A Big Year for I-74

The new I-74 River Bridge arches are underway! The arch is one of the most complex aspects of the project and it’s beginning to take shape. The process to erect the first arch for the new Iowa-bound bridge began in March and will continue over several months. Contractors are also working to complete the bridges and ramps on both sides of the river and expanding Iowa-bound I-74 to three lanes in Moline and Bettendorf.

Detour and Local Traffic Routes

Due to construction, traffic must be routed off of sections of the interstate onto local roads. What you need to know to navigate.

- Iowa-bound interstate through traffic will be detoured to I-80 and I-280.

- Traveling to Bettendorf? Continue on 19th Street to River Drive to take the Iowa-bound I-74 on-ramp. There will be no access to Iowa-bound I-74 at 7th Avenue in Moline. Iowa-bound traffic should use both lanes on the river bridge and merge one at a time at the merge point. Motorists will need to take the first exit, which goes to Grant Street/U.S. 67 in Bettendorf.

- Through May 2019, local traffic in Bettendorf will need to take 14th Street to Kimberly Road to Middle Road to access westbound I-74. Trucks must continue on Kimberly Road to Spruce Hills Drive to get on westbound I-74.

- Beginning in June, the local traffic route in Bettendorf will change. Iowa-bound bridge traffic will still exit at Grant Street/U.S. 67 but then motorists will use the existing on-ramp at 14th Street to get on westbound I-74.

- Downtown, businesses, and all special events will always remain accessible throughout construction.

How Long Will the Detour be in Place?

Traffic routed to 19th Street in Moline will be moved to the new lanes on Iowa-bound I-74 by the end of 2019. However, the Iowa-bound bridge will continue to be reduced to one lane and traffic will need to exit at Grant Street/U.S. 67 in Bettendorf until the new Iowa-bound bridge is complete. It is anticipated that the new Iowa-bound bridge will open to traffic in the first half of 2020.

You’re running late to work and just when you’re about to make it to the first exit after crossing the I-74 bridge, some guy in the left lane is zipping by traffic and jumps ahead of you! What’s up with that? Actually, the Iowa Department of Transportation needs motorists to use both lanes because it allows more cars on the bridge and reduces backups on the ramp and River Drive in Moline. To keep traffic moving, each driver in the right lane should allow one car to merge ahead of them where the left lane ends. This is called a zipper merge.

Drive Safe

Please remember to slow down, be cautious, and expect delays. Do not block intersections or the railroad tracks. Signs will guide motorists through the detour and local route and message boards will announce train delays in Moline.

Don’t drive on autopilot! We know you’ve been driving through the Quad Cities for years and know what to expect at each intersection. But it’s important to pay attention to signs and pavement markings this year. Many intersections have new traffic signal timings and new lane configurations including dual thru-lanes and dual turn lanes. Motorists should drive with caution.

The 2019 stage of construction will be the most difficult for motorists. The Iowa and Illinois departments of transportation will continue to monitor construction progress and traffic patterns and make route improvements where there are opportunities to do so.

Follow the progress at www.I74RiverBridge.com and on social media @I74RiverBridge. Questions about the bridge construction? Call the I-74 Project Hotline at 1-866-474-4255.
Our City is well known for its quality of life, with beautiful parks, wonderful neighborhoods, and an ever growing business community. This is very apparent in our downtown/riverfront area.

The Bridges Apartments is a $22 million investment in our downtown. Tenants are comprised of empty nesters, young professionals, and families. It is expected to have 90% occupancy by the end of summer. The City anticipates a multi-level mixed use development, just north of The Bridges, breaking ground and under construction in 2019. We are excited to work with the developer on this project. It will be a great addition to the downtown corridor. Ascentra Corporate Headquarters is a $12 million project that will bring over 100 jobs to our community. Ascentra is planning a grand opening this August.

Other new additions to the downtown/riverfront area include the renovations to the State Street Fire Station and the addition of Hutchinson Plaza, which is located in front of City Hall. The plaza, which was named after former Mayor Ann Hutchinson, has a fountain, paths, benches, and well-orchestrated plantings. Also near the riverfront is the Jetty Park, which is next to the Isle’s marina. This park offers ADA-accessible fishing piers, landscaped areas with benches, and a bike path. It is a great place to hold a reception or a quiet place to enjoy the river view.

And of course, the new I-74 River Bridge construction continues with contractors erecting the basket-handle arch, which is one of the most complex aspects of the project. The 2019 stage of construction will be the most difficult for motorists. But, when the project is completed, we will have a state of the art bridge that most certainly will be a destination point for the Quad Cities.

Remember, drive safely, give yourself extra time, and please be patient during construction.

In an effort to continue striving forward and offering the best amenities to our community, city officials and the Parks & Recreation Department conducted a Feasibility Study, managed by the firm Perkins+Will out of Chicago. The purpose for the study was to assess which of our recreational facilities should be improved or potentially replaced based on both the market analysis and the communities input. The aging facilities involved in the study included the Herbert D Goettsch Community Center, Splash Landing, and the Life Fitness Center. The formal report has been released to city officials. The Steering Committee continues its relationship with Perkins+Will working to come up with some conceptual drawing options for a proposed new facility. Once the drawings are prepared, a final recommendation will be given to the City Council and Park Board. The City will then decide whether to move forward with a potential project and a possible referendum to complete any suggested new facilities.

Finally, with the rough winter we endured, detours due to construction, and flooding in our City, it is time to enjoy what Bettendorf has to offer this summer. There is something for everyone, even your four-legged friends. Visit our webpage at www.bettendorf.org or follow the City on Facebook and Twitter to check out the great events and festivities. We look forward to seeing you this summer!
Summer Concert Series is Back

The Library’s Summer Concert Series runs from June 6 through August 8. The concerts will take place on Thursday evenings at Faye’s Field, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. There will be no concert on the 4th of July. Enjoy repeat and first-time performers, such as 10 of Soul, Class of ’82, Mo & Co., The Generations Band, Joe and Vicki Price, and more! Visit the Library’s webpage at www.bettendorflibrary.com for a complete schedule.

Don’t Miss the Discovery Fair

On Saturday, August 17 from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. visit the Learning Campus and check out the Discovery Fair. Highlights this year will include Miller’s Petting Zoo, an extravaganza of bubbles (hands on experience with large professional bubble wands and devices), face painters, balloon artists, STEM classes and experiences, and much more. There will be something for everyone.

Movies in the Park

Beginning at sundown, you can watch some of your favorite flicks on a large inflatable screen at Veteran’s Memorial Park, 1645 23rd Street. Admission is free and open to all ages. For more information call 563-344-4113.

Family Museum’s New Traveling Exhibit

Video games and cartoons take up a lot of children’s time, and the Family Museum’s newest traveling exhibit, Run! Jump! Fly! Adventures in Action, is out to combat childhood inertia. The exhibit, running June 8 – September 8, 2019, invites children and adults to explore activities such as kung fu, surfing, snowboarding, yoga, and horizontal climbing. The primary goal of the exhibit is to get kids into action by playing and doing things they like to do.

This year’s Be Downtown event will take place on Saturday, June 8 AND Sunday, June 9 and will include Quad City Arts’ Chalk Fest. Downtown businesses will host open houses and pop-up shops.

Saturday’s festivities begin at Noon–8:00 p.m. with live bands, acoustic musicians, chalk artists, beer tastings, food, family fun zone, and more!

Sunday’s festivities begin at 10:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m. with more acoustic musicians, food, and the chalk artist final artwork on display.

Activities will be in River’s Edge parking lot, 1805 State St., Ascentra Credit Union Headquarters’ parking lot, 2019 Grant St, and throughout the downtown area.

What’s new at Palmer Hills

The driving range has undergone vast improvements this spring. The old tee line has been replaced with state of the art Fiberbuilt synthetic turf and each new hitting station features adjustable height tees. Also, protective netting has been installed down the west and south side of the range.

The construction of the new practice putting green, and 13th hole were finished last fall. The practice putting green doubles the size of the existing putting green and is located adjacent to the #1 tee box.

The #13 hole will become the shortest and most exciting par 3, due to the shape of the green, position of the bunkers, and the collection areas around the green.

What’s Free, Educational, and A Lot of Fun?

It’s the Bettendorf 101: City Citizen Academy! This is a free seven week workshop that gives residents an in-depth look at how their city operates. You must be a Bettendorf resident and be at least 18 years old.

The City hosts two academies each year. Classes are held on Thursday nights from 6:00-9:00 p.m. with the exception of the bus tours. The fall academy will begin in September.

To register for the next available academy, email your name, address, phone number, and email address to lhaldeman@bettendorf.org or call 563-344-4033.

For more information visit www.bettendorf.org and click on Public Info button on the main page.
General Information Numbers

City Hall
563-344-4000
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday

City Administrator
Decker Ploehn
563-344-4007
dploehn@bettendorf.org

Police Department
563-344-4015
Emergency: 911

Fire Department
563-344-4030
Emergency: 911

Family Museum
563-344-4106

Library
563-344-4175

Human Resources
563-344-4009

Economic Development
563-344-4060

Garbage, Yard Waste & Recycling
563-344-4088

Sewer and Garbage Fees
563-344-4003

Community Development
563-344-4100

Code Enforcement
563-344-4064

Building Inspection
563-344-4074

Parks Administration
563-344-4113

Community Center
563-344-4112

Splash Landing
563-344-4124

Life Fitness Center
563-344-4119

Palmer Hills Golf Course
563-332-8296

---

Sign Up for Alert Iowa

Alert Iowa is a statewide emergency messaging system that can be used by the state and cities to disseminate emergency information. Messages can be issued via landline, wireless phone, text, and/or email. If you would like to receive alerts issued from the City of Bettendorf, select "Bettendorf" in the community section. This system is offered through the Scott County Emergency Management Agency and the State of Iowa.

To learn more about Alert Iowa or to sign up, visit www.bettendorf.org and click on the Alert Iowa link located on the main page. If you do not have internet access and you need help registering, please call 866-998-9367.

Citizen Request Application

The City now offers YourGOV, a free innovative citizen request application that allows residents to conveniently report non-emergency issues/service requests using the web or their smartphone.

In just a few steps, YourGOV users can submit common issues such as potholes or vandalism, complete with location, details, and photos. Once submitted, YourGOV will automatically deliver requests to city staff.

To submit a request or to learn more about the application, visit www.bettendorf.org and click on the YourGov icon on the main page.

Users of the Apple iPhone can download the free YourGOV app in iTunes App Store. Users of Android smartphones can download the free app in the Google Play Store.
Celebrate Your Independence in Your Hometown!

On Thursday, July 4, don't miss the 4th of July parade beginning at 10:00 a.m. in downtown Bettendorf. There will be plenty of floats, music, and of course candy!

The 4th of July Festival begins at Noon along Spruce Hills Drive in front of Cumberland Square. Mayor Gallagher and the City Council will serve free ice cream. There will be two stages with some of your favorite local bands. Enjoy great food, rides, petting zoo, and crafts. Festivities will end with fireworks at Middle Park.

Beginning June 1, visit the city’s webpage at www.bettendorf.org to view more information about the July 3 and July 4 festivities.

Wednesday, July 3
Adam Cunningham in Concert

This free concert will be held on the west stage near 18th Street on Spruce Hills Drive.

Wonder What Sewer Fees Are Used For?

Residents are charged a quarterly sewer fee based upon their consumption of water. Those fees fund the activities of the Sewer Division within Public Works as well as Community Improvement Program (CIP) projects. The fees also cover the City’s share of treatment costs that are paid to the City of Davenport as all of the City’s sewer flows through a large interceptor sewer and is treated at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, both located in Davenport.

The Sewer Division is responsible for the routine maintenance of the sanitary sewer collection system. Residents are responsible for the sewer lateral that connects their home to the sewer main, including the connection itself. Maintenance of the system involves jetting and cleaning, removal of roots and other debris, closed circuit televising of the sewer mains and minor repairs to the mains and manholes.

Major sewer rehabilitation, reconstruction, or extension projects are administered through the Engineering Division and the City’s CIP. These projects annually include cured in place pipe lining where older mains are lined to restore structural and flow capacity, as well reduce the amount of stormwater infiltration. This work is done from the surface without the disruptions or costs associated with open cut excavations. Other projects include manhole rehabilitations and main extensions. The City is also preparing to begin a large Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study to help identify areas with significant amounts of infiltration and inflow and prepare plans to address it. This work will involve extensive field investigations including manhole inspections as well as smoke and dye testing of the mains. More information will be provided to residents once this work is scheduled.

For more information on the City’s sewer collection system please contact the Public Works Department at 563-344-4088.

Crime Prevention

With summer fast approaching, the Police Department would like to remind you of these crime prevention tips.

-Keep vehicles locked and windows up when not occupied. Do not leave ignition keys or valuables inside. Many vehicles contain garage door openers, which allows easy access to garage/home, so always lock your vehicle. Call 911 immediately to report any suspicious activity.

-Keep all doors closed and locked. This includes residences, patio doors, garages, and sheds. Burglaries are more prevalent in the summer, and can even occur when the homeowner is in their backyard.

-Bikes are a big theft problem during summer months. Lock up bicycles in garages or with chain locks. Write down bicycle’s serial number in case it is stolen.

-Avoid home improvement scams. Be aware of anyone looking to perform unscheduled home repairs, or asking to gain entry to your home. Ask for identification, and contact their company to verify legitimacy. Do not agree to pay for home improvement services until the work has been completed satisfactorily.

-Vacation plans? Stop mail delivery/newspapers or have someone you trust pick them up. Set lights on a timer. Do not post on social media that you are leaving for vacation. You can post fun vacation photos after returning.

-Talk to your neighbors about forming a neighborhood watch group.

If you have questions or would like to join a neighborhood watch group, call the Crime Prevention Unit at 563-344-4037.

Have a safe summer from the Bettendorf Police Department.
Be a Good Neighbor, Follow City Codes

- Excrement discharged by animals on public or private property must be picked up immediately and disposed of properly.
- Pets are not allowed to run at large within the City. An animal can be walked off the premises as long it is on a leash not more than six feet in length and under the control of a person competent to control the animal.
- Weeds are required to be cut when growth exceeds 10 inches in height in developed areas or within two hundred feet of developed areas or urban streets.
- Do not leave grass clippings on the sidewalk or in the street.
- Garage sale can operate during daylight hours for no more than three consecutive days.
- No more than three garage sales in a calendar year.
- Only personal property may be sold at garage sales. No items purchased for resale or sold on consignment may be offered for sale.
- Recycling and trash bins must be stored, when not at the curb for pick up, behind the front setback of house. Also, bins must be removed from the curb within 12 hours of pick up and placed at the curb no sooner than 12 hours before the day of collection.
- No signs may be placed in the right-of-way, which is from the back of the curb to the inside edge of the sidewalk. Signs cannot be attached to utility poles.
- All trees, plants, and shrubs on private property must not interfere with the public, city departments, or franchised utilities use of public property or right of way. Overgrowth over sidewalks must be maintained at 8 ft. by the property owner. Overgrowth over streets must be maintained at 15 ft. by the property owner.
- All swimming pools, which have 18 inches or more of water depth need a permit. Pools cannot be located in a front yard and must be surrounded by a 5-ft or higher fence that can be locked. For additional information, contact the Building Inspection Services office at 563-344-4074.
- Open fires for cooking, recreation, and ceremonies will be allowed if the fire is in an approved burning device, located away from buildings, not composed mainly of leaves, and extinguished by 10 p.m. No more than one fire every seven days.

City Codes can be found at www.bettendorf.org
Questions concerning City Codes call 563-344-4064, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Fireworks Ordinance

Consumer fireworks are restricted to December 31 beginning at 10:00 p.m. and ending at 12:30 a.m. on January 1. Fireworks are also restricted to July 3 and July 4 from 2:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. each day.

Fireworks outside of the approved dates and times will not be allowed and the offender is subject to a fine. The fines are as follows: first offense $250.00, second offense $400.00, and third or more offenses $625.00. Both adults and minors are subject to fines for violating the fireworks ordinance.

Sky Lanterns and Chinese Lanterns are illegal in the City of Bettendorf.

If fireworks are being used at a residence and the person responsible for setting off the fireworks does not come forward, the homeowner will be cited for Disorderly House, 5-5A-7 of the City Code, with a fine up to $625.00.

This ordinance will be strictly enforced by the Bettendorf Police Department.

Questions concerning fireworks can be directed to Chief Keith Kimball at 563-344-4044 or kkimball@bettendorf.org.

Move Over or Slow Down
Not Just a Courtesy, it’s the Law!

By following these two simple rules, you can help save lives, avoid a ticket and prevent the loss of your driver’s license.

Iowa Law Requires:
1. If law enforcement is not directing traffic, change lanes or slow down when approaching the following vehicles:
   - Stationary emergency vehicle that has flashing lights activated.
   - Stationary tow, maintenance, or construction vehicles with flashing lights.
   - Stationary motor vehicle, including a passenger vehicle, that is displaying its hazard lights.
2. Yield the right of way to an emergency vehicle displaying flashing lights or giving an audible signal by moving over to the right, stopping and waiting until the vehicle has passed before proceeding.

These laws are designed to protect motorists, including motorists stranded by the side of the road, persons being transported in emergency vehicles, and personnel at high risk while performing their duties on Iowa’s roadways. A good rule of the road is to change lanes or slow down anytime you are approaching a vehicle that is slow moving, stopped or stranded on the shoulder, if you can safely do so.

Iowa’s road workers, construction workers, Highway Helpers, law enforcement personnel, emergency personnel, and others urge drivers to provide them the room they need to safely perform their duties.