

City of Johnston, Iowa
January 2012



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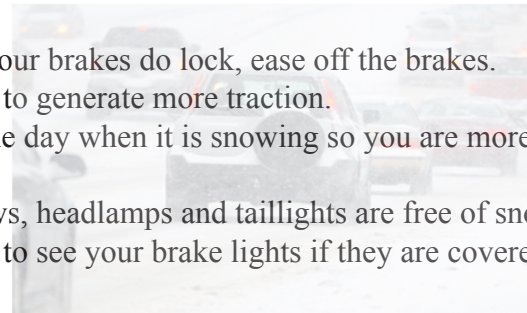
**Parks and Recreation
Department Secures
Two Grants**



The Johnston Parks and Recreation Department has been awarded a Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Grant from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources of \$25,000 for an Interpretive Trail in the Beaver Creek Natural Resource Area. The project involves adding interpretive signage and benches to the existing trails. The signage will have educational information about the history, geology, wildlife, birds and plants in the area. This project was one of the recommended improvements in the Beaver Creek Natural Resource Area Management Plan completed in 2010. The Johnston Parks and Recreation Department has been awarded \$181,464 from the State Recreational Trails Program administered by the Iowa Department of Transportation. The funds were awarded for the NW Beaver Drive Trail and must be used by 2015. The 4 mile long, multi-use trail is being planned to run along NW Beaver Drive from the north Johnston city limits at Eagle Crest Drive to NW 66th Ave. The trail will be built in three phases with the first phase scheduled to be built in the 2014/2015 fiscal year. The next two phases will be built in fiscal years 2015/2016 and 2016/2017.

Johnston Police Department Winter Driving tips:

- The best advice for driving in inclement weather is to not drive at all, however that is not always practical. So if you must drive in the snow and ice, it is best to wait until the snow plows and sanding trucks have had time to do their work. Always allow yourself extra time to reach your destination. Know if your vehicle is prepared to drive in winter conditions and know your vehicles limitations.
- When driving on snow covered and/or icy roads, do not tailgate and give yourself plenty of room to stop. Try to allow at least three vehicle lengths between you and the car in front of you.
 - Brake lightly to avoid skidding and if your brakes do lock, ease off the brakes.
 - Accelerate slowly. This allows the tires to generate more traction.
 - Drive with your headlights on during the day when it is snowing so you are more visible to other motorists.
 - Always make sure your vehicle windows, headlamps and taillights are free of snow and ice. Fellow motorists won't be able to see your brake lights if they are covered with snow.
 - Avoid using the cruise control.
 - Remember, bridges, overpasses, and infrequently traveled roads freeze faster than other roads so you need to use more caution when traveling on these types of surfaces.
 - Avoid passing snow plows or sanding trucks as they have limited visibility.



HAVE THE WINTER BLAHS...



Come join us at the Johnston Senior Advisory Board fun night on Wednesday, January 18, from 7:00-10:00 pm at Crown Point Community Center (6300 Pioneer Parkway). Play cards, pool, table shuffleboard, games & visit with new/old friends. Refreshments will be provided. Donations welcome.

Christmas Tree Collection-January 2-13

Be sure to set out your Christmas tree on your garbage collection day; January 2nd or 9th (Monday collection) or January 3rd or 10th (Tuesday collection). Be sure to remove the decorations and attach a Compost It! sticker. Compost It! Bags and brush bundles with a Compost It! sticker will also be collected on those days.

Curb It! Recycling program continues to grow

June 2011 marked the two year anniversary of the single stream recycling program. It took 13 years under the old curbside recycling program for the tonnage collected to increase by 5,000 tons per year. In two years under the single stream program the annual tonnage collected has already increased by 4,000 tons. Since 1995 more than 66,934 trucks have been diverted from the landfill due to the recycling program. In Johnston the percentage of residences that recycle dropped from 74.95% in 2010 to 73.74% in 2011, although the pounds per household increased from 24.28 in 2010 to 24.37 in 2011.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION VACANCY

We are now accepting applications to fill a vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission. This term expires 6/30/2014. Applications are available on the City of Johnston web site. Completed applications can mailed or dropped off at City Hall. The Planning and Zoning Commission meets the second and last Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

**Holiday Closings: Martin Luther King Day January 16, 2011
City Offices and Johnston Public Library Closed**

Garbage Collection will be on the regular collection days.

AT THE LIBRARY



JANUARY PROGRAMS:

A School-Age Special with a "Beach Party" theme will be held on January 23 at 1:30 p.m. Students from K-5th grade will have a great time at the library on their "no-school" day. Registration is required and sign-up begins on January 9th.

The Family Movie @ the library will be held January 29 at 2:00 p.m. Join us for a free showing of *Kung Fu Panda 2*.

Registration for the Winter Session for regular storytime activities begins the week of January 9. Sundown Storytime requires no registration and resumes on January 19.

An informative program entitled "Welcome to Medicare" will be held on Saturday, January 14 at 10:30 a.m. Individuals who currently or will soon be receiving Medicare are encouraged to attend, as well as their family members. In order to have a sufficient number of handouts, registration is required. This can be done online at www.johnstonlibrary.com or by calling (515) 278-5233.

For more information about the city, visit our Web site - www.cityofjohnston.com or call 515-278-2344

Contact Us

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Johnston Public Library
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PO Box 327
278-5233

Johnston Police
6221 Merle Hay Road
PO Box 410
278-2345 (24 hours)
Emergency: 9-1-1

Johnston Public Works
6400 NW Beaver Drive
278-0822 · Fax: 727-8092

Johnston Parks and Recreation
6400 NW Beaver Drive
727-8091 · Fax: 727-8092

Crown Point Community Center and Senior Dining Center
6300 Pioneer Parkway
251-3707