New Airport Terminal to Open Soon; Ribbon-Cutting Event in October

The new terminal building at the Ames Municipal Airport, located at 2501 Airport Road, will soon be complete. The new terminal will add office space, training rooms, and space for pilots and travelers. A public ribbon-cutting for the new building is scheduled from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21.

The new terminal was funded through a partnership between the City of Ames, Ames Economic Development Commission, and Iowa State University, as well as assistance from federal and state aviation grants.

In 1943, the citizens of Ames voted 1,225 to 257 to establish a municipal airport. In the beginning, two turf runways pioneered the development of the Ames Municipal Airport. Since then, two paved runways, numerous aircrafts and hangars, a modern terminal, and several other additions have contributed to the growth of this valuable resource in our community.

Keep an Eye on the Sign!

Those who live or visit the neighborhoods south of ISU campus already know that parking is at a premium. The Ames Police Department is reminding those who park vehicles in the area to remember the parking regulations. Parking on neighborhood streets south of Lincoln Way, from Beach to State Avenue, is limited by time. Park at the wrong time and you will likely get a ticket. Park for too long and your car could be towed.

Follow these tips to avoid a bad parking experience. The first step is to check the sign where you intend to park. Onsite parking is controlled in two main ways:

Alternate Side Parking – Parking is only allowed on a given side of the street during certain days and hours. Vehicles must be moved to the other side of the street before the deadline to avoid getting a ticket.

Time Limits – Your vehicle can only be parked for a certain number of hours before it has to be moved. Many streets have limits as short as four hours. Always check the sign. Know the time your vehicle needs to be moved and plan ahead to get it moved before the deadline.

For links to the Ames Municipal Code, parking regulations, and other helpful parking information, visit www.cityofames.org/ParkSMART.
The Ames Fire Department will host its fifth annual Fire Station Open House from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 14, at Fire Station No. 1, located at 1300 Burnett Ave. Participants can learn fire safety tips, experiment with fire fighting equipment, explore fire trucks up close, meet Ames firefighters, and tour the fire station. Also, Freddie the Fire Truck and Sparky the Fire Dog will be on hand. This free, fun, and informative event is great for all ages.

Fire Prevention Week will be held October 8 - 14. This year’s theme is “Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!” Fire safety messages will reinforce why every person needs to have an escape plan.

The National Fire Protection Association recommends families practice home fire drills twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out. Most people have less than two minutes to escape a fire, so teach children how to escape on their own in case adults can’t help them. Also, close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire. Finally, once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Half of all U.S. home fire deaths occur at night between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when people are most likely to be sleeping. Check the batteries in your smoke detector! Having a working smoke alarm in the home cuts the risk of dying in a fire in half.

The City of Ames budget process kicks off in the fall with the annual Town Budget Meeting. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3, in the City Council Chambers, second floor, City Hall, 515 Clark Ave.

A brief overview of the City’s budget, including revenue and expenses, will be presented. This is followed by a time for citizens to give input for the coming year’s budget.

The Town Budget Meeting begins the months-long process of developing the City’s annual operating and capital improvements budget. The public is encouraged to attend.

The City of Ames, in partnership with the ISU Office of Sustainability and with assistance from the Volunteer Center of Story County, held the sale from July 28 to Aug. 2 at the Ames Intermodal Facility, 129 Hayward Ave. Plans are being made for Rummage RAMPage 2018. Keep updated at www.CityOfAmes.org/RummageRampage.
SunSmart Ames from the City of Ames Electric Services department is a partnership with our customers and a solar energy production company. With customer support, the City of Ames will enter a contract to purchase all the solar power produced by a solar farm built on public property. The preferred site is just north of the Ames Municipal Airport. The project will give citizens an affordable and flexible way to use solar energy. City of Ames customers can purchase “Power Packs” and subscribe to a portion of the energy output from the project.

SunSmart Ames “Power Packs” will cost approximately $350! Customer interest will determine the final cost. Payment can be spread into 12 installments. Each share is expected to generate 2.5% of an average home’s annual electric usage. You will receive a monthly credit on your utility bill for the electricity generated by your share of the project.

Why community solar?
Renewable energy at an affordable price. You choose your investment level. When you purchase community solar project shares, you don’t have the large, up-front cost of adding solar panels to your roof.

No ongoing maintenance costs & no rooftop required!
Equipment and solar arrays are independently maintained. No worry or hassle for you. Great for customers whose rooftops are shaded by trees, and it allows renters to participate.

Easy to move.
Your Power Packs move with you to another residence in Ames’ service territory, and buyouts are available if you relocate outside our territory.

Want to know more? Visit www.cityofames.org/solar
Questions? Call 515.239.5170

Help bring solar power to Ames! Let us know if you’re interested in subscribing to SunSmart Ames. Fill out the information below and return to Ames Electric Services, 502 Carroll Ave., Ames, IA 50010, OR return this form with your utility bill payment.

NAME: ______________________________ ADDRESS: ______________________________

I intend to purchase _____ Power Pack(s) in the SunSmart Ames Community Solar project. It is estimated Power Packs will cost approximately $350. Payments can be spread into 12 installments (approximately $34.17/month including a processing fee). Based on customer interest, Ames Electric Services will decide this fall if the project is feasible. If the project moves forward, you will receive a subscription agreement and payment information.

Email Address (for project updates): ____________________________________________
Ask the Energy Guy

Q: Is there a rebate for installing LED lights?
A: Yes, there is. Light emitting diode (LED) lighting systems come in all shapes and sizes, but all share one thing in common. LEDs are more efficient than the equivalent incandescent light bulb - some as much as 90 percent more efficient! While LEDs can be expensive, the good news is the prices are falling rapidly. LEDs are such a good energy buy, we have focused our lighting rebates on LEDs and no longer offer rebates for compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs).

In addition to the tremendous energy savings, there are other advantages to installing LED lighting. While an incandescent bulb might be expected to last 1,000 hours and a CFL might last 8,000 hours, an LED will last 50,000 hours. And while LEDs give off some heat, it’s less than incandescent bulbs and CFLs. In addition, LEDs are very durable and can be dimmed. While it’s true LEDs are more expensive than other types of bulbs, because of their long life they end up costing less over time. Also, LEDs do not require any special disposal methods. (Remember, CFLs should be separated from your trash and brought to the Resource Recovery Plant, 110 Center Ave., for proper disposal.)

City of Ames Electric Services wants to help residential customers reduce electrical consumption, resulting in increased electric system reliability, a cleaner environment, a lower electric rate, and reduced electric bills. The Smart Energy Residential Efficient Lighting Rebate program helps customers replace certain fixtures and/or bulbs with more efficient ones. The rebate is designed to cover a percentage of the initial cost of your purchase to help you upgrade to efficient lighting systems.

Currently, City of Ames Electric Services customers who purchase an LED are eligible for a rebate of 30 percent of the LED cost (not including tax). Fill out a rebate claim form, sign it, and return it to Smart Energy, 502 Carroll Ave., Ames, IA 50010. For a claim form or more information visit, www.CityOfAmes.org/SmartEnergy, or call 515.239.5177.

Numbers to Know
Power out ..........515.239.5240
Street light out .....515.239.5500
Utility bills ..........515.239.5120
Energy questions ..515.239.5177
Tree growing too close to an electric line ..........515.239.5500
Going to be digging?
Iowa One Call: .........................811
Storm Water Concern..................515.239.5160

Renewable Energy
For July 2016
6.8% of electricity used this month was generated from wind.
1.7% of electricity this month was generated by refuse derived fuel (RDF) from the Resource Recovery Plant
132 Ames customers have invested in solar voltaic systems.

Degree Day information available at www.CityOfAmes.org/Electric

Energy Facts
- A 100-watt equivalent light bulb gives off 20% more light than two 60-watt equivalent bulbs.
- Dusty bulbs can emit 20% less light than clean bulbs.
- More than 2 billion people in the world do not have access to electricity.
- The average American home loses $200 worth of energy per year through air leaks.
- The average home in Ames spends about $6 per month on refrigeration.