

City Hall - 310 Mill Street, PO BOX 160, Van Meter, IA 50261
515-996-2644 info@vanmeteria.gov www.vanmeteria.gov



VAN METER CEMETERY



The Van Meter Cemetery is located at the end of Richland Circle off of the East side of Richland Road. One of the earliest recorded graves in the Van Meter Cemetery is that of 18 year old Harvey Crowl who passed away of during the Civil War of disease on January 24, 1863. The cemetery holds a rich history of generations of many families in Van Meter. There are still plots available for purchase in the cemetery at the cost of \$500 per plot. One plot will hold 2 cremation urns, 1 cremation urn and 1 casket or 1 casket. City Hall has a map of available plots. The City of Van Meter is in charge of selling plots, marking them for headstone placement, and the opening of the placement hole for cremains. The City of Van Meter does not provide headstones, but does work with monument companies on placement. The City tries their best to make the cemetery a perfect resting spot for your loved ones. Appointments regarding cemetery matters require a meeting with the City Administrator.

Our Public Works Department works hard to keep the cemetery clean and visually appealing year round. The cemetery road recently received a much needed upgrade from gravel to asphalt. The cemetery really is a very tranquil and peaceful source of natural beauty within the City.

MEETING SCHEDULE

May 12, 2025

Regular Council Meeting 7:00pm

Van Meter United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

- Second Reading of An Ordinance Amending Chapter 92 Water Rates of the Code of Ordinances
- Second Reading of An Ordinance Amending Chapter 99 Sewer Service Charges of the Code of Ordinances
- First Reading of An Ordinance Amending Chapter 106 Collection of Solid Waste of the Code of Ordinances
- Public Hearing for a Proposed Amendment to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Van Meter – Addition of Chapter 174 Mailboxes

MEMORIAL DAY

MONDAY

May 26, 2025

City Hall, Public Works, and the Library will be closed in observance of the holiday on Monday, May 26, 2025.

There is no Council Workshop in May.

MAY GARBAGE & RECYCLING SCHEDULE



Garbage & Recycling



Garbage Only



Garbage & Recycling



****Garbage Only**

****GARBAGE PICK UP IS TUESDAY, MAY 27TH DUE TO MEMORIAL DAY.**

Elected Officials:

MAYOR

Joe Herman

MAYOR PRO TEM

Travis Brott

COUNCILMAN

Joel Akers

COUNCILMAN

Blake Grolmus

COUNCILMAN

Quin Pelz

COUNCILWOMAN

Penny Westfall

City Staff:

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Liz Faust

CITY CLERK

Jess Drake

DEPUTY CLERK

Larain Climer

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Drew McCombs

PUBLIC WORKS

Shane Luvaas

PUBLIC WORKS

Spencer Leonard

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Jonatha Basye

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Joan Von Ruden Kruger

PARKS & REC DIRECTOR

Sam Chia

POLICE CHIEF

Mike Brown

FIRE CHIEF

Mark Schmitt

DALLAS COUNTY DISPATCH

515-993-4567

EMERGENCY

911

56th Annual Municipal Clerks Week
May 4th-10th, 2025

In honor of the 56th Annual Municipal Clerks Week, we wanted to thank our City Clerk, Jessica Drake, for all the hard work and time she dedicates to the City. Jess is a Van Meter local, is part of the School Board for the VMCS D, and has been the City Clerk for over two years now. Thank you, Jess, for all you do for the community, the City, and for what you bring to our team. We appreciate all that you do.

Employee Spotlight

This month our employee spotlight is Joan Von Ruden Kruger. Joan works at the Van Meter Public Library part time. She creates and prepares all of the weekly crafts for the kids (4-5 per month, it's a lot of work!). She handles all circulation duties and manages the library when the Library Director is not there. Joan is very dedicated to helping our local library. Joan's one year anniversary with the library was in April, as well as National Library week occurring, and this May, we wanted to highlight all the work she does and the appreciation we have for her being part of our team. She is amazing with patrons; greets everyone and makes them feel welcome. She completed her General Library Staff Endorsement through the State Library of Iowa. This required over 20 hours of continuing education classes plus live Zoom meetings with State Library staff members. Thank you Joan for the contributions you bring to our team! We appreciate your continued dedication and all the tasks you complete to keep our library running smoothly.



Spring Park & Rec Sponsored Events

8:00am
600 Debra Dr
Public Works Shop
SATURDAY
MAY 10, 2025

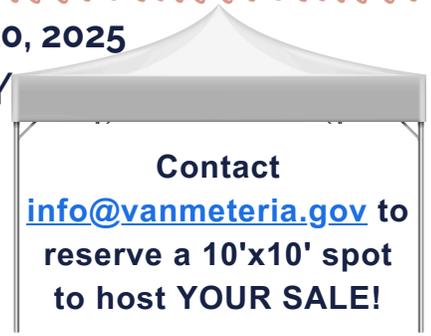


ANNUAL
PLANT
SALE

SATURDAY MAY 10, 2025

COMMUNITY
GARAGE
SALE

Reserve a spot in the parking lot/grass lot of
601 Main Street!
Open to all!



Contact
info@vanmeteria.gov to
reserve a 10'x10' spot
to host YOUR SALE!

Save
the
date

ART IN THE PARK @ JOHNSON PARK - A COLLABORATION WITH VAN METER PUBLIC LIBRARY
Saturday 🎨 June 14, 2025 🎨 June 28, 2025 🎨 July 12, 2025 🎨 July 26, 2025

Save
the
date

Concert on the Corner @ Memorial Park
Sunday 🎵 June 22, 2025 🎵 July 20, 2025 🎵 August 17, 2025

Save
the
date

Yoga in the Park - Saturday Mornings
June 7 🌸 June 14 🌸 June 28 🌸 July 12 🌸 July 19 🌸 July 26 🌸 August 9 🌸 August 23

SUMMER BIBLE SERIES:
"Half Truths"
 FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS Grades 6-9
Wednesdays, June 4 - July 23
 Van Meter United Methodist Church
 100 Hazel Street

Bible Study
 Prayer
 Games
 Hands-On Science

SIGN YOUR STUDENT UP!
 Email: childrensministries@vmumc.com

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

Van Meter Public Library received a grant from the Bock Family Foundation for \$1,500 for Wonderbooks & STEAM Launchpads.

Van Meter Public Library received a grant from the Dallas County Foundation for \$3,000 for Wonderbooks & STEAM Launchpads.

VM Parks & Rec received a grant of \$1000 from Trees Please sponsored by MidAmerican Energy!

Happy Mother's Day
 May 11th, 2025

Cemetery Rules and Regulations Reminders

- Pets, food, and firearms, other than those carried by police officers or used in military honor funeral services, shall be prohibited in the cemetery.
- No person shall drive any vehicle within the cemetery except upon the driveways designed for that purpose, and such vehicles shall not be operated in excess of the posted speed limit 10 mph.
- It shall be unlawful for any person to desecrate or injure the cemetery, or any lot, grave, gravestone, monument, fence, tree or shrubbery therein.
- Grave decorations of all kinds will be removed when in the judgment of maintenance personnel they do not conform to the decorum of the cemetery. Holiday decorations are permitted, but must be removed thirty days after the holiday. Decorations may be removed and disposed of by cemetery personnel.
- The planting or placing of shrubbery, plants, flowers, or grass is prohibited as is the placement of trees.
- No coping or fence of any kind shall be permitted.
- It is prohibited for cremains to be scattered in the cemetery; or buried without the City's permission and notification.
- City staff may handle the placement of cremains upon the request of the family at a fee of \$150 and said fee is established by resolution.
- Only a contractor approved by the city shall perform the opening and closing at any gravesite.

Stormwater Maintenance

With Spring in full bloom, we wanted to share some ways we can keep our stormwater cleaner. Using rainscaping such as rain barrels to collect water, rain gardens, improving your yard's soil quality, native landscaping, and more can help improve the water quality of local creeks, rivers, ponds, and lakes. Common problems addressed by rainscaping are patchy & brown grass, drainage issues, local water quality, community flooding and more.

Learn more about rainscaping here:
<https://raincampaign.org/rainscaping-practices/>

Irrigation Information

Residential and commercial users are asked to use water wisely, practice responsible outdoor water use and voluntarily set irrigation systems to follow a schedule. This recommended schedule applies to all spray irrigation systems for businesses and homes.

Watering is not recommended on Mondays or during the hottest part of the day between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Please irrigate before 10 a.m. and after 5 p.m.

Even numbered addresses are asked to water on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Odd numbered addresses on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Ocean I Spy--all month long Shapes Scavenger Hunt--all month long | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | Saturday StoryTime 10:30AM |
| 4 | 5 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library Guinea Pig | 6 | 7 Preschool Outreach AM & PM | 8 University Kids Outreach 9:30AM Stories, Songs & Snacks 12:30PM Chick-Fil-A Food Truck 11-2PM | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library Door Hanger City Council Meeting 7PM | 13 Stories, Songs & Snacks 10:00AM | 14 Library Board of Trustees Meeting 6PM | 15 | 16 Kids Care Outreach 8:30AM Inspired Kids Outreach 9:15AM End of Year Scoop & Social May 16th 1-4PM | 17 |
| 18 | 19 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library Ladybug | 20 | 21 | 22 Stories, Songs & Snacks 12:30PM | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 CLOSED | 27 Gettin' Crafty @ the Library Butterfly Stories, Songs & Snacks 10:00AM Books & Banter 7PM | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Summer Reading Kickoff 10-3PM |

VAN METER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Hours
 Monday 10:00am - 5:00pm
 Tuesday Noon - 7:00pm
 Wednesday 10:00am - 5:00pm
 Thursday Noon - 7:00pm
 Friday 10:00am - 5:00pm
 Saturday 10:00am - 3:00pm

VMPL Amazon Wish List

Gettin' Crafty at the Library--every week, the library will debut a new craft for everyone to enjoy! Materials will be available all week and registration will not be required.

Stories, Songs & Snacks--story time for ages 0-7. We will have two sessions, Tuesdays at 10:00am and Thursdays at 12:30pm.

Saturday StoryTime--our Saturday storytime will take place on May 3rd at 10:30AM. Stop by for stories, songs & snacks with Ms. J.

Chick-Fil-A Food Truck--Chick-Fil-A will be set up in the library parking lot for lunch on May 8th! Grab a meal between 11-2PM!

Books & Banter--Library Grown-Ups, this book club is for you! Join us for food, drinks, and book discussion! We will meet at The Law Shop in Van Meter on May 27th at 7PM. Registration is required and limited to 20 participants.

End of Year Scoop & Social--Stop by the library from 1-4PM to check out all of the summer activities that Van Meter has to offer! Oh yeah, and get some ice cream!

Summer Reading Kick-Off--Join us on the 31st to kick-off Color Our World, Summer Reading 2025! Sign up, grab some Chick-Fil-A, and adults, we didn't forget about you! The Bean coffee trailer will be here to give you a caffeine boost!

Ocean I Spy--See if you can find all of the items in this month's I Spy challenge!

Shapes Scavenger Hunt--Complete the new scavenger hunt for the month of May! A small prize will be given for completed scavenger hunt cards.



June Events

- June 2: Mini-Comics - 1pm
- June 7: RRD & Book Sale 10am-3pm
- June 10: Adult Program

- Color Mixing- Choosing a book by its color - 6pm
- June 14: Art in the Park - 10am
- June 16: Storytime @ Brenton Arboretum - 10am
- June 17: Darrin Crow Storyteller - 10am
- June 19: Adult Program - Mixology Class - 6pm
- June 20: Do Art Comic Workshop - 10am
- June 23-28: Tiny Art Show
- June 24: Diamond Painting - 1pm
- June 28: Art in the Park - 10am

July Events

- July 8: Adult Program - Puzzle Competition - 6pm
- July 10: Clay Creations - 10am
- July 11: Zoo to You Program - 10am
- July 12: Art in the Park - 10am
- July 15: Dallas County Conservation - 1pm
- July 18: Mural Painting - 10am
- July 21: Minecraft Slime - 1pm
- July 24: Adult Program- Candle Making - 6pm
- July 25: Brenton Arboretum - 2pm
- July 26: Art in the Park - 10am

Summer Reading



Registration for Summer Reading begins May 16th! Program is 8 weeks, from May 31st-July 26th. Multiple prizes are available to win, determined by how many minutes are spent reading.

VMEPC PRESENTS an
End of School Year Community

Ice Cream SOCIAL



16 MAY **1-4 PM**

VM PUBLIC LIBRARY
505 GRANT ST

Totally Rolled Ice Cream Truck will be serving \$7 cups. Stop by to see what's happening in the community with groups from VMEPC, VM 5K Park2Park Foam Fun Run/Walk, and the VM Public Library. All students in Grades K-5 can pick up ONE coupon from the group to receive a free cup. Come find out things your community has going on this summer.

VM 5K FOAM FUN WALK/RUN




| | |
|----------------|---|
| 07:00-07:35am | Participant Registration and Bib collection |
| 07:35-07:45am | Opening Remarks |
| 07:45-07:55am | Warm up Stretch With Dillion Burns |
| 08:00-08:05am | 5k Runners to Start |
| 08:10-08:15am | 1 Mile Runners Start |
| 09:15-10:00 am | Cool down stretch |
| 10:00-10:15am | Group Photo Session |

June 7th, 2025 **800 Debra Drive, VM Recplex**

For More Information:
<https://5kevents.raceentry.com/park2park-5k-fun-run/race-information>





RACCOON RIVER DAYS

Hello Van Meter! Now that spring break is done, we wanted to let everyone know that planning for Raccoon River Days is underway! Please mark your calendars for Friday June 6th & Saturday June 7th for this year's celebration!

We are always looking for community input and if you could help out for an hour or two during the day on Saturday that would be a huge help to us and make the event more enjoyable for everyone. For questions or comments please reach out to us at vmcd1877@gmail.com.

Join us for the parade, family fun events, meat smoking competition, live music, fireworks and more!

FUND EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS • AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS • FUND MINI-GRANTS

Van Meter VMEF

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



DONATE HERE!

All donations are tax-deductible
<https://vmbulldogs.revtrak.net/vmef-donations/>

SUPPORTING STUDENTS, TEACHERS, & VAN METER SCHOOLS SINCE 1994




You will receive a piece of paper, but it means so much more than that. We hope you are proud of your accomplishments because we are proud of you for accomplishing them!

2025 VIC OLSON MEMORIAL

GOLF

Tournament

SUNDAY
AUGUST 3, 2025
8:00am Shotgun Start

\$100 Hole Sponsorship
\$80 Entry Fee Per Golfer

2 PERSON SCRAMBLE
18 HOLES
GOLF CART INCLUDED

AWARDS, PRIZES & STEAK DINNER TO FOLLOW AT THE VAN METER LEGION

PROCEEDS BENEFIT:
Van Meter American Legion Post 403

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Travis Brott (515) 208-4321
travis.brott@gmail.com
Nick Olson (515) 371-9137
nolson84@gmail.com

GOLF: RIVER VALLEY GOLF COURSE
22927 Valley View Trail, Adel, IA 50003
AWARDS, PRIZES & STEAK DINNER:
AMERICAN LEGION POST 403
910 Main Street, Van Meter, IA 50261



Adel Masonic Lodge #80

First Annual Brothers and Bobbers Fishing Event

When: June 7th, 2025
Where: Van Meter School Pond
Time: 9:00am-11:00am

Open to all children ages 9 to 13
Limited spots available
To register, email Brandon Carter at BrandonLCarter81@gmail.com

★ ★ ★

★ **MEMORIAL DAY** ★

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #403 invites you to a light brunch on Monday, May 26, 2025 at the Veterans Reception Center (910 Main St. Van Meter, Iowa) immediately following the service at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery at 8:00A.M.

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Online Bill Pay

The City's original online portal was disabled in late 2024 and was replaced with a new utility account portal. The user access information did not carry over from portal to portal.

If you previously had online access or you would like to set up online access, the steps below detail how to create a user account in the new portal. Account holders are NOT required to set up online access. Please contact info@vanmeteria.gov with questions.

How to Create a Public User Account in the new Utility Portal

Step 1: Go to <https://vanmeteria.frontdeskworks.com/> and click "Create New"

Step 2: Select **YES** to "Are you already receiving utility bills from us?"

Step 3: Enter your account number & utility service address

Step 4: Confirm your account number & utility service address

Step 5: Enter your name, email address, cell phone & set password

You must check the acknowledgement box to proceed.

Step 6: Select "Create Account"

Step 7: After clicking "Create Account", you will receive an email from FrontDesk to confirm your email. Upon confirmation, you can log in.

The confirmation email does time out within 30 minutes.