Monday Middle School Matinees**

Monday Afternoons 2pm- 4:30pm

Participants will vote between two movies to watch. Snacks provided; please bring your own water bottle.

## **Tween Summer Reading Program**

### **Teen Takeover Thursdays- Weekly!**

Thursday Nights 6pm-8pm

Join Katrina Thursday nights for tween/teen focused crafts, games, movies, and fun. Music and snacks provided; bring your own water bottle.

June 9th: Wooden Bracelets

June 16th: Cult Classic Movie Night

June 23rd: Create A Board Game

June 30th: Soap Carving

July 7th: Adventure Movie Night

July 14th: Mandala Bottle Painting

July 21st: Poetry Slam & Open Mic

July 28th: End of Summer Teen Bash

### **Word of the Week:**

Participants will find a Word and Definition posted in our library each week. Those who find and collect all 8 earn 8 tickets!

### **Post-It Note Book Reviews**

Tweens srop a short review to be stuck to the book and displayed in the Teen section. Get a raffle ticket for each review submitted!

### **Prizes for visiting the library!**

Each event you attend will earn you a raffle ticket. Attend 3 or more for a second ticket, attend all 8 for a third raffle ticket.

## **Van Meter Public Library**

**505 Grant Street**

**[www.vanmeter.lib.ia.us](http://www.vanmeter.lib.ia.us)**