



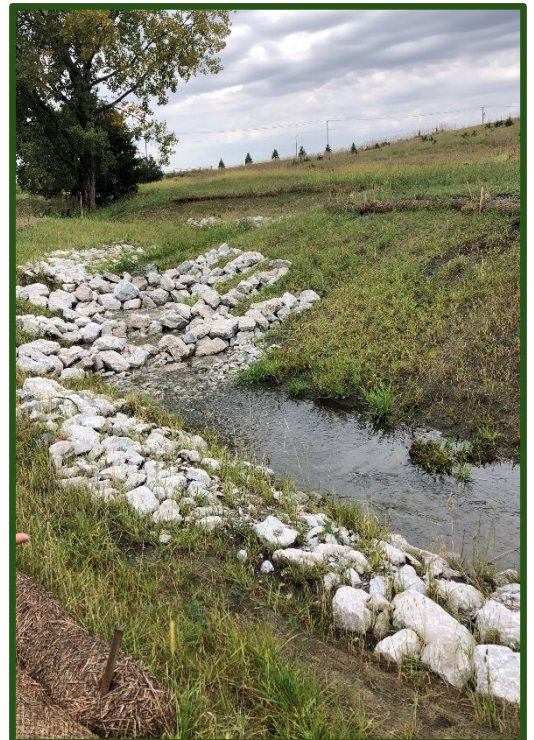
Annual Stormwater Program Report

April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025

NPDES Phase II MS4 General Permit

City of Ames, IA: Permit Number 85-03-0-03

Public Works Department



SMARTWATERSHEDS
FOR CLEAN RIVERS AND STREAMS

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Part 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Executive Summary and Highlights

The City of Ames was issued its first NPDES Stormwater MS-4 permit from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in 2003. The permit serves as the stormwater management plan for the City of Ames. This report summarizes actions and activities performed that demonstrate progress towards permit compliance from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 and summarizes actions and activities performed to fulfill the six minimum storm water control measures: 1) Public education and outreach, 2) Public participation, 3) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, 4) Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control, 5) Post-construction Storm Water Management and 6) Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping.

Here are some highlights of the past year. Many will be further described within this report.

- New Municipal Engineer, New Civil Engineer and Interim Public Works Director
- Ames Hires First Sustainability Coordinator
- Second year of Implementation of The City of Ames Pollinator-Friendly Community Plan
- Completion of two stream bank restoration projects (Bloomington Waterway and Clear Creek near Utah Drive)
- Participation in 15 educational outreach events
- Fourth Annual Stream Cleanup
- Ames 24 on 24 Litter Pickup Campaign
- New Bio-cells on 24th Street



Justin Clausen
Interim Public Works Director



Mindy Bryngelson
Municipal Engineer



Noel Steckelberg
Civil Engineer



Nolan Sagan
Sustainability Coordinator

Stormwater Program Staff

Public Works Staff		
John Joiner (Retired 1/2025), Justin Clausen-Interim Director (1/2025-present)	Director	Directs Public Works programs
Tracy Peterson (10/2003-6/2024) Mindy Bryngelson (9/2024-present)	Municipal Engineer	Oversees implementation of MS4 program; prepares Public Works CIP budgets; provides for vision for and implementation of stormwater programming
Noel Steckelberg (1/2025-present)	Civil Engineer I	Oversees stormwater program and staff, reviews stormwater management plans and as-built plans
Jake Moore	Stormwater Specialist	Reviews Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs), performs site erosion control inspections and prepares reports, administrates city's Construction site Erosion and Sediment Control (COSESCO) permit program, facilitates education, outreach and public participation, responds to illicit discharge reports, and inspects capital improvement projects
Liz Calhoun	Stormwater Resource Analyst	Reviews post construction stormwater management plans and as-builts; facilitates education and outreach and public participation activities; inspection and maintenance of post construction BMPs, manages capital improvement projects
Brianna Bona (5/24-12/24) Eleanor Gaul (5/24-12/24)	Stormwater Interns	Inspect, maintain, and enhance city owned bio-cells and water quality practices, administrate stormwater rebate applications, participate in education and outreach events
Justin Clausen assisted by Brad Becker (1/2025-present)	Operations Manager	Manages staff that conduct intake and outfall inspections and maintenance; street sweeping and maintenance; tree inventory; post construction BMP maintenance; facility good housekeeping and pollution prevention, responds to illicit discharge reports
Corey Mellies	Fleet Services Director	Oversees Community Center fertilizer and pesticide use
Damion Pregitzer	Traffic Engineer	Oversees Ames Municipal Airport General Permit No. 1 SWPPP implementation
Parks and Recreation Staff		
Joshua Thompson	Parks and Facilities Superintendent	Oversees park and natural area maintenance, post construction BMP maintenance; park and right-of way fertilizer and pesticide use
Resource Recovery Plant Staff		
Bill Schmitt (retired 7/24), Mark Peebler (7/24-present)	Resource Recovery Superintendent	Oversees the solid and hazardous waste management program and trash cleanups for the city
City Manager's Office		
Nolan Sagan	Sustainability Coordinator	Implements nature based solutions of within city sustainability program, administrates grant program for non-profit organizations and students
Fire Department Staff		
Rich Higgins	Fire Chief	Oversees illicit discharge cleanup and reporting

C. Stormwater Program Expenses

Program	Expense
Education and Outreach	
ISWEP Premiere Membership	\$9,970
Bird Friendly Iowa Application (Ames is a Sustained Flight status for 3 years participation, application & recertification connected to SWM activities & ordinances)	\$100
10-Year City of Ames Pollinator-Friendly Community Plan increasing native vegetation	\$34,009
Tree Seedlings and Native Plant Giveaways	\$3,848
Ames Homebuilder Association Membership	\$250
Staff, Training, Materials and Advertising incl. Smart Watershed & Smart Trash Programs	\$95,087
Public Involvement and Participation	
Staff, equipment and material costs	\$47,740
Watershed Participation incl. Story County 10-Yr Water Quality Monitoring Program	\$27,334
Resource Recovery handling and disposal of wastes from streams, Stash-the-Trash, and Project Aware and Annual stream cleanup events	\$225
Illicit Discharge	
Staff, equipment, and material costs	\$6,366
Resource Recovery Plant operations incl Food Waste Diversion and Public Household Hazardous Materials disposal programs	\$4,685,818
Construction Site Program	
Staff, equipment, and material costs	\$66,836
Post Construction Program	
Staff, consultant, equipment and material costs	\$76,383
Smart Watershed Cost Share Programs	\$19,588
Ioway Creek (6th St. to 13th St)	\$18,460
Northridge Heights Pond on GW Carver	\$41,175
Airport Rd (from University Blvd to S. Riverside Dr.)	\$160,879
Bloomington Waterway (Hyde Ave to Harrison Road)	\$191,013
Clear Creek bank Stabilization (4921 Utah Dr)	\$31,010
College Creek Bank Stabilization (Hemingway Drive)	\$39,207
Right-of Way Restoration	\$82,884
Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping	
Staff, consultant, equipment and material costs	\$31,827
Street, median, and sidewalk sweeping (staff time, equipment, and contractor)	\$335,650
Street Sweeper tailings processed	\$12,550
MS4 system inspections and maintenance	\$51,907
Sanitary Sewer repairs and rehabilitation (found with SSSE to remove I&I)	\$313,010
Emergency and maintenance infrastructure repairs	\$297,474
Drainage, storm sewer, and other MS4 infrastructure improvements	\$514,248
Municipal Staff Training	\$2,981

Program	Expense
Special Conditions	
Iowa DNR MS4 Permit Renewal (5-year permit)	\$0
Geographic Information System (GIS) (storm water portion only)	\$45,993
Total	\$7,243,823

PART 2. PERMIT MEASURES

As a Premiere Member of the Iowa Stormwater Education Partnership, the City has access to resources and training applicable to all the permit measures.

A. Public Education and Outreach

The City's Education Program takes many forms and as non-structural Best Management Practices (BMPs), serves to educate the public on ways that the city is taking measures to reduce pollutants and protect and restore waterways and watersheds, and to encourage similar public participation.

A variety of methods used for education including public events, online website information, city publications, social media pages, brochures and newspaper articles.

1. CitySide City Monthly Newsletter

Cityside is the monthly City newsletter distributed to approximately **30,000 Ames Utility customers**. In addition to contact information for stormwater issues, stream concerns and spill alerts, this publication keeps residents and businesses current with stormwater related issues. Refer to the following table for this year's articles.

Month	Article Topic
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considering Landscape Improvements? We've Got a Rebate for That! Save the Date: Rummage RAMPage Returns No-Charge Yard Waste Stream Clean-up; Stash the Trash in April
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sewer Rates to Increase in July New Ordinance Requires Sidewalks and Street Clearance
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rummage RAMPage 2024 is Coming! Sewer Rates to Increase in July
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rummage RAMPage Returns to the Ames Intermodal Facility Ames Named "Tree City USA"
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Ames Eco-Fair
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Charge Yard Waste Days Stream Restoration Project Tackles Erosion Problem
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No-Charge Yard Waste Days Rummage Rampage Has Another Record-Breaking Year

CITY NEWS

SEWER RATE INCREASE TO BEGIN IN JULY

A 7 percent increase in sewer rates will go into effect for bills due on and after July 1, 2024. The rate adjustment is a reflection of increased operating costs as well as a planned improvement at the Water Pollution Control Facility to achieve higher nutrient removal rates in support of Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

To mitigate the increase, remember that when you reduce your water use, you not only save on the cost of water but on sewer as well. For most customers, your sewer bill is based on your water usage. Regularly inspect your property and repair any leaks quickly.

Water use outdoors can be a great place to save. Inspect irrigation systems for frozen or broken lines and make sure heads are only delivering water to plantings that truly need to be watered. Consider investing in a rain barrel to help with your outdoor watering and converting traditional turf into low impact, native plantings that need less water. Rebates are available to reduce some of the initial investment at www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartWaterlocks.

Smart Choice

Moving Soon?
Call us Today to Update Your Utilities!

If a move is in your future, make a point to contact Utility Customer Services as soon as possible to have your utility service started, stopped, or transferred.

You may submit your request at www.amesutilities.com or by contacting the Utility Customer Service office at 515-239-6120. The office is located in City Hall, 515 Clark Ave. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

RUMMAGE RAMPAGE 2024 is COMING!

Mark your calendars for the seventh annual Rummage RAMPage, which begins with donations drop-off on Friday, July 26, and continues through Saturday, Aug. 3, as the final day of shopping.

The City of Ames, in partnership with the ISU Office of Sustainability and local non-profit organizations, holds this community-wide garage sale to keep reusable items out of the waste stream. Items are donated for sale, and volunteers from local non-profit groups help run the sale and share in any profit. The event is held at the Ames Intermodal Parking Ramp, 129 Hayward Ave.

"We started this event with a desire to repurpose items often left on the curb during the annual move out and lease changeovers. We wanted to reduce waste and keep usable items out of the landfill," said Ames Sustainability Coordinator Merry Rankin. "Many people are moving at this time of year, and this event provides an alternative for residents who are not only looking to dispose of household goods, but also acquire still-useful items that might be thrown in the trash or randomly dumped otherwise."

More information available at www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRampage.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Council meetings are held in the City Hall Council Chambers, 515 Clark Ave., and streamed via the City website, Facebook, and YouTube.

Meetings: 6 p.m. June 11
6 p.m. June 18 (Workshop)
6 p.m. June 25

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.CITYOFAMES.ORG/CCMEETINGS

2. Public Notice

Public notices and new releases in the publications like the Ames Tribune give the for Capital Improvement Projects and GP #2 notice of intent. More informal notices of CIP and maintenance projects are sent citizens using social media and email. The following table summarizes the notices given over the past year.

Public Notice Type	Number of Notices Given
GP #2 -City	7
GP #2- Iowa State University (within ISU MS-4)	3
Iowa Department of Transportation	1
Private Developments	8
City CIP projects – news releases/email/social media	20 (approx.)

3. City of Ames Television

City of Ames Television continues to be a valuable source for outreach to the community. The city's Media Production Services produces professional and interesting videos that educate the public.

Video Summary 2024-25	Views
2024 EcoFair Promo	12
Yard Waste Free Days	7
Solar Sheep Working	55
Sheep at SunSmart Ames	64
Eco Fair Promos	107
EcoFair 2024	25
New Sustainability Grants with the Ames Minute	23
Nolan Sagan Introduction- Sustainability Coordinator	66
Bee Hives at the Solar Farm	34
Rummage RAMPage Recap	18



EcoFair | 2024
AmesTelevision
4.48K subscribers

Like Comment Share Save

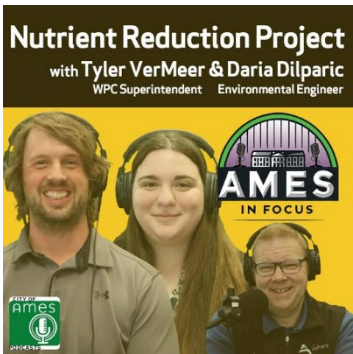


4. Social Media: Facebook

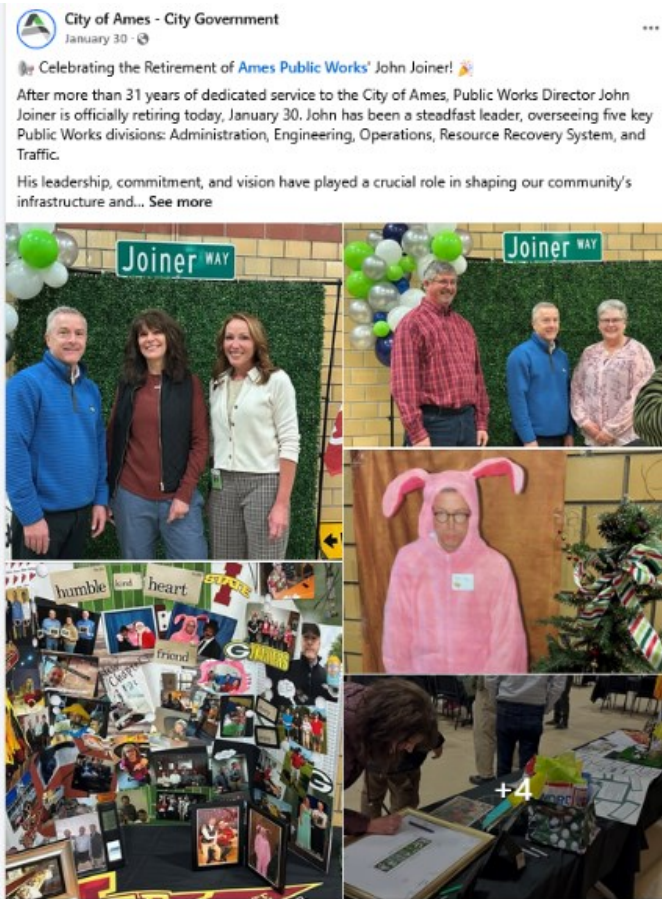
The City uses Facebook to promote City activities including stormwater education and outreach events. The following is a summary of posts over the last year on the City Government and Public Works pages:

DATE & SUBJECT	# LIKES, SHARES AND COMMENTS
April 2 - Water Quality improvement Project	18
April 7 – No-Charge Yard Waste Day	27
April 8 – Fire Hydrant Art Installation	52
April 22 – Earth Day Skunk River Cleanup	120
April 22 – ISU Earth Day Fair	14
April 29 – 10-year Pollinator Plan	77
May 15 - Solar Sheep Cam	71
May 22 – National Public Works Week	114
June 2 – Ada Hayden Goats on the Go	243
June 3 – Rummage RAMPage	20
June 11 – City Staff E-Bike	84
June 11 – Rummage RAMPage Date	18
June 11 – Ames Pollinator Week	35
June 13 – Solar Sheep	40
June 17 - Ames Pollinator Week	16
June 18 – Ames Pollinators	33
June 19 – iNaturalist Pollinator Tracking	14
June 20 – Native Pollinator Habitat	18
June 21 - Celebrate Pollinators	10
June 22 - Protect Pollinators from Pesticides	16
June 23 - Pollinator Friendly Ames	25
June 26 – Rummage RAMPage	11
July 8 – Rammage RAMPage	47
July 12 – SunSmart Ames Bee Hives	56
July 24 – First Sustainability Coordinator	87
July 24 – Rummage RAMPage	21
July 27 – Rummage RAMPage Day 1	70
Aug 11 – EcoFair Save the Date	20
Aug 11 – Rain Barrel Rebate	68
Aug 14 – EcoFair Save the Date	21
Aug 29 – ISU WelcomeFest	46
Sep 22 - Bird-Friendly Ames	99





DATE & SUBJECT	# LIKES, SHARES AND COMMENTS
Nov 4, 11, 12, 15- Fall 2024 Prescribed Burn locations	27
Nov 18- No Charge Waste Days	5
Nov 21-Water Pollution Control Facility Groundbreaking	29
Dec 4- Ada Hayden Prairie Burn	8
Dec 13- Moore Memorial Park Prairie Burn	17
Dec 23- 2024 Recycling Amounts	90
Jan 30-John Joiner Retirement	153
Jan 31- Trout Stocking in Ada Hayden Lake	274
Jan 31, Feb 2 & 3 & 5 - Ada Hayden-trails closed for vegetation maintenance	53
Feb 18-Podcast – Winter Tree Care	13
Feb 20- Resource Recovery Plant-Recycling	8
Feb 20- Climate Action Grant Announcement	14
Feb 24- Water Art Contest & Exhibition	14
Feb. 24- Sustainapoolza Event @ ISU	45
Feb 25-Podcast- Sustainable Ames	7
Feb. 27- Creating the Buzz-Presentation on Pollinators	59
March 2- Pollinator Plan -Butterfly Exhibit	10
March 3- Rain Barrel	57
March 4- Nutrient Reduction Project	8



5. City of Ames Stormwater Website

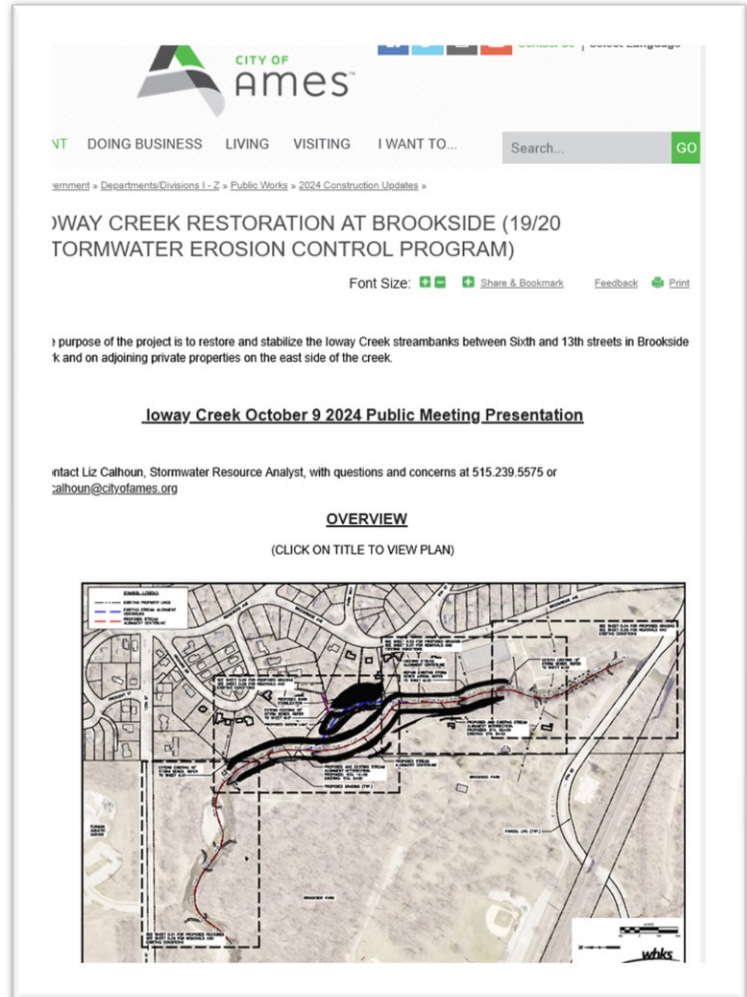
The city's Public Works Department continues to update stormwater webpages: <https://www.cityofames.org/government/departments-divisions-i-z/public-works/stormwater-program/stormwater-permit>.

Pages include:

- MS-4 permit requirements
- Illicit discharge and spill reporting
- Smart Watershed Rebate Program
- Watershed maps and links to local watershed groups
- Capital Improvement Projects webpages

Over the past year the city has been working on moving the website to a new software. The migration is underway and is planned to go public in April, 2025. At that time, the Stormwater pages will reflect these changes:

- 2023-24 and 2024-2025 City of Ames MS-4 Permit Annual Report
- 25 on 25 Liter Program
- Ioway Creek Restoration at Brookside project – project updates
- Major update to SmartWatersheds and Rebates page



Webpage	Views: 2023-2024	Views: 2024-2025
Stormwater Program	2054	532
Bird Friendly Community and Pollinator Plan (starting in 2023)	411	654
Storm Drain Art	55	41
Stormwater Violations/Illicit Discharge	131	159
Construction Erosion and Sediment Control	79	143
Post Construction	149	132
Smart Watersheds and Rebates	264	1,508
Good Housekeeping	21	174
Stormwater Fees	182	174
Stormwater Permit	75	100
Story County Water Monitoring Plan, 2021-2030	32	54
Ioway Creek Flood Mitigation Project	240	282
Ioway Creek Restoration at Brookside	79	143

6. Educational Events

Stormwater staff participated in a variety of events throughout the year. The following table and photo are some of this year's events.

Event Name	Date	# of Staff in Attendance	Approximate # Attendees
Reiman Gardens Pollinator Fest	June 22, 2024	3	200
WelcomeFest at ISU	August 21, 2024	3	1000
Northridge Heights Neighborhood "Rock the Block"	September 12, 2024	4	70
Monarch Magic	September 7, 2024	4	250
City of Ames EcoFair	September 28, 2024	5	700
Ames Repair Café-"Beyond the Turf" -Pollinator Plan Presentation	October 3, 2024	1	25
Iowa State University Sustainability Month Celebration	October 21, 2024	2	150
Stormwater Presentation to Ames High 9 th Graders	November 7, 2024	1	15
Sawyer Elementary Science Night	November 14, 2024	4	200
Campustown Cleanup	November 17, 2024	2	25
Meeker Elementary STEM Night	February 20, 2025	4	250
Fellows Elementary Science Night	February 21, 2025	2	700
Iowa State University Sustainapoolza	February 27, 2025	3	350
Community Radio Appearances	4/1/24-3/31/25	Approx. 20 appearances	Unknown

Ames High 9th Grade Project Presentation about loway Creek Stream Characteristics



7. Resource Recovery Plant Outreach

Proper trash management and disposal can significantly reduce improper disposal of trash in the environment and waterways. The Ames Resource Recovery Plant and Smart Trash Program is progressive at informing and encouraging citizens and businesses to reduce, reuse and recycle unwanted materials. The website <http://www.cityofames.org/smarttrash> provides information on waste handling and disposal.

Program information is run on the local cable Channel 12 and Channel 12 You-Tube regularly as well as advertising through Mediacom. Ads are run at least one ad per year for Household Hazardous Materials collection and 2-3 times per year for yard waste collection. The following is a summary of the tours:

	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Resource Recovery Tours	678 people, 27 tours	684 people/ 28 tours	625 people/ 29 tours

8. City Hall Lobby Display

Every March the SmartWatersheds Program is focused on the City Hall Lobby Display. The 2025 display highlighted last year's stream cleanup and Ames as a Pollinator Friendly Community.



B. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

The Public Involvement and Participation Program in Ames engages individuals and groups interested in protecting our waterways and lakes. Civic engagement is extremely important to the City of Ames organization as we serve the customers of Ames. Information about capital infrastructure projects such as roadway, water system improvements, sanitary sewer rehabilitation, drainage, stream stabilization, storm water facility rehabilitation, and flood mitigation projects are on the City's website under Construction Updates. Virtual or Open House project informational meetings are held during the design phase to gather public input prior to finalizing the construction documents.

City staff are available to guide those who want to participate in this program. Public notice for planned public involvement is typically given through print media or social media and meets all state and local public notice requirements.

1. Trash Cleanup Efforts Continue with Multiple Efforts

What started several years ago as a spring clean-up called Stash the Trash around the City has grown into multiple volunteer efforts to keep the city clean from litter. The following summarizes this year's efforts.

- **Stash the Trash City Wide Trash Cleanup-** April 20-21, 2024
- **24 on 24-** Pledge to Pickup 24 pieces of litter every 24th of the month
- **Iowa State University-Student Campustown Cleanups**

October 20, 2024,
November 17, 2024

25 participants
cleaned up 70
pounds of trash
around Campustown



- **Annual Stream Cleanup** – The 4th Annual cleanup was held on April 20, 2024 on a three mile stretch of the South Skunk River from the rapids at the North River Valley Park to SE 16th Street. 2,100 pounds were collected and properly disposed.

**STREAM
CLEANUP**
SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024

Rain date of Saturday, April 27.

Ames Public Works is partnering with Prairie Rivers of Iowa, Story County Conservation, and the Outdoor Alliance of Story County to hold this event.

For registration and more information scan the QR code or visit:
<https://www.prrcd.org/creek-cleanup-spring-2024/>



www.CityOfAmes.org



2. City of Ames Pollinator-Friendly Community Plan

The City of Ames Pollinator-Friendly Community Plan was in the second year of implementation. Staff from Public Works and the Parks & Recreation Departments participated in our second Monarch Magic event on September 7, 2024 to tag Monarch butterflies and to promote our Stormwater Program.

Representatives from Prairie Rivers of Iowa RC&D, Iowa State University, Friends of Brookside Park, Friends of Ada Hayden Heritage Park, Century 21, WHKS & Co., Bolton & Menk, Inc., HDR, Inc., Iowa Young Birders and Iowa DNR, Iowa Storm Water Education Partnership, and individuals from the community are participating in plan implementation.

The goals of the plan are to:

- Create and enhance pollinator habitat on private and public properties in each watershed of the City of Ames.
- Continuously monitor pollinator abundance and diversity within the City of Ames and urban fringe area over the next 10 years.
- Ensure a healthy environment for pollinators
- Deliver marketing to amplify community awareness of the Ames Pollinator-Friendly Community Plan



Four subcommittees (Education, Policy, Research and Partnership) of approximately 10 people in each committee were active with monthly meetings over the reporting period defining specific actions and beginning to implement them.

This year's actions included:

- Attendance at various events including Reiman Gardens Pollinator Fest, Ames EcoFair, Ames Lights Out and Monarch Magic
- Host "Creating the Buzz" at the Ames Public Library to encourage citizens to plant natives and reduce pesticide use
- Develop of a logo, a brochure and bookmark and distributing to the public
- Collaborate with ISU and other property owners to encourage the planting native habitat
- Survey the city to establish an existing baseline amount of native habitat area

3. Resource Recovery Plant Food Waste Diversion

Citizens continue to take household food waste to the Resource Recovery Plant, thereby diverting this organic waste from the solid waste stream and turning it into compost. This program was developed because of the wet nature of food as solid waste and its ineffectiveness as a fuel within the total waste stream. Waste is either burned in the City Power Plant or sent to a landfill when the plant is off because of maintenance.

The following shows the amount of food waste collected and diverted from the waste stream.

	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Food Waste Diverted	86,900 pounds	73,200 pounds	90,200 pounds

4. Smart Watersheds Cost Share Rebate Program

Fiscal year 23-24 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024) was the first year when available rebate funds were fully expended and this year is on track for the same. It is anticipated that as the Pollinator Plan is promoted widespread the rebates fund will be increased to meet demand.

The table below shows the trends of the Smart Watersheds rebate applications.

Rebate Program	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
	# Applications			
Rain Barrel	18	47	22	40
Composter	15	11	6	20
Soil Quality Restoration	6	11	4	6
Native Landscaping	6	7	6	18
Rain Garden	0	0	1	1
Native Tree Rebate	59 applications, 84 trees	47 applications, 67 trees	33 applications, 59 trees	23 applications, 43 trees
Total Applications	104	123	72	108



5. The Community Academy Grows and Plants Natives for City Projects

2024 the city continued partnering with The Community Academy of Ames to enhance native landscapes in the city's public landscapes. As part of this year's summer programming, students were taught weeding and planting skills and planted 3,000 native plants at the Calhoun Park bio-cell and the South 5th Street wetlands.



6. Watershed Projects and Assessment Program

The City has developed a watershed assessment program and action plan that is used as an on-going tool for the South Skunk River and its tributaries (Ioway Creek, Onion Creek, Clear Creek, Worrell Creek, South Skunk River, West Indian Creek and Ada Hayden Lake). The program utilizes GIS mapping tools to evaluate areas and determine strategies for improvement. The City has had a comprehensive land use plan in place since 1997. A major revision called the Ames Plan 2040 was adopted on December 14, 2021. It includes a land use/watershed action plan and contains the permit required measures as well as specific watershed goals and action items.

7. Watershed Management Authorities

The City of Ames is one of the founding members of two watershed authorities: Ioway Creek Watershed Management Authority and Headwaters of the S. Skunk River Watershed. These WMAs were formed through 28E agreements. The Ioway Creek Watershed Management Authority has a watershed management plan that includes the City of Ames. The Municipal Engineer is appointed to the boards and regularly attends meetings. The Boards are recently reorganized and meeting jointly.

8. Service on Stormwater Board of Directors

During the last year Tracy Peterson, John Joiner and Minday Bryngelson served on the Board of Directors of Iowa Stormwater Education Partnership.

9. Story County Water Monitoring and Interpretation Plan 2021-2030

2024 was the fourth year of implementation of the ten year Story County Water Monitoring and Interpretation Plan. The team of ten organizations, led by Prairie Rivers of Iowa, meets quarterly to review and assign tasks to committee members. Approximately 40 volunteers perform sampling and testing twice a month at stream and lake locations in Story County. Go to [the 2023 Water Quality Monitoring in Story County Annual Report](#) on the Prairie Rivers webpage for the most recent available report. The 2024 WQ report should be available in April, 2025 and will be posted at [Water Quality Monitoring](#).



C. ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION

1. Illicit Discharge Prohibition Ordinance

The Illicit Discharge Ordinance was presented to the Ames City Council and became part of the Municipal Code (Ord. 3819) on February 22, 2005.

2. Storm Water Pollution Notifications

The City continues to have multiple ways to report and inquire storm water issues:

- Telephone during office hours (515-239-5160) and after hours (515-239-5150) 24-hour number for reporting spills.
- City's newsletter, CitySide, which is sent to 30,000 households through utility bills
- City website. <https://www.cityofames.org/government/departments-divisions-i-z/public-works/stormwater-program/stormwater-violations-illicit-discharge>
- "Ames on the Go" allows residents and visitors of our community to report complaints, violations and concerns, including storm water related concerns. The app is available through iTunes and Google Play stores as well as the city website.

Ames On the Go App	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Total reports	2143	2919	1,970
Storm water intake reports	43	38	34
Street sweeping/debris in street reports	31	125	127




3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program




The City of Ames Public Works Department – Operations Division is responsible for implementing this program. Program schedule, checklist, and mapping have been developed with the procedures that are documented in a manual. Records are kept for all program activities. Violations were reported during this period and are summarized below. IDNR is notified when necessary and discharges were eliminated.



Annual dry weather flow inspections of outfalls which discharge to non-intermittent waterways or water bodies have been conducted. The program also includes dry weather flow inspections of approximately 20% of all outfalls that discharge to Waters of the State that are intermittent waterways or water bodies with all these outfalls being inspected during the duration of the permit.



- Spill kits at the Operations Facility and Fleet Facility were inspected and restocked when necessary.
- Spill response plans are posted on bulletin boards each year at major City facilities such as Operations and Fleet, Parks and Recreation and the airport.
- During street projects a Vac-Tron is used to vacuum concrete cutting slurry before it reaches intakes and is then land applied in City yard to dry out. An absorbent gel was provided to staff to experiment with as well.



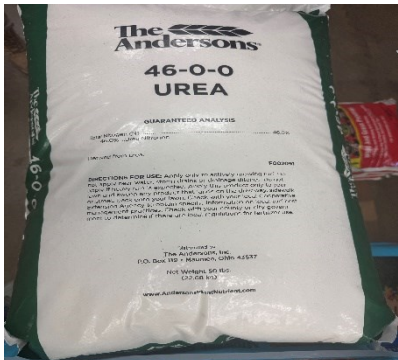
The following describes the incidents that Ames Fire and Public Works Departments responded to over the last year. This demonstrates the city's commitment to respond quickly and cleanup potential threats of illicit discharges prior entering the storm sewer system or streams.




Date/Photo	Staff/Unit Responder	DNR Notified?	Location/Description
4-23-2024 	Jake Moore	No, but cleaned up and reported to the state health/food safety	HuHot and Wingstop 701/703 S. Duff. Issued Notice of Violations City Code Section 28.804 Grease containers over filled and ran down curb line into storm intake to dry detention basin. Restaurants were required to clean up with floor dry, Clean up dumpster areas, and have oil containers emptied. Wing stop is having a new oil container installed onto the building.
7-1-2024 	Jake Moore	Yes	900 Dayton Ave- 3M Call from 3M stating that they saw a sheen in a waterway in the north end of their property. They closed the outlet of the swale to prevent movement and placed booms across ditches and storm culvers to catch oil/gas. Drainage was walked upstream but no source was found. Called DNR and explained we thought it may have come from the gas station north of the site. The amount was considered minor.
7/31/2024 	Jake Moore	No	Poe Avenue Call from citizen stating they see someone dumping something in a storm sewer. Staff responded to scene to investigate and found that the intake was clean and there was no evidence of an illicit discharge. Educational door hanger left on person's door.



Date/Photo	Staff/Unit Responder	DNR Notified?	Location/Description
9-12-2024 	Jake Moore	No	515 Clark (City Hall) Spilled oil found in parking lot. The oil was quickly cleaned up with floor dry and disposed at the resource recovery plant.
9-10-2024 	Jake Moore	Yes	Citizen notified city that there was a fish kill in a retention pond at 5405 Mortensen. City staff responded and discussed with IDNR Fisheries Division. They were going to investigate. City let them know that someone has been seen spraying around the basin from neighboring residents. This is a shallow basin approximately 6' deep and is not designed to have fish.
9-30-24 	Jake Moore	Yes-by citizen	Windsor Point Apartments located at 3709 Tripp Street. A resident called concerned about what was believed to be oil or grease on the ground. Leftover food was dumped on top of some river rock. Jake Moore spoke to property management, who indicated they were not aware of any illegal dumping. The food was a few small pieces of chicken with cooking oil from the food.



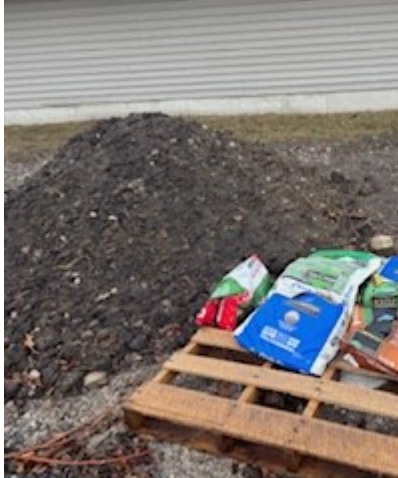
Date/Photo	Staff/Unit Responder	DNR Notified?	Location/Description
10/1/2024 	Jake Moore	<p>DNR not notified because no evidence down storm line observed. Restaurant had the storm line cleaned.</p> <p>State food and safety was notified to make them aware.</p>	<p>Fuji Restaurant Located at 1614 S. Kellogg Ave. Ste 101. Neighboring restaurant called City about Fuji Restaurant dumping floor cleaning water (no soap) behind restaurant. They were issued a Notice of Illicit Discharge and required to have the storm sewer cleaned. They hired company to come jet and clean the intake. Jake Moore with the City also contacted the State Food and Health Safety to make them aware since they do the state inspection and issue the permits for restaurants. The storm sewer intakes were checked downstream and no evidence of discharge was observed.</p>
9-30-2024 	Jake Moore	<p>Yes (call from Dennis Thielen)</p>	<p>Dennis Thielen, Iowa DNR Environmental Specialist talked to Jake Moore, City Stormwater Specialist to check Ada Hayden Bridge for a call that DNR took about oil/sheen next to the bridge at Ada Hayden. The water was clear on all sides of the bridge. Jake Moore did not see any evidence of an illicit discharge at Ada Hayden Lake.</p>

Date/Photo	Staff/Unit Responder	DNR Notified?	Location/Description
10-2-2024 	Liz Calhoun	No	West side of Ioway Creek in Brookside Park- Debris (abandoned encampment). Picked up by staff and properly disposed at Resource Recovery Plant
12-10-2024, 3-10-2025 	Jake Moore, Liz Calhoun	No	<p>713 S Duff- Jimmy John's- Received a phone call from neighboring property that sewer was discharging from Jimmy John's.</p> <p>City Staff visited the site and discovered the grease tank was overflowing. Jimmy John's staff was aware of it and have requested that it addressed. Violation letters sent to property owner and tenant on 12/10/24. The block was cleaned by a contractor.</p> <p>On March 10, 2025, the City was notified that the tank was overflowing again. A different contractor came out and determined that paper towels had created the blockage. The blockage was cleared and the restaurant indicated that they switched to this new company, who will service the tank every two months.</p>

Date/Photo	Staff/Unit Responder	DNR Notified?	Location/Description
<p>1-13-2025</p>   	Jake Moore	Yes, DNR sent EPA Notice. City worked with Ted Peterson by phone call and email.	<p>Anonymous complaint to EPA – “Company is advising stores to spread urea fertilizer on pavement for melting ice instead of approved products for ice melt”</p> <p>Jake Moore stopped by Earl May store to investigate complaint.</p> <p>Salt had been applied in parking lot and walkway locations. Not an excessive amount.</p> <p>Jake Moore Spoke with Store Manager about the EAP complaint. Manager implied they had sold some fertilizer as a substitute to ice melt because she believed it was less damaging to concrete and thought it may be better environmentally than salt.</p> <p>The labeled directions on the fertilizer bag were reviewed by Jake Moore, City of Ames and the store manager. Directions clearly states it should only be applied to actively growing turf.</p> <p>Store manager agreed not to recommend fertilizer for this use any longer. Store manager will inform employees not to suggest fertilizer as an alternative to ice melt.</p> <p>Unique case and did not find fertilizer applied to the site so no illicit discharge was given.</p> <p>Jake Moore emailed findings to Ted Petersen, Iowa DNR 1-13-2025.</p>

Date/Photo	Staff/Unit Responder	DNR Notified?	Location/Description
2-14-2025 	Jake Moore	No	<p>320 Carnegie Ave, SE corner of Carnegie Ave and Edison Street</p> <p>Eric Hill with City Streets and Utilities contacted Jake Moore with Public Works Stormwater to make aware of the substance on the ground.</p> <p>Jake Moore spoke with the office of Central Iowa Towing Company adjacent to this lot. They reported that a grain semi had tipped over on the interstate and was towed to the storage yard. Grain was transferred from the damaged truck to another truck. Central Iowa Towing said the grain was treated and that is what the color was from. They said their understanding is that it is non-hazardous.</p> <p>Jake Moore reported this to Malia Schepers with Iowa DNR Field office 5 since she works with the salvage yards in the area.</p> <p>No clean up was performed by the city with the understanding that the substance was non-hazardous based on the information from the towing company.</p>
			
			

Date/Photo	Staff/Unit Responder	DNR Notified?	Location/Description
	<p>Eric Hill, Streets</p> <p>Jake Moore, Public Works Stormwater</p>	<p>Yes, notified DNR. spoke with and emailed Katie Taylor</p>	<p>3-3-2025 Cypress Circle</p> <p>City Received notification of a oil substance in the street at Cypress Circle. City street crew responded with floor dry and applied to all areas. They swept it around and cleaned up and disposed of accordingly.</p> <p>No discharge to storm sewer or drainage way occurred.</p> <p>Jake Moore Reported this incident to Iowa DNR Field office 5 and spoke to Katie Taylor and emailed her pictures.</p>
<p>3-10-25</p> 	<p>Dale Weber, Jake Moore</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>713 S Duff- Jimmy John's- Received notification from neighboring property that sewage was again discharging from Jimmy Johns grease tank. City Staff visited the site and checked the city sanitary main, which was clear. Jimmy John's staff was made aware of the problem and called a service to cleanout the tank.</p> <p>Jimmy Johns sent an email to city staff on March 13, 2025 indicating that they have scheduled to have the tank cleaned out every two months to keep the tank from overflowing.</p>


Date/Photo	Staff/Unit Responder	DNR Notified?	Location/Description
  	Jake Moore	Yes	<p>2-19-2025 2812 S Duff Ave City received notification from Ted Petersen (IDNR) of a complaint that fertilizer spreader was being cleaned and wash water was entering the storm sewer. Jake visited the site, checked intakes and talked to the business owner about cleaning his equipment at a location like a car wash and not in the parking lot. Fertilizer bags and oil containers stored outside will also be moved inside the building. There was no apparent discharge to storm sewer but since it was raining it could have washed through the system. The downstream waterway was checked and no illicit discharge from this location was apparent.</p> <p>Photos were taken and Jake Moore responded by to the DNR field office, who indicated that no further action is needed at this time.</p>

The table on the following page is an excerpt of the spills reported to the Iowa DNR from April 1, 2024 to March 27, 2025.

Spill Location	County	Responsible Party	Staff	Received D...	Status	Complete D...	Material	Quantity
1910 Isaac Newton Dr	Story	Kwik Star #1158	Bryan Burnton	3/23/2025	Closed	3/24/2025	Gasoline non-ethanol	5 Gallons
Morrill Road & Osborne Drive	Story	Cy-Ride (Ames Transit Agency)	Amber Sauser	4/23/2024	Open		Hydraulic Oil	10 Gallons
220 South Teller Ave.	Story		Dennis Thielen	5/24/2024	Open		non-PCB Oil	100 Gallons
200th Block of Beach Avenue	Story		Jenifer Harkin	9/6/2024	Open	9/9/2024	Antifreeze	10 Gallons
1920 Dayton Avenue	Story	USDA - NADC	Jeff Theobald	10/15/2024	Open		Oil	32 oz
626 Morrill Road	Story	Neumann Brothers, Inc.	Bill Gibbons	11/14/2024	Open		Diesel Fuel	40 Gallons
Osborn & Bissel Rd.	Story	Cy-Ride (Ames Transit Agency)	Brett Meyers	12/12/2024	Open		Antifreeze	15 Gallons

4. Resource Recovery Plant

Keeping hazardous waste and trash from being illegally dumped in waterways is an ongoing challenge. The City of Ames Resource Recovery Plant provides multiple options so that illegal dumping is minimized. The Plant continues to accept household hazardous materials every Wednesday and during special collection events. The following table illustrates the amount of material collected over the last three years through various programs and events.

	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Annual Rummage Rampage 	143,838 pounds \$49,000 raised for 41 non-profits	154,843 pounds	136,800 tons
Stash the Trash	Amount not recorded	760 pounds	420 pounds
Ames Stream Cleanup	Amount not recorded	1,500 pounds	2,100 pounds
Household Hazardous Waste	24,846 pounds	33,019 pounds	27,313 pounds
Project Aware Stream Cleanup	N/A	N/A	1,420 pounds

D. CONSTRUCTION SITE STORM WATER RUNOFF CONTROL

1. Construction Site Runoff Control Ordinance

The Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance was presented to the Ames City Council and passed on (Ord. 3875) February 14, 2006.

2. Construction Site Review and Inspection Program

One full-time staff person, Jake Moore, Stormwater Specialist is designated for Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) review, inspection and enforcement activities for this program which includes residential, commercial and industrial developments as well as the city's construction projects.

A City Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control (COSESCO) permit is issued with evidence of an NOI General Permit Number 2 and after the SWPPP has been reviewed and approved. Inspections are conducted quarterly or as needed for compliance. A spreadsheet is used to track the status of each project. Staff regularly correspond with local builders and developers.

Regular inspections are completed on the active city capital improvement projects with reports being prepared for each inspection. The completed and active projects this year are:

Projects Inspected by City Staff

- 21/22 Concrete Pavement Improvements (Stange Rd, 24th Street) – Work completed waiting on vegetation to become fully established
- 2022/23 Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements (Oakwood Road) – Work completed, waiting on a small area to fully establish with vegetation.
- 22/23 CyRide Route Improvements (Lincoln Way) – Work completed, waiting on vegetation to become fully established.
- 21/22 Stormwater Erosion Control (Bloomington Waterway) – Work completed, waiting on vegetation to become fully established.
- East 13th Sanitary Sewer – Work completed, waiting on a few small areas to fully establish.
- Airport Concrete Apron – Work completed, waiting on a few small areas to fully establish.
- East Lincoln Way Shared Use Path – Work completed ,waiting on vegetation to become established.
- 22/23 Concrete Pavement Improvements (Ridgewood, Brookridge, Park, Alley) – completed. This was mulched in the fall of 2024 and will be seeded very soon – Spring 2025.



- 2040 Sanitary Sewer (S. 500th west side of town) – Active.
- loway Creek Flood Mitigation- Work completed and permit discontinued.
- S. 16th Street – Work completed and permit discontinued.
- South Duff Water Main Extension – Work completed and permit discontinued.
- loway Creek Trail Shared Use Path along loway Creek- Work completed and permit discontinued.
- Well / Pump raw water project – Work completed



- Prairie View East Industrial (Sanitary Sewer with pump station and Watermain on east 13th) Work completed and permit discontinued.
- COA Water Department Lime Pond – Active.
- COA Sewer Treatment Plant – Active.

Projects Inspected by Contactor in Coordination with City Staff

- Steve Schainker Plaza – Temporary mulch, seeding plan for spring 2025.
- Furman Indoor Aquatic Center – Active.
- 2040 Sanitary Sewer (SE Side of town on Ken Meril) Active.

The following summarizes the city's construction site runoff control program activities compared to last two years.

SWPPP Reviews/Approvals	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Single Family Homes	54	38	59
Townhomes	0	18	4
Commercial Reviews	6	11	12
Preliminary Plats	2	2	0
Plat additions with Public Improvements	3	3	1
City Project SWPPP Reviews	5	8	7
NOIs Filed for GP#2			
Total Projects	25	19	19
City Projects	5	7	7
Iowa State University Projects	6	0	3
Story County Projects	0	0	1
School District Projects	0	0	0
Private Projects (Gas Stations, Subdivision, Apartments, Hotels, Building Additions, Commercial Businesses)	14	10	8
Single Family Lots- Individual Permit (less than one acre but part of an older subdivision/development)	-	2	0
Weekly (City Project) & Quarterly Inspections (Private Sites)			
Total Conducted	571	719	814
City Projects	325	502	604
Private Projects (Commercial)	126	111	109
Single Family Inspections (Home Lots)	120	106	101
Enforcement Actions			
Number of Compliance Issues (Private Projects)	95	64	50



Construction Site Runoff Control Program Tracking

Types of Issues and Enforcement Actions (Notice sent by email to site contact to have BMP's installed)	
1. Apply Temporary stabilization when site is inactive	
2. Sediment controls required to be installed or require maintenance	
4. Install, maintain stabilized drive	
5. Concrete Washout, Install, clean up and repair	
6. Restore vegetation on neighboring lots, add sediment controls to neighboring lots	
7. Seed, mulch stockpile	
8. Secure porta potty with stakes	
9. Pick up trash	
10. Store chemicals in covered areas or secure containment	
11. Install rock check in channel	
12. Protect intakes	
13. Standpipe at basin outlet required, install control to withdraw water from the surface per GP#2	
14. Move dirt piles away from street	
15. Install sediment controls around stockpile	
16. Expired Permit- renew	
17. Clean out storm sewer/manhole	
18. Not enough controls, add additional. Try to catch this during the SWPPP design	
19. Water site to prevent dust from blowing	
Topsoil Requirements	
Number of Sites Where Decompaction Occurred and Topsoil Placed (final occupancy including single family and commercial lots)	Approximately 61
Describe Methods Used and Amount of Topsoil - Scrape/stockpile/backfill with onsite topsoil (amended soil only used on one City Project - Had settlement problems) Some sites hauled in soil on commercial lots.	
Topsoil is stripped, stockpiled and respread prior to occupancy. Decompaction methods used in seeded areas use Chisel Plow, Box Blade Teeth, Tiller, Farm Disc, Land Leveler/Planer teeth	

3. Topsoil Requirements in GP#2:

The City of Ames code Chapter 5A is our Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance. Any site which has a COSESCO permit, is required to meet the topsoil requirements of NPDES GP #2 requirements. This requirement was made to comply with state law SF 455, which was adopted in 2024.

E. POST-CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

1. Post-Construction Runoff Control Policy Ordinance

A comprehensive post construction ordinance (Chapter 5B) was approved by City Council on April 22, 2014 with revisions to the ordinance in 2019. A link to the ordinance is <https://www.cityofames.org/home/showdocument?id=17750>. The ordinance is currently under

revision to update it to comply with state law (SF455), which went into effect on July 1, 2024. City Council approved a temporary policy memo on July 9, 2024 was issued as a stop gap measure until the ordinance is adopted.

ITEM #: 10	
DATE: 07-09-24	
DEPT: PW	
COUNCIL ACTION FORM	
SUBJECT: INTERIM POLICY TO IMPLEMENT STATE OF IOWA STORMWATER REGULATIONS	
BACKGROUND:	
Senate File 455 (SF455), Relating to the Regulation of Topsoil and Storm Water at Construction Sites, was signed into law by the Governor on April 10, 2024. This legislation becomes effective on July 1, 2024. SF455 modifies Code of Iowa Section 364.3, Powers and Duties of Cities, by adding the following limitations to powers of cities:	
Topsoil Preservation: Cities shall <u>not</u> adopt requirements for topsoil preservation, compaction, placement, or depth that are more restrictive than Iowa NPDES General Permit No. 2 (GP2).	
Allowable Release Rate: Cities shall regulate stormwater runoff only to the extent that rainfall events having a return frequency from 5- through 100-years do <u>not</u> require a post-construction flow rate more restrictive than the flow rate generated by the 5-year rainfall based on actual existing condition of the site at the time construction commences.	
Offsite Pass-Through Flows: Cities shall regulate stormwater runoff from upstream properties only to the extent that stormwater runoff be allowed to pass through downstream stormwater management facilities at the same flow rate as upstream offsite runoff entering the construction site.	
INTERIM POLICY:	
Staff from Public Works, Planning, and Legal will work together to draft changes to the Municipal Code to reflect the requirements of the new SF 455. Once developed, the changes will be brought to City Council for consideration at a later date. In the interim, the following policies will supersede any associated requirements in Municipal Code:	
Topsoil: Topsoil shall be stripped, stockpiled, and respread in accordance with Iowa NPDES Permit No. 2. A soil management plan shall be provided that includes a site map that identifies areas where soils and vegetation will not be disturbed and shows where topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled.	
Stormwater Release Rates: For rainfall events having a return frequency from 5- through 100-years, the rate of runoff from any specific development site after completion shall not exceed the predevelopment peak runoff from a 5-year frequency storm.	
Offsite Stormwater Pass-through: For any specific development project, detention of runoff generated by upstream land is not required. Any stormwater management features may be designed to accommodate the pass-through flow of any upstream area draining into or through the project site.	

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the interim policy to implement State of Iowa stormwater regulations.
2. Direct staff to modify the proposed policy.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

State law regarding local stormwater regulations has been modified, and several aspects of the City's current ordinance are in conflict with the new law. To remain in compliance with State law, these proposed interim policies must be approved and followed while formal changes to the Municipal Code are being developed. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No.1, as noted above.

2. Site Plan or Grading Permit Review Procedures

Site plan review procedures are conducted and implemented by the City through the Development Review Committee process. This committee consists of representatives from Public Works, Planning and City Administration Departments. Stormwater management calculations are required and are reviewed for approval by the Engineering Division of the Public Works Department.

Post construction controls are required to meet the Iowa Storm Water Management Manual Unified Sizing Criteria based on hydrologic soil group B soils in meadow condition. An as-built plan is prepared and submitted to the City to ensure that the sites are built as designed.

The Post Construction Ordinance, City Code Section 5B, applies to new development sites that plan to disturb one acre of more or create more than 10,000 square feet of impervious area. On April 1, 2019 a second category was added for redeveloped sites. The minimum threshold for redeveloped sites is one acre of proposed disturbed impervious area. This has resulted in fewer stormwater management plans to review and implement.

Type of Development	2022/23 # Plans Approved	2023/24 # Projects Approved	2024/25 # Projects Approved
New Development	6	11	10
Redevelopment	0	2	0
Total	6	13	10

In addition, approximately 20 site plans were reviewed and determined that they were part of a regional watershed that considered the proposed conditions or the proposed development was below ordinance thresholds for requirements to the stormwater management ordinance.

Best Management Practices and Water Quality Volume Benefit of Approved Plans

Type of Practice	Number of Practices Approved
Wet Retention Basins	4
Dry Detention	6
Hydrodynamic Separator	1
Bio-swale	1
Total	12
Water Quality Benefits	
New Water Quality Volume Managed	641,333 cubic feet

3. City Funded Watershed and Construction Projects

Civic engagement is extremely important to the City of Ames organization as we serve the customers of Ames. Information about capital infrastructure projects such as roadway, water system improvements, sanitary sewer rehabilitation, drainage, stream stabilization, storm water facility rehabilitation, and flood mitigation projects are on the City's website under Construction Updates. Virtual or Open House project informational meetings are held during the design phase to gather public input prior to finalizing the construction documents. During the past year, project information meetings were held in person. Construction updates are also often made through the Ames Media You-tube Channel.

Several large capital improvement projects continued in establishment phase for the native plantings:

Ioway Creek Flood Mitigation Project (3rd growing season)



- Homewood Slope along South Skunk River (3rd growing season)
- S. Grand Avenue Extension Water quality swales and wetland (3rd growing season)

The following construction projects were completed during the current reporting period:

- Low Point Drainage Improvements- addressing localized flooding (on-going)
- Northridge Heights Retention Basin -Slope Repair



Clear Creek stabilization (near Utah Drive)

Bloomington Waterway
Restoration



24th Street Improvements Bio-swales (west of
UPRR tracks)

Projects that have a completed design and will be constructed during the upcoming construction season:

- loway Creek Restoration -Brookside Park (6th Street to 13th Street)
- S. Skunk River Restoration (near SE 16th Street at shared use path crossing)
- College Creek Stream Restoration (along South Dakota Ave)
- Low Point Drainage Improvements (7 locations within the City)

The following projects and studies are in various stages of analysis/design in the current and upcoming reporting years:

- Inis Grove Park Ravine Slope Repair
- Clear Creek Stream Assessment
- loway Creek Master Plan
- Storm Sewer System Analysis including modeling and BMP planning

6. Tree Planting Program

City has a comprehensive tree program administrated by the City Forester. After approximately 300 trees were lost on city property during the 2020 Derecho, hazardous trees continue to be identified and trimmed or removed for public safety. In addition, removal of ash trees continues at city properties, resulting in a need for tree replacement.

The following summarizes how many trees were planted in the city during the current reporting period. This is in addition to trees planted independently by citizens and businesses.

Location	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
City Properties/Right-of-Ways and Projects	228 trees planted	355 trees planted	195 trees planted
New Private Developments (approximate #)	90 trees planted	50 trees planted	50 trees planted
Residences	300 native seedlings planted-city giveaway	300 native seedlings planted -city giveaway	300 native seedlings planted -city giveaway
Smart Watershed Rebate Program	67 trees	59 trees	43 trees

The City continues to be designated as a Tree City USA and has been so designated since 1983 for its efforts demonstrating a commitment to caring for and managing public trees.



F. POLLUTION PREVENTION/GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

1. Operation and Maintenance Program

The Public Works Operations Division has been inspecting the MS4 components in accordance with the implementation schedule. A street sweeping program is in place that meets the requirements noted in the permit. A program, and corresponding mapping, has been developed to assure inspection and maintenance of all storm sewer facilities on a ten-year schedule. The following tables show activities completed this permit year compared to the previous reporting year.

Activity	Previous Year	Current Year	Amount of Sediment and Debris Collected	
			Previous Year	Current Year
Street sweeping	7402 miles	4080 miles	2591 tons	1428 tons
Intake maintenance	1979 intakes	975 intakes	73 tons	36 tons
Bio-cell Pretreatment maintenance	14	14	Not Measured	Not measured

The following table summarizes inspection and maintenance activities for the City's stormwater management facilities and storm sewer infrastructure for the previous and current reporting years.

Outfalls	Previous Year	Current Year
Dry weather inspections of outfalls	356	215
Issues: Soil erosion, trees around outlets, pipe dislocation		
Outfall repairs	12	4
Intakes		
Inspections	1979	975
Region inspected	North 7 and South 6	Sections L & K
Maintenance performed: Inspect, clean, repair as needed		
Detention and Retention Basins		
Inspections	73	168 basins twice= 336

2. Inspection of Private Stormwater Facilities

On properties where stormwater management facilities are on private property, the property owner is responsible for maintaining the practices on facilities. Letters were sent in the fall to property owners to remind them to conduct inspections and maintenance of their permanent stormwater practices. In **2024, 64** owners returned the inspection and maintenance report.

3. Green Infrastructure

Stormwater Interns perform monthly inspection and maintenance of the smaller green infrastructure in the city.



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FACILITY INSPECTION REPORT		
Site Name: Little Bluestem		
Site Location/Address:		
Date: 11/01/24	Weather Condition: Cold & sunny	
Last Rainfall Event in Days: 2	Inspector's Name: Bri	
Type of BMP (Best Management Practice):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wet Detention/Retention Basin <input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater Wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> Grass Swale <input type="checkbox"/> Dry Detention Basin <input type="checkbox"/> Bioretention Cell <input type="checkbox"/> Bioswale <input type="checkbox"/> Underground Detention System <input type="checkbox"/> Infiltration Trench or Basin <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
STRUCTURAL CHECK		ACTION NEEDED
Is there an issue with the pretreatment? (Check observation ports in subsurface chamber systems, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is there a significant amount of sediment & debris accumulation present?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Do embankments, spillways, side slopes, inlets & outlets show signs of excessive erosion, settling, cracking, building, misalignment or other deterioration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is the inlet(s) or outlet(s) plugged, damaged or not functioning properly?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	leaves
Do impoundment areas show erosion, low spots or lack of stabilization?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Are trees or saplings present if not meant to be part of the BMP?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Are animal burrows present?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Are contributing non-stabilized areas showing evidence of sediment within the BMP?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Do grassed areas require mowing and/or are there excessive clippings?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	could use a mow
Does native/desired vegetation require management?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	more
Are there unwanted vegetation/weeds/algae in the BMP?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
WORKING CONDITIONS		ACTION NEEDED
Does the depth of sediment or other factors suggest a loss of storage volume?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is there standing water in inappropriate areas after a dry period?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Does the infiltration practice pond water for >12 hours indicating hydraulic failure?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Is there an accumulation of debris and/or trash anywhere?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
ADDITIONAL INSPECTION ITEMS		ACTION NEEDED
Evidence of encroachment or improper use of BMP areas?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Signs of vandalism?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Fence, gate, lock or other safety devices need repair?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Evidence of illicit discharge such as oil, grease, auto fluids, paint entering system?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

In addition enhancement of each of the bio-cells is on-going and results in increased function of these practices.

Green Infrastructure Inspection and Maintenance Areas	# BMP	23-24 Inspections	24-25 Inspections
24 th Street Bioswales	11	6	5
Ash Avenue Bio-Cell	1	6	5
Baker Retention Pond	2	6	5
Little Bluestem Bioswales	3	6	5
Calhoun Park Rain Garden	1	6	5
Community Center Bio-Cells	5	6	5
Edison & Whitney Bio-cells	2	6	5
Ridgewood Bio-cells	3	4	3
Welch Avenue Tree Trenches	11	6	5

4. Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Program

Public Works and Parks & Recreation Departments and their subcontractors use individual application records, site logs, summary logs for tracking pesticide and fertilizer use.

Here are some highlights of the program:

- Department minimize chemical use and are apply Integrated Pest Management BMPs.
- Phosphorus-free fertilizers are used at most public facilities.
- Tracking sheets list chemical use, application rates, applicator and type of IDALS certification and certification number.
- Best management practices include the use of Phosphorus-free fertilizers and acceptable cultural practices for the use of fertilizers.

The following are the locations where fertilizer, herbicides and pesticides were applied.

City Parks: Hira, Northridge Heights, Carr, Teagarden, Country Gables, Lloyd Kurtz, O'Neil, Franklin, Oakland, Hutchinson, Moore, Green Briar, Stuart Smith, Duff, Parkview, Roosevelt, Gateway, Gartner, Bandshell, Old Town, Ada Hayden, Brookside, Calhoun, Christopherson, Daly, Dog Park, Emma McCarthy, Furman Pool, Homewood Golf, Inis, Moore, Patio Homes, River Valley.

Other Facilities: Operations on Edison, Municipal Cemetery, Airport, Community Center, Fire Houses, Electric Services, right-of-way areas such as boulevard medians.

The tables that follows summarizes products and amounts used over the last three years.

Parks, Right-of-Ways, Cemetery			
Herbicides and Pesticides, unit	2022	2023	2024
Anew, lbs	6	13	6
Defender, gal	0	0.12	0
Esplanade, gal	1.64	3.24	0
Glyphosate, gal	10.03	175	0.25
Imidacloprid, gal	0	0	1.2
LV400, gal	0	36.2	0
Merit, gal	0	1.56	0
Prodiamine, lb	61.8	0	93.1
Quinclorac, lb	0.5	0	0
RM-18, gal	0	52.5	0
Speedzone, gal	27.2	77.1	10.5
Spark, gal	0	5	0
T Zone, gal	0	2.46	0
Tetrino, gal	1	0	0
Threesome, gal	0.63	1.44	0
Vessel, gal	0	1	0
Vivax, gal	0	3	3
Fertilizer, Mesa, 25-0-5, lbs	3200	0	0
16-0-3 Fertilizer, bags	0	26 bags	0
Ignition Fertilizer	0	3.5	10

Homewood Golf Course			
Product Name, unit	2022	2023	2024
Acelepryn, gal	0.19	2.01	0
Aneu, lb	12.2	22	0
AntsZ, gal	0	0	0.19
AT45, gal	9.4	8.9	7
Bifenthrin, gal	0	0.81	0.56
Chloratholonil, gal	5	14	0
CLT72, gal	0	5	0.12
Dac Action, gal	14.06	20.5	16.29
Dimension, gal	0	0.28	0
Floratine Fertilizer, # applications	9	9	5
Green Activator, gal	8.5	3	0
Iron, gal	10	0	0
Ignition, gal	0	8.5	10
Mencozeb, lbs	18	18	3
Merit, gal	0	0.25	0
Pervade, gal	1.34	0.88	1
PK Fight, gal	10	0	0
Posterity, gal	0	0	0.58
Primo, gal	0.09	0.06	0
Prodiamine, lb	25	30	20
Propistar,gal	2.43	0.88	1.5
Secure Action, gal	0.16	0.58	0.47
Speedzone, gal	7	7.5	1.5
Spotrete, gal	1.57	4.98	3.13
Stressgard, gal	0	2.5	0
Teb, gal	3.9	4.2	1.95
Thiram, gal	2.7	2.0	0
Triplo, gal	0	5	0
Vivax, gal	2.8	15.3	0
Zoxy, gal	0.75	0.83	1.68

Mosquito control applications are used throughout the city during mosquito breeding periods. Amounts required vary from year to year because spraying is only performed when needed based on the weather conditions.

Mosquito Spraying						
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Gallons Sprayed	73.64	17.2	3.72	270.25	452.38	83.22


5. City Facility Inspections

On-going inspection of city facilities is performed by each Department: During the current reporting period inspections at the following locations were conducted:

- Power Plant Ash Pond (monthly inspections)
- Public Works Operations (yearly)
- Municipal Airport (yearly)

Fuel Tanks, Dumpsters, Chemical Storage, Equipment



	MS-4 Pollution Prevention Good Housekeeping Program	
	Annual Stormwater Site Inspection Form: Department: <u>Airport – Public works</u>	

Name of Facility: Ames Airport Date: 2-19-2025 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Inspector Name: Jake Moore – Public Works COA Signature: _____

Weather Conditions: - 5 degrees, snow covered, frozen

Please check one of the following: ☒ Dry Weather Inspection ☐ Wet Weather inspection

Area/Equipment/BMP Inspected	Observations	Actions Taken
Fuel Tanks	Protected with Bollards and double wall tanks Tank Conditions Good Tanks Jet-A and 100 Lot LED Fuel truck in good order.	New fuel tanks installed underground. The concrete was replaced. No longer seeding minor spill spots. The fueling truck has been replaced with a newer truck and tank. A few of the private tanks have some rust on the outside where paint came off otherwise, they appear to be in good condition. See attached pictures. Small fueling containers are stored indoor hangers and maintenance building.
Below ground tanks	– These are inspected by a separate company.	N/A
Buildings	Inspected COA owned buildings. Private buildings were not inspected however private fuel tanks and dumpsters were inspected and checked for leaks and closed lids.	None Required
Green spaces and Buffers	The project replaced some concrete this past year and did some apron work. The site was seeded and hydro-mulched. This was late fall of 2024 and will establish vegetation spring of 2025.	None Required
Basins and waterways.	Waterways are frozen. No running water at this time. I did not see any discharge occurring.	None Required

Chemicals with the exception of fuel and occasionally deicer are stored inside the building.	Covered and in proper containers inside buildings.	Tanker trucks, Deicer appear to be in good working condition. Deicer container looked clean and well kept. Small containers kept inside of buildings. Deicer tower was in the hanger at the time of inspection.
Deicer – On Cart 500 Gallons. In Hanger	Good Condition	Not Required
Discharge Points	Clear water draining off site. No odor or sheens. Checked west side of airport – Incoming streams and North and East side of Airport – discharge sides. I did not see signs of illicit discharge.	Not Required
Down Stream	Waterways/Creeks draining airport are clear	
Fuel Trucks	Drippings on ground have stained the concrete.	
Dumpsters	2 Dumpsters on site. Lids were closed at time of observance.	

6. Continuing Education Program for Staff:

City Stormwater and Public Works staff continue to attend seminars and conferences to continue their education and stay current with the latest stormwater practices and techniques. Stormwater staff participated in following continuing education:

Stormwater Staff Continuing Education

Event	Number Attending
ISWEP Stormwater Webinar Series	2-4
ISWEP – I-Storm Conference, Oct. 30-31, 2024	2
3 ISWEP Quarterly meetings	2
Iowa Water Conference Sep 10-11, 2024	3

7. Stormwater Pollution Prevention training for Staff:

The annual Pollution Prevention training for Public Works Department (Operations, Utility Maintenance) and the Parks Department, was conducted on January 30, 2025 using the video called “Rain Check”, a resource provided by ISWEP. **Eleven staff** participated in the training.



Acknowledgment of Training

(This top section should be filled in by the trainer)

Signature(s) below are acknowledgment that on (date) 1/30/25,
these individuals participated in a training session at the:
Location Name: PARKS & REC MAINTENANCE SHOP
Address: 700 E. 13th Street, Ames, IA 50010
Given by: (trainer's name) Hugo Swanepoel
(title) Supervisor

This training session presented information on stormwater pollution prevention for MS4s.
During this session, the individuals listed below viewed the training video:

RAINcheck: STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION FOR MS4s

The participants' signatures below affirm they were given adequate time to ask questions about their particular job activities and how they could best conduct these activities.

Please read the above paragraph before signing below.

PRINT NAME HERE	SIGNATURE HERE
<u>EFRAIN RAMIREZ</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Brian Lewis</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Kyle Farmer</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Emir Ametovic</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Sesse Smith</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Nicholas Lager</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Matt Kachorek</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Rod Spald</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>SHAWN CRAIN</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Gabriel Edwards</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Hugo Swanepoel</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>

PART 3: SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A construction site inspection program has been developed and implemented for construction projects, owned or operated by the City, that include areas of soil disturbance for which NPDES permits are required. The inspection program ensures that contractors are correctly implementing BMPs that have been approved in the pollution prevention plan and any additional necessary measures. Actions to comply with this condition are described in Section D. Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control above.



A map of the MS4 on the City's GIS system continues to be updated and maintained as changes are made to the system with project reconstruction or new development. Typically as-built plans are used to add the data to the map.

PART 4: MONITORING DATA

A. Water and Pollution Control Stream E. Coli Monitoring

The City of Ames continued water quality monitoring for fecal coliform bacteria during the current monitoring period. It is conducted by the laboratory staff of the city's Water and Pollution Control Department and included tributaries of S. Skunk River. The following table illustrates the on-going results. If obvious signs of pollution are discovered, or if significant degradation is observed, city staff will conduct more detailed water quality investigations.

The drought conditions resulted in either high concentrations of E. coli immediately after storm events or very low or negligible measurements during a dry period.

E. coli Monitoring Conducted by the City of Ames Water Pollution Control (MPN/100mL)					
SAMPLE DATE	S. SKUNK RIVER	IOWAY CREEK	CLEAR CREEK	COLLEGE CREEK	WORRELL CREEK
2019					
4/9/2019	122	158	85	2909	448
5/16/2019	63	231	189	265	384
6/11/2019	173	374	414	583	594
7/16/2019	839	5172	24196	>24,196	2098
8/6/2019	122	2909	6867	8664	3448
9/24/2019	1764	1446	320	904	1024
10/11/2019	558	758	268	1024	378
2020					
4/7/2020	82	150	62	1,640	---
5/19/2020	1,100	750	218	370	700
6/16/2020	718	1,040	960	2,518	1,466
7/14/2020	126	374	746	654	---
8/18/2020	146	268	---	432	---
9/15/2020	189	364	384	5,475	---
10/21/2020	40	394	---	---	1,596
11/18/2020	85	173	---	3,076	---
12/16/2020	---	82	---	---	---
2021					
4/21/2021	31	33	--	908	51
5/21/2021	121	455	110	1,396	187
6/16/2021	805	904	--	--	--
7/21/2021	98	441	--	--	--
8/18/2021	20	--	--	--	--
9/15/2021	41	--	--	--	--
10/20/2021	146	--	--	--	--
11/17/2021	620	52	84	--	--

E. coli Monitoring Conducted by the City of Ames Water Pollution Control (MPN/100mL)					
SAMPLE DATE	S. SKUNK RIVER	IOWAY CREEK	CLEAR CREEK	COLLEGE CREEK	WORRELL CREEK
12/17/2021	10	185	96	3130	--
2022					
4/26/2022	10	41	63	1,860	52
3/18/2022	41	52	--	410	20
5/18/2022	109	345	2,143	9,280	7,270
6/15/2022	8,704	10,334	15,402	9,222	22,398
7/27/2022	258	422	561	--	--
8/24/2022	120	246	--	--	--
9/20/2022	246	1,722	--	--	--
10/18/2022	--	288	--	--	--
11/16/2022	2,187	9,804	--	3,609	--
2023					
2/15/2023	1816	1,424	626	602	5,818
1/19/2023	--	--	249	1,782	--
3/22/2023	<10	96	41	301	135
4/19/2023	30	336	20	355	96
5/17/2023	313	771	414	504	345
6/21/2023	573	1,850	1,333	2,603	1,396
7/26/2023	135	--	1,785	--	--
8/16/2023	327	816	820	15,531	--
9/20/2023	1,515	7,270	15,531	14,136	--
10/18/2023	238	1,314	--	--	--
11/15/2023	84	--	--	--	--
2024					
2/29/2024	41	41	--	--	--
3/27/2024	<10	31	--	--	--
4/17/2024	292	1,722	573	910	987
5/17/2024	132	238	313	487	146
6/19/2024	1,935	8,164	15,531	24,196	>24,196
7/17/2024	5,172	1,046	1,019	--	1,616
8/21/2024	331	1,553	--	4,106	--
9/18/2024	109	--	--	--	--
11/26/2024	1,178	2,187	323	3,448	816