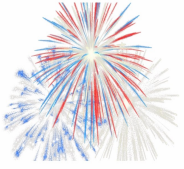


ALMA IS FOR YOU

CITY OF ALMA

Volume 16, Issue 2

June 2022



CONGRATULATIONS!

OFFICE CLOSING

June 20th

July 4th

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Keri Anderson was recognized for 10 years of service with City of Alma. Keri does a wonderful job of keeping the City Library open by hosting events for the children of the community, to keep them involved.



Travis Dunsen was recongnized for 15 years of service with the City of Alma. Travis does a great job of keeping our streets looking nice, our equipment running smoothly, and our sewer system working properly.

City Council Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30 pm at City Hall. These meetings are open to the public and the public is encouraged to attend. Agendas are posted each Friday prior to the meeting at City Hall, Hogeland's Market, Alma Post Office, and Trustworthy Hardware. If there is an agenda item of particular interest to you, the Mayor, City Council and City Staff encourage you to attend the meeting.

COMMUNITY WELLHEAD PROTECTION PLAN

Groundwater is and will continue to be the source of drinking water for the vast majority of Nebraskans, and protection of this vital resource is becoming increasingly important. For example, expanding development may bring with it more potential sources of contamination, growing populations may stress the quantity of water available, and intensive agriculture practices may increase the need for more proactive management strategies. Whether faced with an existing impairment to the water source or seeking ways to prevent contamination, wellhead protection makes good economic and environmental sense. Wellhead Protection is a voluntary program in Nebraska. Public Water Supply Systems (PWSS) in Nebraska have the option of developing a Wellhead Protection Plan. The plan is generally written by a local community official or a technical advisor and provides the PWSS with a detailed account of the potential threats to the system and general management strategies, including ordinances related to wellhead protection.

A Wellhead Protection Area is defined as a surface and subsurface zone surrounding a well that supplies water to a public water system. A wellhead protection area has been mapped or “delineated” for each public water supply well in Nebraska. The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) and other entities used computer models to map the areas. These models take into consideration aquifer characteristics, groundwater flow, river and stream information, and the amount of water pumped by the well. Wellhead protection area maps show:

- ⇒ “Time-of-Travel” zones— areas that contribute groundwater to the well in one, two, ten, and twenty year periods of time.
- ⇒ Wellhead protection area— boundaries that surround the time-of-travel zones, drawn on existing section or quarter section lines, property lines, or easily recognized physical features, such as roads, streams or railroad

The City of Alma is working to adopt Wellhead Protection Plan.

How to dispose of your dog’s waste?

If you are a dog owner you are responsible for Fido’s waste on walks and playtime outside. Here’s a few tips to consider of the environment when disposing of the waste.

DO’s

- Research to find a dog waste bag that is earth friendly before purchasing, such as ones made with starch instead of plastic
- Flush it (without bag) if your municipal sewage guidelines allow
- Bury it, if you are in a rural area. Waste should be buried at least five inches underground, away from vegetable gardens and water sources
- Transport it to an industrial composting facility that accepts dog waste.
- Use a dog-waste only compost bin
- If you have no other option, put the dog waste in an environmentally friendly bag in the regular trash, although it will end up in the landfill.

DONTs

- Use single-use plastic bags
- Put it in your home garden compost pile or municipal yard waste collection bins
- Leave your dog waste for someone else to clean up; often times it causes public health concerns



Downtown Drainage Project

As most citizens of Alma are aware, we have a terrible ice problem in the winter on the south side of the streets in the downtown area. After sidewalks are cleared of snow, it melts in the curb and has no where to drain. This results in the melted snow refreezing overnight and becoming an ice hazard.

In 2012, the City requested a project estimate from our engineering firm. The project was estimated to cost \$83,550.00. At the time, funds were not sufficient to tackle the project and so it was tabled.

In 2015, we took another look at this project with the engineer's estimate being \$175,545. The lowest bid received was \$172,189. However, only \$83,000 was budgeted for the project based on the 2012 figures. With the project being more than doubled in cost, it was not moved forward.

Resulting from the COVID pandemic in 2020, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) disbursed federal funds to municipalities and counties to aid with a range of issues. Water, Sewer, and Storm Water are allowable for municipalities to spend these funds on.

The City Council approved to utilize the ARPA funds to proceed with the Downtown Drainage project. On May 2, 2022, the City Council approved the project to the lowest bidder at \$137,790.80. Construction will depend on the Contractor's schedule but is anticipated to start in Fall 2022.

Camera Systems

The City of Alma has started the process of installing surveillance cameras throughout the city with the intention of improving public safety and deterring criminal activity. The system being installed has the capability to add additional cameras in the future to cover other city properties.

Two sets of cameras will be installed to cover a few blocks of main street in the downtown area. We have had issues with after hour activity in the downtown district that has resulted in damaged property. Video evidence could aid law enforcement in resolving those issues.

Another set of cameras will be installed at the recycling area. In the past, items have been dumped on the ground during night hours only to be discovered and cleaned up by city staff. We will be able to gather license plates to have the sheriff's office issue citations if needed.

The third set of cameras will be installed at the swimming pool to enhance public safety. These cameras will monitor the outside pool area, the front area of the bathhouse, and the inside office area.

The cameras are scheduled for installation this summer or fall. All recordings from the cameras will be maintained on a city-owned server. The only other entity the City would possibly share the recordings with would be the local sheriff's office. Videos will be kept for at least 30 days.





HOESCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

PAGES FROM THE HOESCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

PAGES FROM HOESCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

LOCATED IN THE CITY PARK

308-928-2600

*Open Tuesday through Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon*

NEW card catalog: <https://alma-pioneer.bywatersolutions.com>

NEW webpage: <https://libraries.ne.gov/alma>

Our email: almalibry@gmail.com



SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Parents are sailing in with their children to register for this year's "Oceans of Possibilities" Summer Reading Program. Children ages 18 months through 6th graders can read 20 minutes a day to get coupons provided by local businesses so be sure to sign them up by June 3rd at the library, or on our webpage, and pick up a summer reading bag.

No registration is needed for weekly story times, which is the other part of Summer Reading. Any child 3 to 5 years old can "fish" for ocean life Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. from June 8 through July 6. Those who were in Kindergarten through 3rd grade will be "diving" into some fin-tastic story times about oceans and ocean life those same Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Those who complete their 30 days of reading and turn in their sticker sheets by July 5th will get to come to the Summer Reading party on Wednesday, July 13 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. to check out their honor book first and get a prize.

***NEW: TEENS** (7th - 12th grade) can "swim" in to pick up a Summer Reading Bingo sheet to complete for a prize and an honor book through June 6th. Challenge your friends to see how many can complete a Bingo along with you. If you need a library card, or need to renew yours, please be sure to bring proof of your physical address (bring a parent along and they can show proof for you!)*

BOGG'S BALLOONS PROGRAM

Thanks to our Central Plains Library System and the CPLS Board, this summer we will have a young man, Ethan Boggs, present a program on making balloon creatures to go along with our Summer Reading Program. Mark your calendar for Thursday, June 16, 2022 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. and bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors' and friends' children. We will start registering children ½ hour ahead of the 4:30 start time, as there will be a random drawing for one (or more) of his creations. This program is brought to you through the use of ARPA funding from Central Plains Library System.

NEBRASKA HUMANITIES SPEAKER

Jonis Agee, the author of this year's One Book One Nebraska choice "Bones of Paradise" is coming to Hoesch Memorial Library on Tuesday, August 9. Jonis Agee is a Nebraska author whose presentation is entitled "Bones of Paradise: A Novel Examined." Her novel "offers readers a multi-generational saga set in the Nebraska Sand Hills. Agee discusses how she came to write this story in this setting, and shares her approaches to research, character development and more." This book is available for checkout at Hoesch Memorial Library.

Our program is brought to you through use of ARPA funding from Central Plains Library System.

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Teens interested in creating a TAB (Teen Advisory Board) please come in and visit with Keri and Breanna. We would like to have a group of 5-6 who could meet once or twice a month to give us ideas on books teens are reading, activities that would interest teens at the library, and other ideas they could help bring about.

~ ~ A little bit of everything ~ ~

Pool passes-2022

\$50 Individual Pass

\$80 Family Pass

\$3.00 Daily Pass

\$150 2hr Pool Party



Swimming Pool Hours

1-8pm Monday –
Sunday

5-6 pm Monday –
Friday Adult swim

HOW CAN I PROTECT MY FAMILY FROM CROSS CONTAMINATION?

- 1. Check your water softener or other in-home treatment device to insure that any drain lines have proper air gap prior to entering the sewer line. The floor drain is considered a sewer line and there should be an air gap if the drain line runs into the floor drain.**
- 2. Check all faucets where a hose might be connected and install a hose bib vacuum breaker to protect these connections.**
- 3. Install a Pressure Vacuum Breaker on your underground sprinklers and have it tested annually when the sprinklers are turned on for the season.**
- 4. If you have a boiler for home heating, make sure to fill them so the water level is higher than the fill spout.**



The City of Alma has a Fair Housing Ordinance that is designed to prohibit discrimination in housing. It is the declared policy of the City of Alma that all persons shall have an equal opportunity for housing, regardless of sex, race, color, handicap, religion, national origin, sex or marital status of the person maintaining a household, lawful source of income, age or ancestry. The ordinance is deemed an exercise of the police powers of the City for the protection of the welfare, health, peace, dignity and human rights of the people of this City. For more information regarding Fair Housing, please visit https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/online-complaint.

Summer Compost Hours

Monday 9 am–Dark

Wednesday 9am – Dark

Saturday 9 am – 3:30 pm

If these hours do not work for your schedule, you have another couple options. You may rent a key for the year (Jan 1 thru Dec 31) for \$100 or you can check out a key for 24 hours for \$5. Both require a \$20 security deposit check.

ALMA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Tournaments:

June 11 - 2-Couple Invite - 1 pm start

June 17 - Bach Oil - 10 am start

June 25 & 26 - 3-Man - 7:30 am start

July 9 - Course Fund Raiser - 12 pm start

July 16 & 17 - Member Guest - TBD

July 30 - 1-Man TBD

August 5 - Seniors TBD

August 13 - Hospital Fund Raiser - 10 am start

August 27 - Alma Club Couples - TBD



Everyday of the week

\$15 for 9 holes

\$25 for 18 holes

Daily Cart Rentals

\$15 for 9 holes

\$25 for 18 holes

Summer Bar Hours:

Monday thru Thursday (4:30 pm)

Fri., Sat, Sun. (8:00 am till close)

Did you know EMC Insurance companies pay a dividend for a Municipality Safety Program? Thanks to the leadership of the mayor, city council, and outstanding city employees. Mayor Haeker proudly accepts a check from Agent Nate Waggoner at Waggoner Insurance for \$19,349.24. In the previous four years the city has received a total of \$55,593.56 from the safety dividend program.



GAS PIPELINE SAFETY

As one of the thousands of people who live or work near pipelines, you can help keep it safe and reliable by doing the following:

- | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|
| A) notify us with your intention to dig | B) identify our pipelines; | E) immediately report a leak. |
| C) recognize a leak; | D) take appropriate steps if you notice a leak | |

The City of Alma cares about your safety. Our employees are thoroughly trained to operate and maintain the system safely. We want you to be aware of our pipelines. We ask for your help in preventing accidental damage to pipelines. The City of Alma supports the Nation's Homeland Security efforts and the City of Alma encourages you to immediately notify and report any suspicious persons and/or activities near the pipeline to your local law enforcement authorities by calling 911.

A) NOTIFY US WITH YOUR INTENTION TO DIG – CALL 811—"diggers hotline"

We need your help in preventing pipeline emergencies. The number one cause of pipeline leaks is damage from earth-moving and construction equipment and tools owned by parties other than the pipeline company. If you plan to dig or do any type of excavation or construction work, call **Diggers Hotline at 811**. Call at least 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) before you:

Excavate	Install drain tile	Repair or rebuild roads or driveways
Grade	Blast for clearing	Build homes or additions
Auger	Dig postholes	Install water lines, sewer lines
Bore	Cut or deepen ditches	septic systems, or drains
Tunnel	Install swimming pools	Install telephone, TV or power, cables
Dredge	Plant trees or shrubs	

B) IDENTIFY OUR PIPELINES -HOW TO IDENTIFY WHERE THE PIPELINE IS LOCATED

Since pipelines are buried underground, line markers are used to indicate the approximate - *not exact* - location of the pipeline. Line markers can be found where the pipeline intersects a street, highway, or railroad. However, they cannot be relied upon to indicate the exact position of the pipeline. The pipeline may not follow a straight course between markers, which provide no information on the depth or number of pipelines in the vicinity. Don't try to guess the pipeline's location or route by the marker's placement. Call Diggers Hotline at **811**.

C) RECOGNIZE A LEAK HOW TO RECOGNIZE A PIPELINE LEAK WHEN NEAR A PIPELINE RIGHT OF WAY. **LOOK FOR:** Fire or explosion near pipeline, a white cloud or fog, dying plants amid healthy ones, unusual blowing of dirt or dust, persistent bubbles in water, or pool of liquids, possibly bubbling. **LISTEN FOR:** Hissing or roaring sound. **SMELL FOR:** A pungent odor, sometimes like rotten eggs.

D) TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS IF YOU NOTICE A LEAK— WHAT TO DO?

E) IMMEDIATELY REPORT A LEAK— WHO TO CALL?

☆☆☆		
☆ Immediately leave the area - on ☆ foot - in an upwind direction.	Avoid making contact with escaping liquids or vapors.	Warn others to stay away from the area
☆ DO NOT drive into an area in ☆ which you encounter a leak or ☆ vapor cloud	Abandon all equipment being used in the area.	DO NOT try to operate any pipeline valves yourself
☆ DO NOT light a match, start an engine or automobile, use a telephone, or switch on/off an ☆ electric light or appliance.		
☆☆☆		

From a distant phone, call the City of Alma (308-928-2242) or the On-Call phone if after hours (308-920-1047) OR call 911 or your local fire, police or sheriff's office. **DO NOT** use a cell phone while near the suspected emergency area.

CITY OF ALMA

614 Main Street
PO Box 468
Alma, NE 68920



Phone: 308-928-2242
Fax: 308-928-2683
E-mail: cityclk@almacity.com

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer

City of Alma—Contact Information



Visit us online at:

www.almacity.com

After Hours On-call Cell
308.920.1047

City Hall
308.928.2242

City Hall Office Hours
Mon-Wed-Fri
9am-4pm
Tues & Thurs
9am-3pm

Golf Course

928.2341

Library

928.2600

Sheriff

928.2147

School

928.2131

Hospital

928.2151

Compost Site Hours

Monday & Wednesday
9am to Dark
Saturday 9am-3:30pm

Library Hours

Tues-Wed-Thurs
10am-8pm
Fri- 10am-5pm
Sat-9am—12pm
Sun & Mon - Closed

Councilmen

East Ward

Dyann Collins 999-0070
Tom Moulton 920-1105

West Ward

Chris Tripe 920-1417
Larry Casper 512-484-4377

Mayor

Hal Haeker 928-2900

Administrator

Lorri Bantam

Treasurer

CeeAnn Affolter

Clerk

Utility Superintendent

Russ Pfeil

Water Superintendent

Scott Kuhl

Waste Water & Street Superintendent

Travis Dunse

Sanitation Superintendent

Bowde Johnson

Utility Floater

Kent Fleischmann

Library Director

Keri Anderson

Golf Course Super.

Jordy Slocum