



# City of Stratford

805 Shakespeare Avenue, PO Box 218

Stratford, Iowa 50249

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

Email: [cityofstratford@globalccs.net](mailto:cityofstratford@globalccs.net) Website: [stratfordiowa.com](http://stratfordiowa.com)

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## 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).*

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**The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** is designed to assist low-income families with the cost of home heating. Applications are accepted on a first-come / first-serve basis as posted at your local community action office. The Community Action Agency for Stratford is Upper Des Moines Opportunity. A household may qualify for assistance in this program if its' income falls within a prescribed income range. When you apply, bring proof of income for the last 3 months, including verification of any fixed income such as Social Security benefits and Aid to Families with Dependent Children; a copy of your federal income tax return; and copies of your heating and electric bills. For more information, contact your local community action office located in Webster City, IA, 50595; 515-832-6451 or write to LIHEAP Community Action Department of Human Rights, IA Dept. of Human Rights, Capitol Complex, Des Moines, IA 50319.

# Information for you and your calendar!

- **Remember to recycle!** There are items that must not be put into a recycling bin. Your recycling will not be picked up if a “no-no” is in your recycling bin. City Hall has a list of items that can and cannot be recycled. This list can also be found on the [stratfordiowa.com](http://stratfordiowa.com) website under the City Government tab – utilities & forms.
  - **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, Dan Ostrem at 515-290-6942. If the whole town is experiencing an electrical power outage and Maintenance Staff 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.
  - **Call Iowa One Call** a few days before digging: 800-292-8989 or 811. It’s free and it’s a State of Iowa law.
  - **City wide garage sale day** is April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Stratford Community Development Corporation Promotions Committee is again sponsoring the Citywide Garage Sale Day. Start cleaning out those closets and make plans early to participate!
  - **Spring Clean-up day** will be on May 2nd, 2020. Have your junk curb side by 7:00 a.m. For large items you will need to contact City Hall to see if those items have a pick up cost. An item with a pick up cost will need a sticker attached to it.
  - **City Council Members** Curt Bergman, Heather Conklin, Chase Haman, Justin Richardson, Mitch Peterson and Mayor Larry Runyan. Council meetings are held the second Monday of every month at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
  - **City has debit or credit card capability now!** Pay your utility bills using all major credit and debit cards or pay your utility bills online at <http://stratfordiowa.com/city-government/pay-city-utility-bill/> or in-person at City Hall. You can now pay your utility bill electronically thru the City of Stratford’s website [stratfordiowa.com](http://stratfordiowa.com). There is a service charge of 2.65% or 1.00 whichever is greater.
  - **City of Stratford** is collecting emails for our **Listserve**. What is **Listserve** you ask, it is a simple, efficient, electronic and cost effective way for the town/City of Stratford to get public notices out to our residents. Your email is not shared and it helps the City notify you if there is something happening in town that all residents need to be aware of. Please call or email us at [cityofstratford@globalccs.net](mailto:cityofstratford@globalccs.net) and sign up today!
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## WATER RATE INFORMATION

City council passed the first reading of the Ordinance 2020-01 - An Ordinance amending Chapter 92 (Water Rates) at the February 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 council meeting. The water rate will be increasing three percent. The service for all minimum bills will go from \$16.99 to \$17.50. The gallons used fee will be increasing for the first gallon to 9,999 gallons from \$5.15 to \$5.30 per 1,000 gallons, and from 10,000 gallons to 24, 999 gallons from \$5.40 to 5.56 per 1,000 gallons, and from 25,000 gallons to 39,999 gallons from \$5.66 to \$5.83 per 1000 gallons, and from 40,000 gallons to 99,999 from \$5.92 to \$6.10 per 1,000 gallons, and from 100,000 gallons and above gallons from \$6.18 to \$6.37 per 1,000 gallons. The Capital Project Improvement fee will go from \$8.50 to \$8.75 per month. This increase is due to the rising operation and maintenance costs, and saving for future water improvements. If you have any questions, please give City Hall a call at 515-838-2311; or email [cityofstratford@globalccs.net](mailto:cityofstratford@globalccs.net).

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### PROJECT SHARE — Add a "PS" to help a neighbor

Many of our less fortunate neighbors are worried about keeping their families warm during the winter season. You can do something to help through **PROJECT SHARE**. Project Share is a plan that helps needy households pay a portion of their energy bills. Add a regular "PS" contribution to your monthly utility payments or make a direct donation. Your contribution is voluntary, flexible, and tax-deductible. To participate, simply call 515-838-2311, stop in at City Hall in Stratford.

# Stratford's Annual Pet Clinic

Due to the lack of past attendance the City Council had decided not to hold Stratford's Annual Pet Clinic this year. Last year there were only three animals served from inside Stratford City limits and only five animals in total. Please keep in mind the City of Stratford has an ordinance requiring all pets three month or older to be licensed within city limits. See full details below.

- Did you know that every pet owner that lives in the city limits of Stratford must license their pets (cat or dog) that is three (3) months or older?
- Before a license is issued, the owner shall provide a veterinarian's certificate from a licensed vet showing that the pet's rabies vaccination is up-to-date.
- The owner will receive a metal tag from the City of Stratford for the pet's collar. This is not just a benefit for the City, but to the owner as well. If an animal gets loose and is wearing a City of Stratford pet tag, the city will try to contact the owner before taking the pet to a holding facility.
- The City has no holding facility within city limits for strays that are picked up. If an animal is not licensed, the City may dispose of it in accordance with Iowa Code.
- This is important to avoid being non-compliant with Chapter 56 of Stratford Code of Ordinances which requires that all animals residing within city limits be licensed with the City. Non-compliance can result in a municipal infraction which leads to a steep fine. It's easy to avoid!
- Please contact the City of Stratford if you have any questions by calling City hall at 515-838-2311 or email us at [cityofstratford@globalccs.net](mailto:cityofstratford@globalccs.net).
- Pet licenses are issued at City Hall from 8 – 4:30 pm daily. The cost is \$5.00 per year starting June 1<sup>st</sup> and ending the last day of May of each year.



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**Please remember that when SNOW is in the air and on the ground there are a couple of City Ordinances that need to be followed.**

**135.12 DUMPING OF SNOW.** It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12 [2])*

**69.11 SNOW REMOVAL.** No person shall park, abandon or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley, or City-owned off-street parking area during snow removal operations unless the snow has been removed or plowed from said street, alley or parking area and the snow has ceased to fall.

**136.03 REMOVAL OF SNOW, ICE AND ACCUMULATIONS.** It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow, ice and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice or accumulations **within 24 hours**, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

*(Ord. 2019-01 – Feb.19 Supp.)*

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2b & e])*



Notice to Stratford Residents:

# HOUSING REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The City of Stratford is accepting applications for their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded housing rehabilitation program. The objective of the program is the preservation of the City's housing stock through the rehabilitation of single-family home-ownership units located within the incorporated limits of the City of Stratford.

To apply, all of the following minimum requirements must be met:

1. The applicant must occupy the property to be assisted as their principal place of residence and must own the property (Ownership means holding Title to the property).
2. The applicant must have owned and resided in the property to be assisted at least six (6) months prior to the date of application for assistance and cannot be a under a contract sale.
3. The assisted property must be located within the targeted area as identified on map below.
4. The applicant must be current with regard to their mortgage payments, real estate taxes and utility payments associated with the property.
5. The assisted property must be hooked up to public water and sewer.
6. The assisted property must be covered by property insurance in an amount equal to or greater than the current assessed value of the property.
7. The assisted property must be free from garbage, debris, refuse, building materials, and abandoned non-operational or junk vehicles.
8. The household income must meet the program income guidelines listed below:

\*This is a forgivable loan paid back by living in the home assisted for five years after the project has been completed.

## INCOME GUIDELINES

Family Size	Gross Yearly Household Income Limit
1	\$38,850
2	\$44,400
3	\$49,950
4	\$55,500
5	\$59,950
6	\$64,400
7	\$68,850
8	\$73,300

Applications are available at Stratford City Hall or by emailing [cityofstratford@globalccs.net](mailto:cityofstratford@globalccs.net).

**Applications will be accepted and processed on a first-come, first verified basis until program funds are depleted.**

## Hamilton County Freedom Rock® Committee

PO Box 218

Stratford, Iowa 50249-0218

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

Dear Citizens of Stratford,

Stratford is thrilled to be the hosting site for the Hamilton County Freedom Rock®. The rock was painted in September of 2017. Currently the first memorial wall is complete. The Hamilton County Freedom Rock Committee has been talking with Stony Creek Landscaping out of Webster City who designed the Hamilton County Freedom Rock Park. They are looking into the idea of building another memorial wall. However to do this, we are going to need donations and/or look into grant options.

The 99 County Freedom Rock® Tour was created by Ray "Bubba" Sorensen II for the purpose of thanking U.S. Veterans and their families for their military service and sacrifice.

Besides contacting a member of the committee, you may also call 515-838-2311, fax 515-838-2315 or email [HamiltonCountyFreedomRock@globalccs.net](mailto:HamiltonCountyFreedomRock@globalccs.net).

**On behalf of the Hamilton County Freedom Rock® Committee**

Hamilton County Freedom Rock® Committee: Corinne Anderson, Mike Nepereny, and Larry Runyan.

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## STRATFORD LIBRARY

More than just books!

The Stratford library offers so much more than just wonderful books, movies and events. Did you know that there is a display of photos of veterans who have a plaque on the Freedom Rock wall? If you haven't seen this display, you will want to stop by the library and check it out. It is a very impressive tribute to our veterans.

Another display that was recently added to the library was a series of twelve photos illustrating the making of the Freedom Rock. These photos show an example of hard work completed to install the Freedom Rock.

The Library also has a display that show the collection of items from Boy Scout Troop 511. The troop has folded, and this display features ribbons, pictures and other memorabilia dating back as far as the 1960's.

Come visit the library, check out our great selection of books and movies and stay awhile to see our new displays – you won't be sorry you took the time!

# City of Stratford

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Stratford, IA 50249-0218  
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cityofstratford@globalccs.net  
Hours M – F 8 am – 4:30 pm

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## ***APPLY NOW FOR 2020 STRATFORD POOL POSITIONS***

The City of Stratford is accepting applications until [March 27th, 2020](#) for pool management and staff positions for the 2020 pool season. The City has a lifeguard certification reimbursement policy. The policy will reimburse for lifeguard certification over a period of two years if the lifeguard has met all the requirements.

**Assistant Manager and/or Head Lifeguard** — Current lifeguard certification, CPR, first aid, water safety instructor. Previous lifeguard experience a must. Assist in supervising overall operation of pool staff. Ideal candidate to have previous experience in pool management, staff direction, proven customer service skills.

**Lifeguards** — Current lifeguard certification, CPR, first aid required. Previous lifeguard experience preferred; but not required. Additional duties as assigned by pool management staff could include, but not limited to cashiering, cleaning, maintenance.

**Office Attendants** — Good math & customer service skills. Prefer cashiering and money handling experience.

Partial swimsuit reimbursement may be available for lifeguard suit requirements. Wages are dependent upon experience; flexible working hours required; all positions are seasonal, non-benefited; and no minimum guarantee of hours. The City of Stratford is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Call City Hall at 515-838-2311 or email [cityofstratford2@globalccs.net](mailto:cityofstratford2@globalccs.net) if you have any questions.

***Swimming Lessons will be offered again this year. More information will be available in the upcoming months.***