

City of Stratford Newsletter

Fall 2024



TIDBITS OF INFORMATION

Electrical Outage Procedures If experiencing an electrical power outage during City Hall's business hours of 8:00 – 4:30 p.m., call 515-838-2311. When experiencing an electrical power outage after hours at your place of residence, call Maintenance Supervisor, Brad Larson, 641-373-7676. If the whole town is experiencing an electrical power outage and Maintenance doesn't answer, call Hamilton County Dispatch at 515-832-9500; or Midland Power Cooperative's emergency number, 1-800-286-2268. If all else fails, call 911.

City Council Members are Carol Bergman, Catherine Bergman, Terry Bryan, Clark Conklin, and Chase Hamam,, and mayor Brian Ouverson. Council meetings are held the second Monday of every month at City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

City Website Check out the City of Stratford's website where you can subscribe to alerts and public notices!

Call 811 A few days prior to digging call 800-292-8989 or 811: Iowa One Call. There is no charge to call for locating services.

Stratford Public Library's Fall 2024 Classes

Oct 18-26: Story on a Stick

Oct 25: Lego Club 3:15 to 4:15 pm

Oct 25-31: Annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest

And, if you have room and you want to put it in:
Regarding the barn quilt project - the library is the point of contact for everyone to express an interest in making a barn quilt. If you live in Stratford, or the Stratford countryside, you are able to participate. At this time, we are starting a list of people interested in doing this. To get your name on the list, you must call or stop in the library (515-838-2131). We cannot take names from Facebook (for fear of missing someone). Each barn quilt will be different - no two alike. When you come to sign up you can look through our books and choose a design and librarians will have a file folder with everyone's designs in it to prevent duplicates. Remember - this list is just a preliminary expression of interest at this time.

**Stratford's Halloween Trick or Treat
Night is Thursday, October 31st from
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Contact

Stratford City Hall

805 Shakespeare Ave, PO Box 218

Stratford, IA 50249

Phone: 515-838-2311 Fax: 515-838-2315

Email: cityofstratford@globalccs.net

Website: stratfordiowa.com



NOTICE TO ELECTRIC UTILITY CUSTOMER

The Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) is a utility regulatory agency. If you have questions or complaints regarding your utility service, you may contact a utility representative at City of Stratford, 805 Shakespeare Ave., Stratford, IA 50249, 515-838-2311, or email cityofstratford@globalccs.net. If your complaint is related to service disconnection, safety, or renewable energy, and we do not resolve it, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board: call 877-565-4450 (toll free); or write to 1375 East Court Avenue, Room 69, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069; or email customer@iub.iowa.gov. Low-income customers may also be eligible for free legal assistance from Iowa Legal Aid and may contact Legal Aid at 1-800-532-1275.

FAQ's on Fluoride in the Stratford Municipal Water Supply

Is Stratford's Water Safe to Drink? Yes! The notices sent quarterly with the newsletters (and shown below) contain the required wording written by the Iowa Department of Public Health. Community water systems that exceed the fluoride level of 2.0 mg/L (the EPA minimum level) must provide special fluoride public notice to persons served. A recent sample taken from Stratford's water supply contained a fluoride level of 2.47 mg/L.

Does Stratford Add Fluoride to the Drinking Water? No. The fluoride in Stratford's water is naturally occurring. This water supply obtains its water from the limestone and dolomite of the Mississippian Aquifer. The aquifer was determined to have low susceptibility to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials provide natural protection from contaminants at the land surface.

What is an Unsafe Fluoride Level? The maximum level set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is 4.0 mg/L. Drinking water containing more than 4.0 mg/L can increase the risk of certain health issues. Stratford's drinking water does not contain unsafe fluoride levels, but Stratford is required to notify persons served when a sample exceeds the 2.0 mg/L minimum.

~~~~~ IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER ~~~~~

This notice being sent by the Stratford Muni Water Dept. PWSID# 4051002. Elevated Fluoride Levels Detected. Fluoride in children's drinking water at levels of approximately 1 mg/L reduces the number of dental cavities. However, some children exposed to levels of fluoride greater than about 2.0 mg/L may develop dental fluorosis. Dental fluorosis, in its moderate and severe forms, is a brown staining or pitting of the permanent teeth, or both.

Because dental fluorosis occurs only when developing teeth (before they erupt from the gums) are exposed to elevated fluoride levels, households without children are not expected to be affected by this level of fluoride.

Families with children under the age of nine are encouraged to seek other sources of drinking water for their children to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting.

Your water supplier can lower the concentration of fluoride in your water so you will still receive the benefits of cavity prevention while the possibility of stained and pitted teeth is minimized. Removal of fluoride may increase your water costs. Treatment systems are also commercially available for home use. Information on such systems is available at the address given by your public water supplier. Low fluoride bottled drinking water that would meet all standards is also commercially available.

For more information, please contact Stratford City Hall Water Department at 515-838-2311. Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. In Iowa, home water treatment units are regulated under 641—Chapter 14, with the water treatment unit registration program administered by the Iowa department of public health's environmental health division. In addition, you may call the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) International, at 1-877-867-3435. *Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).*

SEASONAL REMINDERS

The Stratford would like to remind residents **not to blow grass, leaves,** or other debris into the street. These can potentially cause clogging of the storm sewers which may result in flooding and can result in costly repairs which are ultimately paid for by the taxpayers. Rain waters push grass, leaves and other debris that have blown into the street, down the curb line and into the storm drains. Stratford's Code of ordinance is as follows:

135.03 PLACING DEBRIS ON. It is *unlawful* for any person to throw or deposit on any street or alley any glass, glass bottle, nails, tacks, wire, cans, trash, garbage, rubbish, litter, offal, **leaves, grass,** or any other debris likely to be washed into the storm sewer and clog the storm sewer, or any substance likely to injure any person, animal, or vehicle.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.369)

Storm drains and storm sewers need to remain clear of grass, leaves, and other debris to allow storm waters to leave your area and drain out through the storm sewer system rather than backing up and causing flooding in your area.

If you have grass clippings and yard debris the city has a **yard waste only** site for the citizens of Stratford. Come up to City Hall and ask for a key to access the city owned debris site. Anyone living within Stratford's city limits may take **yard debris, grass clippings, leaves, and small branches no larger than 4 inches in diameter,** to the site.

Grain Bin Clearance Guidelines

Thinking about building a grain bin?

If you're planning to build or move a grain bin, either on your property or for someone else, you need to be familiar with Iowa's law on required distances from overhead electric lines. This law was put in place to provide protection from the hazard of contacting overhead electric lines to anyone working around grain bins with augers, elevators, or other equipment.

The drawings inside this brochure show the specific clearance requirements related to permanently installed augers and portable augers. There must be at least 18 feet between the top of any grain bin and any overhead electric lines. These distances were developed by the American National Standards Institute. Figure 232.4(b) can be found in the 2017 Edition National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) and the 2012 NESC. As your electric service provider, we're responsible for ensuring that these specifications are met. In fact, in any situation where minimum clearance requirements are not observed, the utility may refuse electric service.

So if a new grain bin is on your list of projects, please give us a call. We will work with you in developing a site plan for your project.

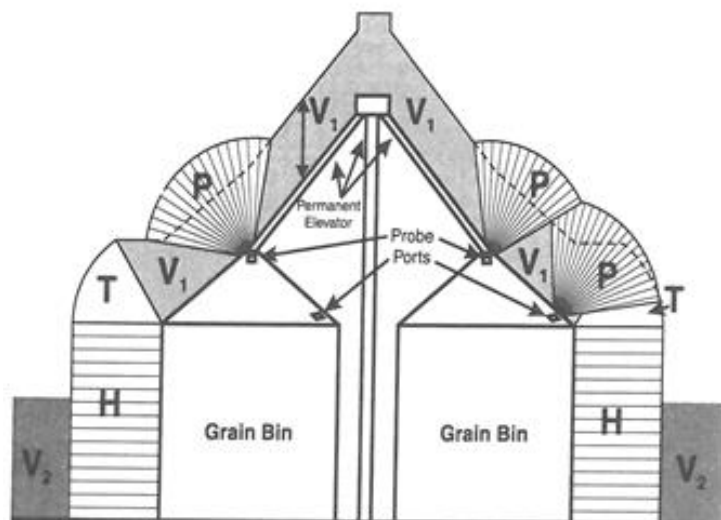
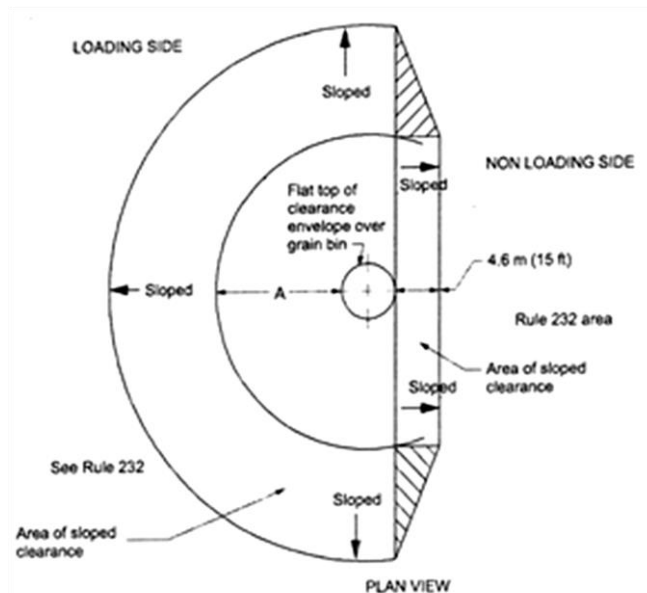
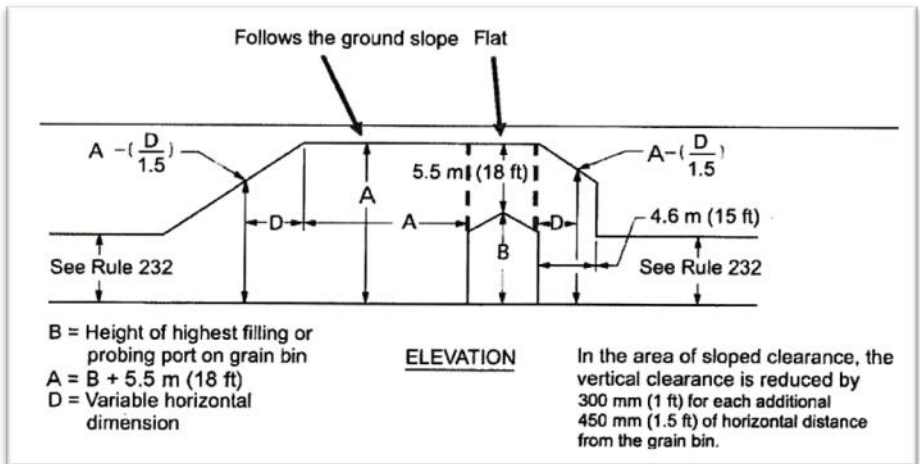
Fig. 234-4(a) -- Clearance Envelope for Grain Bins

Filled by Permanently Installed Augers, Conveyors, or Elevators

- P = probe clearance 5.5m (18 ft.)
- H = horizontal clearance 4.6m (15 ft.)
- T = transition clearance
- V_1 = vertical clearance above a building required by Rule 234C (Table 234-1)
- V_2 = vertical clearance above land required by Rule 232B (Table 232-1 or 232-2)

Figs. 234-4(b) Clearance Envelope for Grain Bins Filled by Portable Augers, Conveyors, or Elevators

Source: The 2017 Edition National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), the 2012 NESC, and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI C2-2012).



City of Stratford

805 Shakespeare Avenue
Stratford, IA 50249-0218
Phone: 515-38-2311
cityofstratford@globalccs.net
Hours M – F 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

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The 2024 pool season will come to an end in early August. The City of Stratford thanks you for your patronage!

Families and folks of all ages from Stratford and surrounding communities made the 2024 pool season an enjoyable one. Our swim lesson program was held the dates of June 14th, thru June 21st. There were 22 children who participated in this program, ranging in all skill levels. Many toddlers have happily splashed in the wading pool this year. Kids have also really enjoyed the concession stand; swimming burns up a lot of energy!

If you are interested or you know someone that is interested in being a lifeguard next year, call Fort Dodge Rec (515-576-7237) in Fort Dodge as soon as possible. The lifeguard classes usually start in February and fill up very fast, so plan ahead!

The City of Stratford would like to thank all the patrons that have come out and supported the pool this year. We would also like to give a special thanks to all of the lifeguards who stepped up to help make sure we could keep the pool running this season! If you would like more information about the Stratford Municipal Pool, you can look us up on the City's website at stratfordiowa.com, or call City Hall at 515-838-2311 between 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.

If you have any suggestions to help make our pool better, please do not hesitate to reach out to City Hall at 515-838-2311.

Again, Thank you to all the lifeguards who worked diligently to keep the pool open and the patrons who came out and supported our local swimming pool this season. Hope to see you all again next year.