

Our CR Living 5 Seasons

HEROES

EVERYDAY EXTRAORDINARY



Going Beyond Protecting & Serving, P6

Women in Leadership, P12

Resident Appreciation Day, P16



Inside!

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About Our CR Magazine

Our CR magazine is published four times a year by the City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It is distributed to over 66,500 households and businesses in Cedar Rapids, Robins, Hiawatha and surrounding communities that benefit from City services.

The magazine is printed by Walsworth Publishing of Michigan because the company provided the lowest bid in a competitive bidding process with local and national printing companies. Each magazine costs approximately \$60,000 to design, produce, print and mail, which means each edition costs about 90 cents per household or business location. Our generous advertisers offset a portion of those costs.

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Contact the City Manager’s Office at **319-286-5080** or **CityManager@Cedar-Rapids.org** about this publication. To read previous editions, visit **CityofCR.com/Magazine**.



SIGN UP to get more frequent City news updates

From the City Manager



The City of Cedar Rapids brings together a diverse team of dedicated individuals, all working together to accomplish great things for our community.

Much of the work is done behind the scenes. Collecting garbage and recycling, providing the City with great tasting drinking water, maintaining our sewer system, and operating joint communication services are not issues that our citizens even think about; but our employees who work to make these services “invisible” to the everyday observer are proud to know their efforts keep our City functioning, keep people safe, and make residents’ lives better.

In this issue you will read about just a few of the many jobs City of Cedar Rapids employees are doing that I believe make them “everyday extraordinary.” Every day, Cedar Rapids employees have the opportunity to create new and innovative solutions to enhance the lives of our residents. I am proud of the work they do—not for recognition, but because they care about others and their community.

Visit us and hear more on Saturday, June 6 at the first Downtown Farmers’ Market during our Resident Appreciation Day event. We will have representatives from City departments available to speak to you and answer any questions you may have. We’ll also have lots of fun games, give-aways, and of course, city trucks and equipment on display. This is a great opportunity for Cedar Rapids citizens to learn more about City departments and functions. I look forward to seeing you there!

Jeffrey Pomeranz
Jeffrey Pomeranz
Cedar Rapids City Manager

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|--|---|

Appliances: The normal disposal fee for appliances is \$9 each.

- ▶ Air Conditioners
- ▶ Dishwashers
- ▶ Furnaces
- ▶ PCB Ballasts
- ▶ Trash Compactors
- ▶ Dehumidifiers
- ▶ Dryers
- ▶ Humidifiers
- ▶ Refrigerators
- ▶ Washers
- ▶ Freezers
- ▶ Microwaves
- ▶ Stoves
- ▶ Water Heaters

Tires: The normal disposal fee for tires is \$1 per tire without rims and \$2 per tire with rims.

- ▶ Limit of 8 car or small truck tires per customer
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Everyday Extraordinary People Working for You

Every day throughout the year, over one thousand City employees perform various functions that, when isolated, may not seem significant. However, collectively, the tasks performed provide a backdrop for more than 128,000 lives. They keep traffic lights operating, toilets flushing, water safe for drinking and playgrounds safe for playing. They work behind the scenes to handle all the things you don't think about so you can spend your life concentrating on the things you want to think about.

This year, Cedar Rapids will shine a light on many municipal positions that you might not be aware of—the chemist who tests your water, the dispatcher who connects you to emergency services, the planner who maps out Cedar Rapids' future. We will draw attention to these everyday heroes and how their efforts make a quiet difference in your life. We will invite them to our citizen events in June at the Downtown Farmers' Market and in October at our City Services Center Open House so your family can ask them questions and get to know what they do. Your kids will get to sit in the vehicles they drive, see the equipment they use and get a card that tells a little about the position they serve in the community. We hope that our Everyday Extraordinary Heroes Campaign will allow you to get to know the people who serve you a little better and let you learn more about how your City works for you.

Name: Daryl Carson

Title: Building Inspector

What I Do: I inspect homes and businesses as they are being built or remodeled. It's important that all our buildings follow the code so they are safe for all who enter.

Favorite Part of My Job: Working with homeowners and contractors; I love seeing their projects come to life. They put hard work and pride in their projects, and I enjoy helping make sure the buildings are safe and sound.

My Secret Super Power: X-ray vision - I can see inside buildings and spot safety concerns that other people miss.



Name: Kirsty Sanchez

Title: City Planner

What I Do: I help ensure our city has beautiful artwork and design that reflects our history and culture. I make sure neighborhoods are connected and informed, and share information on economic development programs offered by the City to encourage continued growth and investment. I talk to high school students, teachers and business leaders about what they want Cedar Rapids to look like, and help plan for our future.

Favorite Part of My Job: I love the variety of tasks and the fact that I get to interact with members of the community and hear their dreams for our city.

My Secret Super Power: I can see the future - I'm always imagining creative ways to use spaces, buildings or neighborhoods!



Name: Curt Buckles & K9 Narco

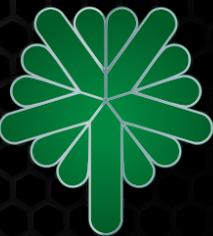
Title: K9 Officer

What I Do: K9 Narco and I patrol the streets of Cedar Rapids to keep the citizens of our community safe. K9 Narco is used to apprehend fleeing criminals, protect officers and locate illegal narcotics. We help people when they are in need of assistance and provide them a better quality of life.

Favorite Part of My Job: Being a K9 handler! Having a K9 is the greatest position in the department. Everything I do with Narco at work is a game to him, and he loves to play games. We go to all the big calls, assist other officers, attend community events and visit kids at schools.

My Secret Super Power: With Narco's help, I can sniff out illegal narcotics even when the human nose cannot sense them.





Going Beyond Protecting & Serving



"It is uplifting and inspirational to see someone take time to positively impact the lives of others."

The field of law enforcement has been the source of some controversy in recent months, yet Cedar Rapids has been very fortunate to have a strong relationship with the community that fosters understanding and dialogue. The majority of police officers in Cedar Rapids go beyond protecting and serving, and strive to make a difference in their city. You might recognize a Cedar Rapids police officer as a coach, mentor, church leader or board member of a non-profit organization. **While dedicated to their community, officers almost universally shy away from recognition.** A few examples of extraordinary acts of service by local officers are listed below.

- ▶ Police officers were dispatched to a family in need of assistance. Officers were told by the residents that the heat was not working. They checked the furnace and discovered the furnace was not lighting correctly and would not stay lit. They attempted to contact building maintenance but could not make contact. The family had a 9-month old baby that was bundled up because the apartment was cold. Officers took it upon themselves to purchase a space heater for the family.
- ▶ A Cedar Rapids police officer purchased a tank of gasoline so a domestic violence victim could drive her car to her parent's home. The victim didn't have any money to get to a safe location.
- ▶ Devastated that his cat was accidentally killed when it was stuck under his recliner, an elderly gentleman called the Police

Department. The police officer helped free the cat, but was unable to save it. Noticing how distraught the man was, the officer arranged to get a new cat from Animal Care and Control for the elderly man.

- ▶ A Cedar Rapids police officer responded to a stalled vehicle on the roadway. The driver indicated that she had a financial hardship and was unable to pay for the vehicle to be towed. The officer made arrangements for the tow at his own personal expense. The act of kindness did not go unnoticed by the owner of the vehicle or by her boss. The employer contacted the Police Department and said, **"It is uplifting and inspirational to see someone take time to positively impact the lives of others."**
- ▶ A police officer responded to a van that was vandalized. The tires were slashed and several windows were broken. The crime victim did not have any money and the van was the only source of transportation for the family. The police officer contacted a local tire, glass and towing company and explained the situation. The officer was able to work with these companies to get the vehicle towed, tires replaced and the windows repaired for a nominal fee, which the officer covered.

"It is times like this, where you see the real, caring and compassionate feelings, of police officers, and the men and women that do this job. They're ordinary people, but they do extraordinary things," says Police Chief Wayne Jerman. 🌿

Firefighters Foundation Gives Back to the Community



Cedar Rapids Fire Department staff takes games and toys to pediatric patients and their families through the Sparky's Truck program.

The Cedar Rapids Firefighters Foundation has raised over \$130,000 for organizations that assist children. The Foundation, created in 2012, is managed by firefighters and civilians who volunteer their service and are dedicated to helping children living in Iowa. The Foundation hosts several fundraisers throughout the year and participates in many memorials, services and activities throughout the state. These activities include the Fire Bowl, which is a charity flag football tournament, as well as the Memorial 5K Walk/Run, Honor Guard, and Sparky's Truck program.

The Sparky's Truck program helps pediatric patients and their families at St. Luke's Center for Women's and Children's Health. The Center includes maternity, newborn intensive care and pediatrics. Sparky's Truck is a miniature fire truck filled with interactive games and toys such as Kindles, iPads and iPods that will respond to requests to ensure patients and families have a bright spot during their hospitalization and come away from their hospital experience with a pleasant memory.

Many parents and/or guardians are unprepared for the hospitalization of their child. Besides the stress of the child's illness or injury, parents/guardians face the increased costs of transportation, meals and childcare for themselves and their other children. Sparky's Truck offers a bright spot or diversion for children who are fighting an illness, injury or are enduring a long stay in the hospital.

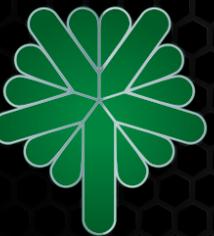
"Providing a dinner out for parents who have spent weeks in the NICU is a welcome treat for parents who are exhausted and stressed," said Dr. Dennis Rosenblum, St. Luke's NICU Medical Director. "The program also offers fuel cards for parents who travel long distances to and from the hospital and games and toys to help pass the time for our patients and families."

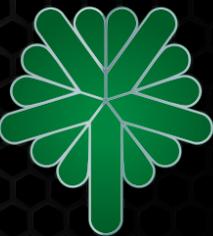
This year, the Fire Bowl proceeds will provide cribs and education to new families who come from lower socio-economic situations to combat SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome) deaths in Eastern Iowa. The Foundation is seeking to partner with St. Luke's and Mercy to be able to provide these cribs at no cost.

For more information about these programs, please visit: www.crfirefoundation.org.

The Cedar Rapids Police Department and Cedar Rapids Fire Department encourage you to connect with us on social media. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter to receive time-sensitive notifications and learn about community outreach programs. There are opportunities to get involved by learning crime prevention and fire prevention strategies. 🌿

- Facebook.com/CedarRapidsFireDepartment
- Facebook.com/CedarRapidsPoliceDepartment
- Twitter.com/CR_Police (@CR_Police)
- Twitter.com/Cedar_Rapids_FD (@Cedar_Rapids_FD)





Providing Services for Renters

The Building Services Department works hard to ensure that all residents enjoy safe, comfortable and secure building structures, whether they live in houses, apartments or condos.

The department performs regular safety inspections to ensure that rental property is meeting the standards set forth by both Cedar Rapids Housing Code and the International Property Maintenance Code. Through these safety inspections, Building Services helps ensure residents who live in rental property have access to heating, sanitation and safety requirements, keeping our community comfortable.

For residents living in rental property, the department also provides advocacy to help resolve any potential challenges or miscommunication that may occur between tenants and landlords/property managers. The department can serve as a resource for landlords on what code requirements are in place and provide clarification on Cedar Rapids' codes.

For Bridget Paul, who rents an apartment in Cedar Rapids, that advocacy and clarity meant the difference between a warm apartment and a freezing one.

Last fall, an unexpected cold snap left temperatures hovering below freezing, turning Bridget's apartment frigid. It was early enough in the year that the building's heat hadn't been turned on yet.

Most communities follow the International Property Maintenance Code, which provides calendar dates designating when landlords need to turn the heat on in their buildings. For Cedar Rapids, where temps could plummet dramatically in less than a day, the Building Services Department adopted an amendment that calls for heat capabilities at all times of the year, ensuring that residents like Bridget can feel comfortable and warm no matter what the calendar says.

This code knowledge allowed the department to step in and alert Bridget's property owner to the requirements, and in less than 24 hours the heat was turned on.

"The staff made the process so easy," says Bridget. "I didn't feel so helpless as a renter; it was nice to know that people care about your basic comfort, and you don't have to jump through hoops to feel heard."

This service is part of the department's overall effort to ensure all residents have access to safe, comfortable building structures.

"We try to serve as a positive liaison for residents and property owners" says Kevin Ciabatti, Director of Building Services. "It's our job to help serve as that advocate and voice and to help make sure both the property owner and the resident have what they need to help resolve issues quickly." 🌿

Everyday Extraordinary Service

"Thanks for letting us get some extra time on the field last night. It's obvious that you really care about the league and softball in general for the community. It's not always that way everywhere you go."
-Jeff Marks

"Thank you so very much for all the hard work preparing, organizing and hosting the Daddy Daughter Dance. My daughter couldn't stop talking about how it was the best evening. She is ten years old and can be hard to please. Thank you for making this a magical night, to build relationships between girls and their dads."
-Elizabeth Pumphrey

Elite Recycling Program Educates Cedar Rapids Area Residents

Nearly 40 Cedar Rapids citizens have earned the title of Elite Recycler since the first group completed their training in January 2014. These Elite Recyclers are your friends, neighbors and co-workers who take the extra effort to really go above and beyond the basic act of recycling and learn about why some items are recyclable in Cedar Rapids and others are not.

"We thought the program would be very interesting," said Toni Hamos who completed the program in July of 2014 with her husband Tom. **"We recycle quite a bit, so we wanted to see what we were doing right and what we could do better."**

During the four-week program, Elite Recyclers like Toni and Tom meet the people that make recycling possible in our community and explore what happens behind the scenes in the recycling industry. The group examines a Cedar Rapids Recycling truck to learn about the relationship between the configuration of the truck and the City's collection regulations. They also tour the Cedar Rapids/Linn County Solid Waste Agency's Resource Recovery Center and Republic Services' sorting facility. The Elite Recyclers ask challenging questions and gain an in-depth understanding of how recycling works in Cedar Rapids.

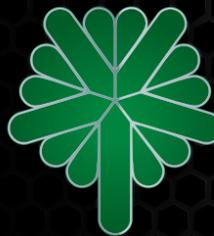
"Offering opportunities like the Elite Recyclers program allows us to meet residents and educate them on the benefits and inner-workings of the recycling program," said Mark Jones, superintendent of the solid waste and recycling division. "We have found that our program graduates end up teaching their friends and family members what they learned. This approach allows our education efforts to reach our customers on a personal level since their friends are explaining the ins and outs of recycling rather than a static ad. This ultimately benefits the entire community, aids our environment and saves operation costs by reducing improper recycling."



"I think the program is well worth your time," said Hamos. "It was very interesting, and we were so amazed by the facilities we toured. It's a real eye opener. We really enjoyed it, and I think a lot of people would find the program interesting and valuable, especially if we want to make the world a better place for our kids and grandkids."

Citizens who complete the free training program receive a special sticker to place on their CURBY cart and a t-shirt. Elite recyclers leave the program with enough information to become recycling ambassadors in our community.

The Elite Recycler class meets on Wednesdays from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. during select months. If you are interested in applying for the next class of Elite Recyclers, go to www.iGreenCR.com to find the application and more information about the program. 🌿



Serving Families in Their Homes

Iowa's incidence of children with elevated blood lead levels is greater than the national average. Thankfully, Hazard Hunters, a grant program that helps reduce the risk of lead-paint poisoning, is available for qualifying families to reduce these risks and keep children safe.



The Hazard Hunters program uses Hazard Control Grant funds to reduce hazards associated with lead paint poisoning in the home, including inspection costs, improvement costs, and healthy homes assessment and education. City of Cedar Rapids and Linn County Public Health staff work hard to make sure families are aware that this opportunity exists.

When the Minney family discovered their home had exterior sections with lead paint, they knew they needed to eliminate those risks for their family. **"There's a lot more to it than you realize at first to identify where the hazards are and to take the paint off,"** says Bryan Minney. "With this process, there wasn't the hassle of running around to a lot of different people or agencies, the program is very thorough."

Serving Our Development Community

Encouraging local development and growth requires a commitment to seamless and streamlined City services. With that goal in mind, the City created a Development Services Division in 2012 to help increase the City's role in assisting businesses that want to grow within our community—making it easier than ever before to support economic development.

"It feels good to know we can help improve living conditions for people, not only by making them lead-safe, but also by creating a safer and healthier environment," says Art Anderson, housing and healthy homes specialist with the City of Cedar Rapids, who assists families throughout the process. "I find it rewarding when a project is completed and the resident has a sense they are in a safer environment."

"Families faced with the task of eliminating lead hazards understand how it can be an overwhelming task" says Ann Olson, healthy homes program coordinator for Linn County Public Health. **"The goal is to eliminate childhood lead poisoning, and this grant program can assist families who want to provide a lead-safe home for their children."**

More than 400 properties have been made lead-safe through three previous rounds of funding, and the opportunity to increase that number is now available. Funding for this unique program is made possible from the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) and helps ensure families like the Minney's are no longer at risk from lead-based paint. The program is open to qualifying homeowners and investment owners with children under the age of six, in residences built prior to 1978. Household income must not exceed 80 percent of the area median income determined by HUD. 🌱

To learn more about the qualifications, visit CRHazardHunters.com.

The development team provides a single point of contact for local investors looking to bring a restaurant, daycare, retail store or other business to Cedar Rapids. Instead of going to multiple City departments to navigate annexations, zoning, conditional use permits or concept plans, developers now have a single entry point that allows them to more easily submit concept and site plans and turn their ideas into a reality.

"It was great to have that one point of contact for permits and other necessities" says John Chadima, owner of the first Cedar Rapids' Firehouse Subs restaurant, which recently opened in November of 2014. **"As a business owner, I found that extremely helpful."**

"Working with business owners early in the process and maintaining contact from concept to opening day is really beneficial for both the City and the business owner," says Joe Mailander, Development Services Manager.

"It allows our City staff to come into the process before a business owner has spent a lot of money on design, and work with them to identify and plan for any challenges ahead. In doing so, City staff has a better understanding of the businesses' needs, which really allows us to be a part of the team and advocate for their project the whole way through."

Traffic Engineering Serves Our Neighborhoods

While trucks are an essential commodity for a commercial, industrial and agricultural community, they often are not the best form of traffic for residential, bicycle and pedestrian-friendly streets. Public Works Traffic Engineering helps oversee the ordinance which designates approved truck routes for the trucking industry. Residential roads typically are not designed to withstand daily truck traffic. The City ordinance helps limit truck traffic from residential areas, where people may be biking or walking, where cars are parked more frequently, or where people may be more sensitive to the noise and vibration of passing trucks.

For Vivian Baier, who lives on Boyson Road NE, truck traffic was a concern. The speed and size of the vehicles prompted her to share these concerns with Engineering Technician Scott Hamlin.

When concerns come in from the community, the situation is always investigated to see if there are ways to improve the conditions and help address resident concerns.

"The comments that the City's team provided helped us adjust things early on. That feedback prior to construction was very helpful and probably saved us money," says Chadima.

City divisions like Joe's lock arms with the City's Economic Development and Community Development teams to help ensure the entire process from initially thinking of moving a business to Cedar Rapids, to formally submitting site plans is as streamlined as possible.

Ongoing relationship building also plays a critical role in the success of the Development Services Division. The teams held an open house in February for local developers, giving them a chance to learn about projected growth areas and chat with staff one-on-one. These regular check-ins give staff the feedback they need to improve the process and serve the development community, one business at a time. 🌱



Hamlin found that Boyson Road was a great candidate for signs that say **"Not A Truck Route."**

"Vivian had a very legitimate concern," Hamlin says. **"Boyson Road serves as a natural connection for traffic going between Cedar Rapids and Marion, and we determined that signage would help call more attention to the non-truck route designation."**

Two signs were added on Boyson Road to help call more attention to truck drivers, a sign on C Avenue, visible to eastbound traffic, and a sign at Brentwood Drive, visible to westbound traffic. Trucks may only use non-truck routes when traveling from the truck route to their destination, using the shortest path possible.

Hamlin personally called Baier to share the news with her. **"I'm pleased the City has taken that step," Baier says. "I appreciate the fact that the City listened and responded to concern from a resident."** 🌱

City Spotlight: Women in Leadership

Meet just a few of the many talented, dedicated women working hard for the City of Cedar Rapids. Each brings their own unique experience and energy to the job, and contributes greatly to the overall success of our organization.



Name: **Jasmine Almoayed** Title: **Economic Development Liaison**

Jasmine is responsible for overseeing the creation and implementation of the City's Economic Development Strategic Plan, including new business recruitment, collaboration with the business community, increasing small business entrepreneurial support, and more. Jasmine earned her B.A. in psychology and political science and master's degree in political science from Iowa State University.

"I am fortunate to have a role that allows me to be involved in many aspects of business and community development. I have had the opportunity to work with incredibly visionary people in both the public and private sector who are making things happen in this community. It's exciting to be a part of all of the positive things that are currently happening in Cedar Rapids."



Name: **Angie Charipar** Title: **Assistant to the City Manager**

Angie provides management support to the City Manager, including strategic planning, interdepartmental coordination, and customer service. Angie also manages legislative policy development for the City Council and City staff and coordinates state and federal legislative activities on behalf of the City of Cedar Rapids. Angie graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.A. in political science. She previously worked for Congressman Jim Leach and as the PAC-Grassroots Manager for AEGON.

"I don't know anyone who loves to come to work every day as much as I do! This job allows me to be a part of so much that's going on in the City, both for today and years to come. I am so fortunate to work with a team of people who truly care about their community. I can't imagine working anywhere else."



Name: **Sandi Fowler** Title: **Assistant City Manager, Development Services**

As Assistant City Manager for Development Services, Sandi is directly responsible for the departments of Building Services, Community Development, Public Works, CR Transit, and private development plan review. She also supports the City Manager to ensure all City departments meet citizen engagement, policy development, and Council service expectations. She earned her B.A. in business administration from Mount Mercy University and her Masters of Public Administration from Upper Iowa University. Sandi just celebrated her 25th year working for the City of Cedar Rapids.

"I've always thought that so much of what cities do for their residents should seem like magic, clean, great-tasting water coming from the faucet, traffic moving the way it should, beautiful parks. That's what I love, working to make Cedar Rapids a great place for our citizens."



Name: **Amanda Grieder** Title: **Nuisance Property Abatement Coordinator, Police Department**

Amanda administers the Secure and Friendly Environments in Cedar Rapids (SAFE-CR) program, which was adopted by Council in 2013 in order to foster a safe and enjoyable environment for all residents. She earned her B.A. in criminal justice from Loras College and her M.B.A. from St. Ambrose University. Before taking on her current role in 2013, Amanda worked as a Cedar Rapids Police Officer.

"The City of Cedar Rapids provides a professional work environment where employees have the ability to grow and learn new skills. I have had the opportunity to work with very talented, smart, and caring people and witness collaboration between City Departments to solve problems. I could not think of a better place to work!"



Name: **Conni Huber** Title: **Human Resources Director**

Conni's department coordinates all City hiring, compensation, benefits, training, employee safety and wellness, and employee and labor relations. She earned her B.A. from the University of Iowa, her master's degree from the College of St. Scholastica and doctorate from National-Louis University.

"No other organization I have worked in has people doing such a wide variety of work that impacts so many different people. I like leading the great team in HR who help foster a workplace where our employees work to the best of their ability and receive the tangible and intangible rewards of their work."



Name: **Elizabeth Jacobi** Title: **Assistant City Attorney**

Elizabeth provides representation and legal advice to City Council and City departments in transactions, regulatory affairs and litigation. She earned her B.A. in political science and psychology from Drake University and her J.D. from the University of Iowa Law School. Before coming to work for the City over eight years ago, she was a shareholder in a local law firm.

"Working for the City of Cedar Rapids is very rewarding because it allows me to serve the interests of the public as a whole, rather than private interests."



Name: **Maria Johnson** Title: **Communications Division Manager, City Manager's Office**

Maria leads a team of communications professionals to ensure residents are well informed of issues and events that are important to our citizens. She earned her B.A. in public relations and communications from the University of Northern Iowa, and is completing her M.B.A. at the University of Iowa.

"I was raised in Cedar Rapids and moved to the Chicago area after college. Moving away gave me a new appreciation for all that the City of Cedar Rapids has to offer. Since working here, I have met so many wonderful people who take pride in serving the citizens of Cedar Rapids. It is fulfilling to know that the work we do helps our community."



Name: **Jennifer Pratt** Title: **Community Development Director**

Jennifer's department coordinates a variety of activities focused on enhancing the quality of life in Cedar Rapids, including more affordable housing choices, improved transportation options, and economic development opportunities to attract and retain the next generation of skilled workforce. She earned her B.A. in public administration from Augustana College and her master's from Upper Iowa University. Jennifer has worked for the City of Cedar Rapids for over 16 years.

"It is extremely rewarding working with the public and elected officials to create a vision of a better community, then making it a reality with more walkable neighborhoods, housing options, and quality job opportunities."



Name: **Dara Schmidt** Title: **Library Director**

Dara oversees the operation of the Cedar Rapids Public Library, following the library's strategic initiatives of investing in young minds, engaging in the digital world, and creating community. She has previously managed libraries in Colorado and California.

"I love connecting with our citizens and community partners, and finding ways to make life better for our customers. I am honored to work for a city that cares so much about making our community the best it can be now, and in the future."



Name: **Amy Stevenson** Title: **City Clerk**

The City Clerk is appointed by the Council to maintain City records and Council documents, manage the Board and Commission process, and more. Amy earned her B.B.A. in management from Mount Mercy University and her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. She has worked for the City of Cedar Rapids for over 25 years.

"The best part of my job is the people I work with. It is great to work with people that care about their community and doing a good job. Over the past 25 years I have worked with many different people across the City and truly enjoy the working relationships and friendships that I have established."



Name: **Heidi Stiffler** Title: **Budget Manager**

Heidi is responsible for coordinating the preparation and reporting of the City budget, financial plans, and cost of service models including reviewing, analyzing and making recommendations. She earned her B.S. in accounting and has work for the City for over 16 years.

"I am impressed by city leadership and I am proud to work for an organization where leadership sets goals and ensures achievements. I look around the City at all the amazing changes and I'm excited for the future."



Name: **Diane Webber** Title: **Program Manager, Cedar Rapids Animal Care and Control**

Diane manages the City's animal control programs, including strategic planning, data collection and reporting activities of the division. She has been an advocate for animals for over 34 years, previously working for the Humane Society of the United States.

"My job allows me to work with both people and pets in a way that positively benefits the community. I'm honored to be working for the City of Cedar Rapids, and to be a part of the Police Department."



Name: **LaSheila Yates** Title: **Executive Director, Civil Rights Commission**

LaSheila directs the operations and activities of the Civil Rights Office and supports their mission to promote and protect equality under the law. She earned her B.S. in sociology from Southern University A&M College before serving as a Commissioned Officer in the Army National Guard. She went on to receive her M.A. in social science and sociology.

"The thing I enjoy most about working for the City is the opportunity to serve my community in an area of my passion. I also appreciate knowing that I work alongside professionals who are committed to the community and are fully invested in ensuring a viable future for generations to come."



Flood Control System – Anticipating Final Design



Engineering and consultant staff has spent months working with the community on identifying goals and hearing feedback on alignment and aesthetic options for the Flood Control System. Staff would like to thank the community for their participation and investment in this process. Some of the key messages staff has heard include ensuring the community can still connect to the river, using levees/floodwalls in creative combinations to aesthetically fit into downtown, providing for trail extensions and greenways, and using aesthetic

treatment to help create a sense of place and remember the 2008 flood.

Engineering teams have worked to take three viable alignment options on the west side of the river and narrow it down into one viable option that can still be finalized and adjusted. City Council is anticipated to approve a final recommendation on alignment and aesthetic options for both the west and east sides of the river in June of this year. To view the latest design renderings under consideration, please visit CityofCR.com. •



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Paving for Progress – 2015 Streets Now Online

Want to see the latest information on Paving for Progress, including which streets we're prioritizing for this year and how we've researched the condition of our roads? Visit CityofCR.com/PavingforProgress •



Two-Way Street Conversions Underway 2015

Several road projects this year will include the conversion of some one-way streets into two-way streets. Residents will see construction underway on the following roads in 2015:

- ▶ 2nd Ave, between 6th St SW to 1st St SE
- ▶ 3rd Ave, between 6th St SW to 3rd St SE
- ▶ 4th Ave SE, between 5th St SE to 19th St SE
- ▶ 8th St SE, between 4th Ave SE to 12th Ave SE

There are several benefits to shifting away from one-way streets. Two-way streets help encourage retail, pedestrian activity, and easy access to downtown. They slow traffic and create a richer sense of place by letting you experience more of your environment.

Special features are also being considered on several segments. On 2nd and 3rd Avenue, design plans include painted pedestrian "bump outs" at intersections, which increases pedestrian safety, decreases the length of roadway a pedestrian needs to cross, and creates visual cues for drivers to slow down at intersections.

Protected bike lanes are being considered on 3rd Avenue, which provide a designated bike lane inside a row of parallel parking, separating the travel lane and the bike lane



There are several benefits to shifting away from one-way streets. Two-way streets help encourage retail, pedestrian activity, and easy access to downtown.

and providing a safety buffer. As the City moves toward street conversions, bike lanes will be considered whenever possible, supporting the City's Complete Streets policy by looking for ways to increase connectivity during road improvement projects. •

Learn more about street conversions at CityofCR.com/Conversions

May is National Bike Month

May is the perfect time to jump-start your cycling habit with special events and activities all month long to help inspire you to pedal instead of pump gas. Biking is healthy, reduces the number of cars on the road, and is a great way to visit local retail while exploring your city.

What can you expect during Bike Month?

- Special events and educational outreach
- Opportunities to learn more about bike lanes in Cedar Rapids
- Ride of Silence on May 20, a slow-paced ride in honor of those who have been injured or killed while cycling
- Join the Metropolitan Planning Organization bike ride on May 30 and enjoy 22 miles of cycling to Ely and back

Where can you go to learn more? Visit CityofCR.com/BikeCR. •

Cost-Share Program Aimed to Help Manage and Improve Stormwater

The Public Works Stormwater Program is launching a partial-reimbursement program to encourage residents to utilize Stormwater Best Management Practices to help improve our stormwater. Stormwater runoff is the water from rain events and snow melt that does not soak into the ground due to impervious surfaces such as streets, driveways and parking lots. As stormwater runs across these surfaces it can pick up pollutants such as sediment, nutrients, and other contaminants and deliver them to our local waterways. There are a variety of practices to help reduce stormwater runoff and improve the quality of our stormwater, including bioswales,



Rain gardens are great ways to help prevent contaminants from entering our local waterways.

rain gardens, soil conditioning and permeable pavement, which are options included in the cost-share program. Anyone who pays a Stormwater Utility Fee is eligible to participate in the program. Reimbursement will be up to 50 percent or \$2,000 (whichever is less) of qualifying materials and/or

contractor labor. Funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Details of the program can be found on the City of Cedar Rapids Stormwater Program website at CityofCR.com/Stormwater. •

Stormwater Volunteer Programs



If you're looking for a fun springtime group activity, consider volunteering! The City of Cedar Rapids

Stormwater Program is sponsoring two new volunteer programs that are meant to help raise stormwater awareness through community efforts. In the Mark-A-Storm Drain Program, volunteers highlight the direct connection between storm drains and our local waterways by attaching "No Dumping, Drains to River!" messages on select storm drains, reminding

residents that what goes in our storm drains gets delivered to our streams and rivers. In the Adopt-A-Storm-Drain Program, volunteers can help keep litter and debris from reaching our local waterways as well as keep our storm sewers flowing through litter collection along curbs draining to select storm drains.

For more information and to volunteer for these programs, visit the City of Cedar Rapids Stormwater Program website at CityofCR.com/Stormwater or call 319-286-5802. •

Celebrating National Public Works Week

National Public Works week is May 17 - 23, a time to acknowledge the professionals who serve the public good every day through engineering, construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of city infrastructure. This year's national theme is "Community Begins Here." Thank you to the many men and women who help keep our city moving! •



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Thanks for Making Cedar Rapids Your Hometown

Resident Appreciation Events

On Saturday, June 6, the City of Cedar Rapids will host Resident Appreciation Day as a sponsor of the season's first Downtown Farmers' Market. Under large tents located at 4th Avenue and 3rd Street SE (across the street from Jimmy John's), City departments will provide information and special activities for the public. This is an opportunity for residents to learn more about the services provided by city government, to interact with staff and to ask questions.



Curby greets children during Resident Appreciation Day at the Downtown Farmers' Market in 2014, while Officer Shannon Stokesberry hands out coloring books.



During the event, winners of the Five Seasons Citizenship Awards will be announced.

Join us and celebrate Cedar Rapids! •

City vehicles, signs and equipment; take the City Manager's 1-Bag Challenge; register to win a free family swim pass; and meet City mascots Otto the River Otter, Curby, Yardy, and McGruff.

Some highlights include meeting firefighters, police officers and other staff in the Everyday Extraordinary Hero Campaign. Get an up close look at

Celebrating Building Safety Month

May is Building Safety Month, a public awareness campaign offered each year through the International Code Council to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to sustain safe, sustainable and resilient structures.

Cedar Rapids Building Services Department provides a variety of city services in support of protecting the health, safety and welfare of building occupants, including: building permits, mechanical permits,

electrical permits, plumbing permits, housing inspections, zoning violation inspections and fire inspections.



The department performed a total of 24,339 inspections last calendar year, providing critical services for developers, landlords and property owners. Based on building science and technical knowledge, building codes provide protection from man-made and natural disasters, guarding public health, and reducing property losses.

Thank you to the many men and women who help keep our homes and businesses structurally safe! •

Mark Your Calendar

Don't wait to **SWIM** until school is out!
Pool opening schedule:
- May 23-25, Noelridge
- May 30-31, Noelridge & Cherry Hill
- June 1-4, evenings at Noelridge and Cherry Hill
- June 5, ALL POOLS!!!

June 6
Resident Appreciation Day
at Downtown Farmers' Market

July is National Parks and Recreation Month. Check out the calendar in the Play! Guide and on the Parks and Recreation website for a month of fun activities.

Don't miss Cedar Rapids Night at the **Kernels** July 16 at 6:35 p.m.

MAY

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

JUNE

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

JULY

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |



Join the iGreenCR TEAM and Ditch Your Doses at the Police Station.

Medications that are improperly disposed of can enter and stay in our water supply. Keep our water clean by properly disposing of your old medications. Drop them into the secure drop box in the vestibule of the Cedar Rapids Police Department at 505 1st Street SW.

CEDAR RAPIDS
City of Five Seasons®

Join us for Cedar Rapids Night at the Kernels!

Thursday, July 16 6:35 pm
(Gates open at 5:30 pm)

\$2.00 OFF!

Cedar Rapids Kernels vs. Burlington Bees

Bring this ad to the Kernels Ticket Office or call 319-896-7560 to receive \$2 off all plaza or club seating ticket prices.

CEDAR RAPIDS City of Five Seasons®

Kernels PARTY AT THE PARK



See your city at work on Instagram and be entered to win a family swim pass.

Follow the cityofcr on Instagram and watch your city at work. Everyone who follows us between May 11 and 22 will be entered into a drawing to win a family swim pass. The swim pass, valued at \$225.00, will allow a family to swim at any Cedar Rapids municipal pool (Bever, Cherry Hill, Ellis, Jones, Noelridge) this summer for free! •



Water Quality Always Top-of-Mind for City

Water. Where will it come from? Will it be safe to drink? Will I have enough for my family's needs? For most Cedar Rapids residents, the water they drink and use on a daily basis is an afterthought. But for more than 200 City employees, Cedar Rapids' water supply is top-of-mind every day.

At the City of Cedar Rapids, multiple divisions exist to provide water customers with some of the best tasting water in Iowa and ensure Cedar Rapids residents and businesses have access to clean, safe drinking water. These divisions focus on the conservation, treatment, distribution, storage and testing of the water used in homes, businesses and industry.

protection. The Utilities Department also maintains the fire hydrants throughout the Cedar Rapids community.

When water has been used and enters the sanitary sewer system as wastewater, it all flows to the Cedar Rapids Water Pollution Control Facility (CRWPCF). CRWPCF serves Cedar Rapids, Robins, Marion, Hiawatha, Palo and some other areas in Linn County, averaging around 40-45 million gallons of wastewater per day during normal dry weather conditions. In order to protect our water resources, environment and public health, more than 80 employees work 24/7/365 to treat wastewater before returning it to the Cedar River, which feeds alluvial aquifers that supply the City's wells.



The Ultra-Violet (UV) Light Disinfection system was added to the water treatment process in 2010 and will allow the City to effectively address our customers' needs for many years to come.

All water distributed to homes and businesses has completed a multi-step treatment process. The City of Cedar Rapids was the first in Iowa to add ultra-violet (UV) disinfection to its treatment process. On top of the City's comprehensive treatment process, lab analysts also perform more than 1,400 tests each month to make sure our drinking water meets strict specifications.

Once treated, water enters a network of more than 600 miles of water main pipe, all maintained and monitored by a team of distribution and service crews. Water not immediately consumed flows into storage tanks for use when demand exceeds plant pumpage. Water stored in elevated tanks helps stabilize pressure in the distribution system and serves as an emergency reserve for fire

With a multi-faceted approach to serving customers with the highest quality water when they need it, Cedar Rapids makes it possible for residents to spend a little less time thinking about this resource and more time simply enjoying their clean, safe water. ●



2014 Water Quality Report

We work around the clock to ensure your drinking water is of the highest quality. This report illustrates the scrutiny water undergoes before and after it leaves our facility.

Serving the City of Cedar Rapids, the City of Robins, the Glenbrook Cove Subdivision of Marion and the Poweshiek Water Association.

Cedar Rapids Northwest Water Treatment Plant

Cedar Rapids J Avenue Water Treatment Plant





Partnering for Protection



The Cedar Rapids Utilities Department - Water Division (CRWD) is tasked with delivering clean, safe water to our customers every day of the year, regardless of environmental circumstances. While there are many challenges to delivering on this commitment, severe weather conditions and environmental impacts present the most significant obstacles. Whether it is a record-breaking flood threatening to submerge our well system or a severe drought threatening to dry up our water supply, the CRWD is continually striving for innovative and efficient methods to protect our most valuable resource.

New Approach – Same Goals

Cedar Rapids has wells placed near the river to draw water from the sand and gravel deposits surrounding the riverbed, also called an alluvial aquifer. Using the alluvial aquifer allows the City to produce enough water to effectively meet the needs of our residents and support local industries.

The proximity of this aquifer to the Cedar River causes our source water supply to be continually affected by occurrences in the streams and river, both locally and upstream of the City of Cedar Rapids. Nutrient loading, especially phosphorus and nitrogen compounds, has been an increasing challenge for the majority of rivers and streams not only in Iowa, but across the nation. To address this concern, the federal government issued a new program through the 2014 Farm Bill that allows allocation of funds to partnership groups willing to step up and tackle the issues of nutrient reduction, soil health and water retention. The CRWD and 15 partners, primarily from commodity or conservation groups, were awarded a five-year grant to begin implementing various conservation practices proven to reduce impacts from farm-field runoff upstream of the City's source-water well fields.

Looking Toward the Future

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) grant begins a new era for the City in terms of water quality protection and an additional flood control option. A major component of the watershed work will be devoted to developing a Watershed Action Plan. The plan and program serve to connect downstream consumers with upstream producers who can work together to reduce the overall environmental impacts to our streams, lakes and rivers.

Partners with a Plan

While we cannot predict the weather or environmental impacts, we can better prepare to respond to challenges when we are working with partners who are seeking to achieve the same goals and outcomes. The CRWD has invested in key infrastructure, watershed planning and partnerships to continue ensuring we can provide our customers with some of the best tasting water in Iowa.



Educational Information

Nitrate

Samples of Cedar Rapids drinking water did not exceed 10 parts per million (ppm) of nitrates in 2014.

A dissolved form of nitrogen found in fertilizers and sewage by-products that may leach into ground water and other water sources. Nitrates occur naturally in some waters. Over time, nitrates can accumulate in aquifers and contaminate ground water.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, ask for advice from your health care provider.

Lead

Our drinking water contains little or no lead when it leaves our treatment plant. However, lead can leach into the water during overnight contact with the lead solder and brass faucets in some homes. Because of that, the CRWD collects and analyzes special samples quarterly from area homes to more frequently monitor the distribution system. Our tests show that most homes are at or well below the 15 parts per billion (ppb) – or 15 micrograms per liter of water – standard set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for annual compliance monitoring.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The CRWD is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking and cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The following state-approved laboratories can test your water for lead:

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| State Hygienic Laboratory Oakdale, IA 800-421-4692 | TestAmerica Cedar Falls, IA 319-277-2401 | Keystone Labs Newton, IA 641-792-8451 |
|--|--|---|

Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800-426-4791.

Questions?

If you have questions or concerns about our water quality or this report, we invite you to attend one of two upcoming public meetings:

Saturday, June 6, 7:30 a.m. - noon,
Downtown Farmers Market

Thursday, June 11, 5 - 7 p.m.,
NewBo City Market, 1100 3rd Street SE

You are also welcome to bring questions to any of the regular City Council meetings, which are held at the new City Hall Building at 101 1st Street SE. These meetings are announced in The Gazette, and a schedule of future meetings can be viewed at www.CityofCR.com.

For more information on this Water Quality Report or for copies of our monitoring reports (CRWD's or USGS'), contact the Cedar Rapids Water Department at 319-286-5900.

At-risk Populations

It's important to be aware that some people may be more vulnerable than the general population to contaminants in drinking water. Immuno-compromised persons — those undergoing cancer chemotherapy or organ transplants, the elderly, infants or people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders — can be especially susceptible to infections. We ask anyone who is immuno-compromised to seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Guidelines from the EPA and Centers for Disease Control on appropriate steps to lessen the risk of infection by microbial contaminants are available from the National Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Water Value

Cedar Rapids residents enjoy water rates that are among the lowest in the state.

\$3.86 Buys You 1,000 Gallons of Clean Water:

Engineering and Administrative Support \$0.35

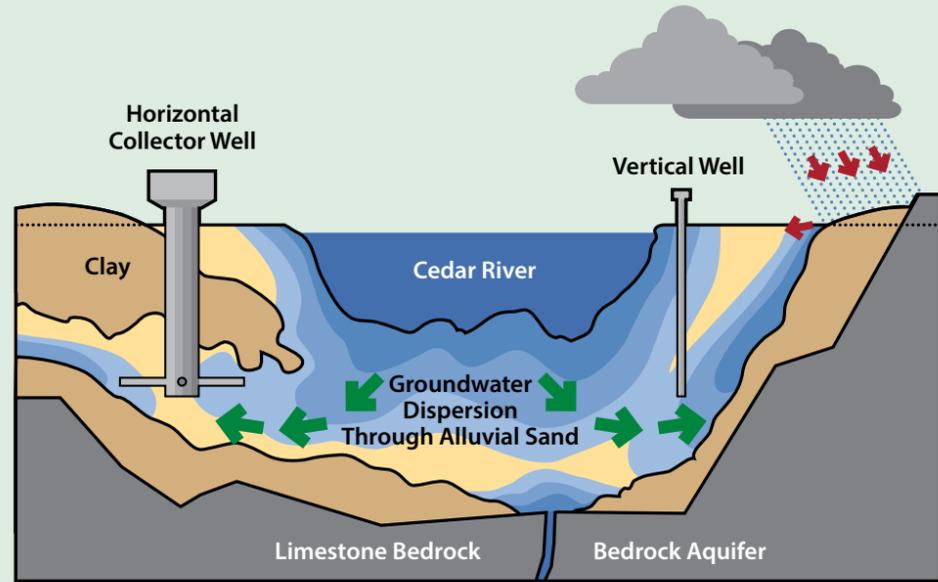
Water Source (Wells) \$0.46

Meter and Customer Service \$0.53

Distribution and Storage \$0.90

Water Treatment \$1.62





Where Our Water Comes From

The City of Cedar Rapids obtains its drinking water supplies from shallow vertical and collector wells constructed in the sand and gravel deposits along the Cedar River. Those deposits form an underground water-bearing layer called an alluvial aquifer. Because of continuous pumping of the City's wells, most of the water in the aquifer is pulled from the river. The rest of the water is supplied as water percolates up from a deeper bedrock aquifer or down from the top of the ground.

Our drinking water from those wells benefits from natural filtration through the riverbank. This natural sand filtration has proven to be a beneficial pretreatment to water before it reaches the City's two conventional lime-softening facilities.

How We Protect the Quality of Our Drinking Water

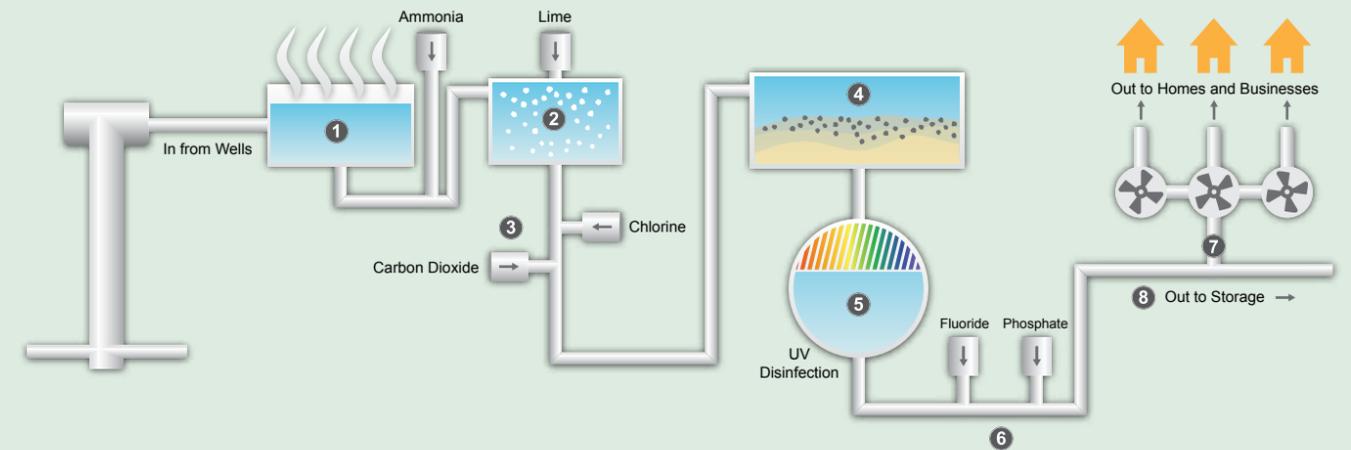
The Cedar Rapids Water Division continues to work with state and federal agencies to monitor and assess our watershed. The Cedar River watershed covers more than 6,500 square miles upstream of Cedar Rapids

and extends into southern Minnesota. Source water assessment identifies potential sources of contamination to the water we use to treat for drinking water purposes. Although efforts are made on many fronts, farm-field runoff continues to be a primary concern and risk for contamination of our source water. We continue to actively monitor the watershed and have initiated a watershed protection program. (If you are interested in reviewing our source water assessment or any monitoring results, please contact the CRWD at 319-286-5900.)

How We Treat Our Water

Our treatment process involves a multibarrier approach to protect our drinking water from the source to your tap. This includes source water monitoring; well-head protection; riverbank restoration; treatment processes of softening, filtration and disinfection; as well as distribution-system monitoring and maintenance.

Treatment Process Highlights



1. AERATION

Once water has been drawn from the wells into the City's treatment plants, it undergoes aeration. Raw or untreated water is allowed to cascade down a series of trays, increasing the surface area of the water and promoting the exchange of gases. Aeration also removes undesirable gases such as radon. Aeration is similar to the natural process that occurs when a stream flows through rapids or over falls.

2. SOFTENING

The CRWD adds slaked lime to the water. This softens or reduces the minerals that typically make water "hard." Excessive hardness increases soap use, deposits scale in water heaters and boilers, interferes with some industrial processes, and sometimes gives water an unappealing taste and odor. Resulting lime residual materials are removed and applied to farmland as soil conditioner or used as fill in approved land reclamation projects.

3. RECARBONATION AND CHLORINATION

The CRWD lowers water pH by adding carbon dioxide and adds chlorine to disinfect the water. The chlorine helps ensure our water's microbiological safety by killing disease-causing organisms. The CRWD also adds a trace amount of ammonia to form chloramine to help the disinfection process.

4. FILTRATION

Water is then passed through a sand and gravel filter bed, removing any remaining suspended matter.



5. UV DISINFECTION

Next, the water enters the ultraviolet (UV) light disinfection system where special lamps emit ultraviolet light into the water. The UV energy instantly damages the genetic material of any microorganisms in the water, eliminating their ability to reproduce and cause infection. Following UV disinfection, water passes through a contact tank where time is provided for the chlorine compound created in Step 3 to complete the disinfection process.



6. FLUORIDATION AND PHOSPHATE ADDITION

After UV disinfection, the CRWD adds fluoride to promote children's dental health. Phosphate is also added to chemically stabilize the water and lessen the possibility that lead will leach out of pipes and into tap water.

7. DISTRIBUTION

From here, finished water is pumped directly into the distribution system. The distribution system includes water storage tanks and more than 600 miles of water main pipes that deliver water to homes and businesses.

8. RESERVES

Water not immediately consumed flows into storage tanks for use when demand exceeds plant pumpage. Water stored in elevated tanks helps stabilize pressure in the distribution system and serves as an emergency reserve for fire protection.



Water Quality Findings

This table summarizes required water quality monitoring results for regulated parameters that were detected in the 2014 calendar year. A comprehensive report of all water quality testing is available from the Water Division.

| WATER TREATMENT PLANTS - FINISHED WATER | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----|------|--------------|------|-------------|------|--|
| INORGANIC CHEMICALS | | | | J AVE. PLANT | | NW PLANT | | POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT |
| | UNITS | MCL | MCLG | RANGE | AVG | RANGE | AVG | |
| Nitrate | mg/L | 10 | 10 | 0.97 - 5.58 | 2.98 | 1.94 - 7.31 | 4.32 | Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrite | mg/L | 1 | 1 | 0.0 - 0.06 | 0.04 | 0.0 - 0.04 | 0.02 | Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride | mg/L | 4 | 4 | 0.09 - 0.87 | 0.60 | 0.11 - 0.88 | 0.57 | Water additive that promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Sodium | mg/L | NA | NA | 12.0 | 12.0 | 12.0 | 12.0 | Erosion of natural deposits; added to water during treatment process |
| Sulfate | mg/L | NA | NA | 27.6 - 47.4 | 36.4 | 26.2 - 49.8 | 36.9 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Chloride | mg/L | NA | NA | 26.2 - 43.8 | 33.0 | 24.0 - 42.5 | 31.9 | Erosion of natural deposits, runoff |
| Arsenic | µg/L | 10 | 10 | 0.42 - 0.76 | 0.57 | 0.20 - 0.36 | 0.26 | Erosion of natural deposits |

| COMMON HERBICIDES | | | | J AVE. PLANT | | NW PLANT | | POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT |
|-------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|--------------|------|-----------|------|---|
| | UNITS | MCL | MCLG | RANGE | AVG | RANGE | AVG | |
| Atrazine | µg/L | 3 | 3 | 0.0 - 0.5 | 0.14 | 0.0 - 0.6 | 0.19 | Runoff from herbicide used on row crops |
| Metalachlor | µg/L | Unregulated | Unregulated | 0.1 - 0.2 | 0.03 | 0.1 - 0.3 | 0.05 | Runoff from herbicide used on row crops |

Analysis for the following herbicides revealed No Detects (ND) at either plant distribution system entry point: Cyanazine, Alachlor, Metribuzin, Butylate, Trifluralin, Acetochlor, Desethyl Atrazine, Desisopropyl Atrazine, Siamazine, Ametryn, EPTC, Prometon, Propachlor, Propazine, Dimethenamid, Butachlor

| RADIOLOGICAL | | | | J AVE. PLANT | | NW PLANT | | POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|---------|--------------|------|----------|------|---------------------------------|
| | UNITS | MCL | MCLG | RANGE | AVG | RANGE | AVG | |
| Radon | pCi/L | 300 pCi/L | 0 pCi/L | 28 - 66 | 47.8 | 18 - 34 | 28.8 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| COMBINED RADIUM | pCi/L | 5 pCi/L | 0 pCi/L | NA | <1.0 | NA | <1.0 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium -228 | pCi/L | 5 pCi/L | 0 pCi/L | NA | <0.4 | NA | <0.4 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Alpha | pCi/L | 5 pCi/L | 0 pCi/L | NA | <0.7 | NA | <0.8 | Erosion of natural deposits |

| TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON (TOC) | | | J AVE. PLANT | | | NW PLANT | | | POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT |
|--|----------------------------------|--|--------------|------|-----------|-------------|------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | RANGE | AVG | VIOLATION | RANGE | AVG | VIOLATION | |
| Treatment technique requires the Running Annual Average (RAA) of credits given for TOC removal be at least 1 | Credits Received for TOC Removal | | 1.58 - 1.81 | 1.69 | NO | 1.49 - 1.72 | 1.63 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |

| DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM MONITORING | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------------------|------|------------|------|------|----------------------|-----------|--|
| Lead and Copper Rule | Units | Action Level (AL) | MCLG | Range | 90% | 95% | Samples exceeding AL | Violation | POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT |
| Lead | µg/L | 15 | 0 | 0.0 - 17 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 2 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper | mg/L | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.0 - 0.12 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

| Total Coliform Rule | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------------------|
| | Jan | Feb | March | April | May | June | July | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | POSSIBLE SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT |
| Total # Samples | 104 | 104 | 104 | 107 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 104 | 107 | 104 | 104 | 104 | Naturally present in the environment |
| % Positive Coliform | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | |
| Meets monthly MCL of <5% positive | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |

| Disinfectant | Units | MRDL/MRDLG | RANGE | AVG | VIOLATION | POSSIBLE SOURCE |
|-------------------------|-------|------------|-----------|-----|-----------|---|
| Total Chlorine Residual | mg/L | 4/4 | 2.6 - 3.9 | 3.4 | NO | Water additive used to control microbial growth |

| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | | | | J AVE. PLANT | | | NW PLANT | | | POSSIBLE SOURCE |
|-------------------------------|-------|-----|------|--------------|-----|-----------|----------|-------|-----------|---|
| | Units | MCL | MCLG | RANGE | AVG | VIOLATION | RANGE | AVG | VIOLATION | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | µg/L | 80 | NA | 0 - 0 | 0 | NO | 0 - 2.7 | 0.481 | NO | By-product of chlorinating drinking water |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | µg/L | 60 | NA | 0 - 0 | 0 | NO | 0 - 0 | 0 | NO | By-product of chlorinating drinking water |

| UCMR2 (UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE) | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| NITROSAMINE COMPOUNDS | J AVE. PLANT | | J AVE. DISTRIBUTION AREA | | NW PLANT | | NW DISTRIBUTION AREA | |
| | RANGE | AVG | RANGE | AVG | RANGE | AVG | RANGE | AVG |
| EPA Method 521 N-nitroso-dimethyl amine (NDMA) µg/L | 0.0032 - 0.0056 | 0.004 | 0.0038 - 0.0059 | 0.005 | 0.0000 - 0.0027 | 0.001 | 0.0000 - 0.0097 | 0.005 |

NO CURRENT REGULATORY MCL - EPA mandatory sampling and analysis to determine contaminant occurrence nationally and establish regulatory MCLs

| UCMR3 (UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| J Ave. Treatment Plant | Method | 1,4 Dioxane µg/L | Chlorate µg/L | Chromium 6+ µg/L | Total Chromium µg/L | Total Molybdenum µg/L | Total Strontium µg/L | Total Vanadium µg/L | Total Cobalt µg/L | Seven Specific Hormones µg/L | Six Specific Perfluorinated Compounds µg/L | Seven Specific Volatile Organic Compounds µg/L |
| | Range | EPA 522 | EPA 300.1 | EPA 218.7 | EPA 200.8 | EPA 200.8 | EPA 200.8 | EPA 200.8 | EPA 200.8 | EPA 539 | EPA 537 | EPA 524.3 |
| Range | 0.0 - 0.12 | ND | 1.3 - 2.0 | 1.5 - 1.9 | 1.0 - 1.7 | 58 - 69 | 0.95 - 1.5 | ND | ND | ND | ND | |
| Average | 0.030 | ND | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 64 | 1.2 | ND | ND | ND | ND | |
| J Ave. Distribution Area | Range | NA | ND | 1.3 - 1.9 | 1.5 - 1.8 | 1.1 - 1.7 | 55 - 69 | 0.94 - 1.5 | ND | ND | ND | |
| Average | NA | ND | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 63.5 | 1.2 | ND | ND | ND | ND | |
| NW Treatment Plant | Range | 0.0 - 0.078 | ND | 1.4 - 1.9 | 1.6 - 2.1 | 0.0 - 1.3 | 69 - 75 | 1.1 - 1.2 | ND | ND | ND | |
| Average | 0.038 | ND | 1.6 | 1.8 | 0.88 | 73.3 | 1.2 | ND | ND | ND | ND | |
| NW Plant Distribution Area | Range | NA | ND | 1.3 - 1.8 | 1.5 - 2.0 | 1.1 - 1.6 | 63 - 70 | 1.1 - 1.3 | ND | ND | ND | |
| Average | NA | ND | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 66 | 1.2 | ND | ND | ND | ND | |
| MCL | NA | NA | NA | 100 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | |

NO CURRENT REGULATORY MCL - EPA mandatory sampling and analysis to determine contaminant occurrence nationally and establish regulatory MCLs

| TREATMENT TECHNIQUE INDICATORS | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----|--------------|---------|-----------|-------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Treatment technique requires that turbidity of Combined Filter Effluent (CFE) not exceed 1.0 NTU at any time | | | J AVE. PLANT | | | NW PLANT | | | SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT |
| | UNITS | MCL | RANGE | AVERAGE | VIOLATION | RANGE | AVERAGE | VIOLATION | |
| | NTU | 1.0 | 0.03 - 0.12 | 0.04 | NO | 0.03 - 0.16 | 0.06 | NO | Soil runoff |

| Treatment technique also requires that no more than 5% of Combined Filter Effluent (CFE) samples exceed 0.3 NTU monthly | J AVE. PLANT | | | NW PLANT | | | SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT |
|---|--------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-------------|--|-----------------------|
| | % > 0.3 | VIOLATION | % > 0.3 | VIOLATION | | | |
| | 0% | NO | 0% | NO | Soil runoff | | |

Source Water Monitoring: Source Water assessment identifies potential sources of contamination to the water we use to treat for drinking water purposes. Although efforts are made on many fronts, farm-field runoff continues to be a primary concern and risk for contamination of our source water.

| | Total Coliform | E. coli | Cryptosporidia | Giardia | Lead µg/L | Copper µg/L | Zinc µg/L | Manganese µg/L | Iron µg/L | Sodium mg/L |
|---------------------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| 2012 Annual Average | 9 | <1 | ND | ND | ND | 0.1 | 0.2 | 270 | 80 | 14.7 |
| 2013 Annual Average | 108 | <1 | ND | ND | ND | 2.4 | 0.9 | 348 | 87 | 13.9 |
| 2014 Annual Average | 181 | <1 | ND | ND | ND | 2.5 | 1.0 | 228.1 | 46.1 | 13.0 |

Acronyms: **ND:** Not Detected **MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level **NR:** Not Regulated **mg/L:** Milligrams per liter or parts per million **µg/L:** Micrograms per liter or parts per billion **pCi/L:** Picouries per liter **MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level **MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal **NA:** Not Applicable **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit **MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal

The following is an important message from the Environmental Protection Agency: Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. That's because as the water we draw from — lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells — travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it picks up naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or visiting the website at www.epa.gov/ogwdw. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the hardness of Cedar Rapids water?

Cedar Rapids water is considered moderately hard, with values of 6-8 grains per gallon or 100-140 mg/L total hardness as calcium carbonate.

What is the fluoride concentration and why is it added?

Fluoride is added during the treatment process to help prevent dental cavities. The optimal concentration is maintained at 0.7 parts per million (ppm) with a range of 0.6-0.9 ppm as recommended by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

My water smells terrible at the kitchen tap. What could be wrong?

Many times gases in the drain trap are displaced upward when running water goes down the drain. It is easy to mistake the odor as coming from the running water when it is coming from the drain. Try pouring a mild bleach solution down the drain and letting the tap run full force for two to three minutes. This should flush the system clean.

My toilet tank and inside of my dishwasher are stained dark brown to black. Is my water safe to drink?

The dark staining is likely due to the corrosion-control chemical added

during treatment. Its purpose is to lay a protective coating on the insides of pipes so water never comes in contact with the pipe, thereby reducing the risk of dissolving lead or copper into the drinking water. It has been tested extensively and does not pose a health risk.

My water throughout the entire house tastes and smells musty or stale. Is it OK to drink?

Sometimes in low-use areas or dead-end main areas, the water does not get circulated as it should. Where this is the case, the distribution crew can be notified to flush hydrants in the area to help bring in fresh water.

This morning I began seeing black particles and debris in my water and it looks yellowish. Do you think I have a broken pipe somewhere?

Most times when water discoloration or particles show up all of a sudden, it is because a hydrant or valve has been opened in the area. This happens often in the spring and fall, when street department crews are cleaning the streets or the fire department is testing hydrants before winter weather hits. This generally settles back down and clears on its own within 24-48 hours and is more of an aesthetic issue than a health concern.

GLOSSARY

Action Level (AL)

The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Arsenic

The EPA recently lowered the arsenic Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) to 10 ppb. Trace amounts of arsenic are occasionally detected in your drinking water at levels well below this more stringent standard. Arsenic is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Coliform

A bacteria originating in the digestive system of mammals. Its presence in water alerts lab technicians that disease-causing agents may be present.

Compliance

Following all rules and regulations defined in the Safe Drinking Water Act and maintaining water quality below MCLs.

Contaminant

One of a variety of natural or man-made physical, chemical, biological or radiological substances whose presence in public water systems may cause adverse health effects to consumers.

Detection

The positive identification of the presence of a particular contaminant. Detection of a contaminant does not necessarily represent a serious health risk to consumers if the concentration is below the MCL.

Disinfection

Killing the larger portion of microorganisms in water, with the probability that the disinfecting agent kills all disease-causing bacteria.

Drought

A period of unusually persistent dry weather that persists long enough to cause serious problems such as crop damage and/or water supply shortages.

Filtration

A treatment process that physically removes particles from water as the water passes through a medium.

Groundwater

The supply of fresh water found beneath the earth's surface, usually in aquifers. Groundwater is often used to supply wells and springs.

Herbicide

A chemical agent used to kill plants, especially weeds. Used widely in agriculture.

Immunocompromised

A physical condition in which the human immune system becomes less capable of warding off illness or infection.

Inorganic

Composed of or involving organisms (or their remains or products) that are not living. Examples of inorganic substances include minerals, rocks and salt.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) as feasible, using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL)

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG)

The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Microbial

A group of microorganisms such as bacteria, protozoa and viruses.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)

A unit of measure used to determine the clarity of drinking water.

Organic

Of, pertaining to or derived from living organisms. Organic matter contains carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. Examples include humans, plants and animals.

Particulates

Of or relating to minute separate particles.

Pesticides

Any substance or chemical applied to kill or control pests, including weeds, insects, algae, rodents and other undesirable agents.

Radioactivity

The spontaneous decay or disintegration of an unstable atomic nucleus, accompanied by the emission of radiation.

Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will, in most cases, be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly.

For additional information, call your state radon program (800-838-5992) or call the EPA's Radon Hotline (800-767-7236).

Surface water

All water naturally open to the atmosphere and all springs, wells or other collectors that are directly influenced by surface water. Water located close to the earth's surface.

Treatment Technique (TT)

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Violation

Exceeding the MCL of a contaminant regulated by the federal government; failure to properly monitor regulated contaminants would also be considered a violation.

Most Requested City Services

| City Service | Location | Phone Number | Email Address |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Animals | 900 76 Avenue Drive SW | 319-286-5993 | AnimalControlMgmt@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Bid opportunities | City Hall, 101 1st Street SE | 319-286-5021 | L.Carter@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Building and housing codes | City Services Center, 500 15th Avenue SW | 319-286-5831 | J.Canaday@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Buses | 4th Avenue and 1st Street SE | 319-286-5573 | CRTransit@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Fire safety inspections | 713 1st Avenue SE | 319-286-5166 | CRFire@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Garbage, recycling and yard waste collection | City Services Center, 500 15th Avenue SW | 319-286-5897 | SolidWaste&Recycling@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Homestead and military credits | City Services Center, 500 15th Avenue SW | 319-286-5888 | CityAssessor@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Housing assistance programs | City Hall, 101 1st Street SE | 319-286-5872 | Development@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Land development | City Hall, 101 1st Street SE | 319-286-5822 | DevelopmentService@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Park rentals | Ambroz Recreation Center, 2000 Mt. Vernon Rd. SE | 319-286-5731 | Ambroz@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Potholes and street maintenance | City Services Center, 500 15th Avenue SW | 319-286-5802 or 286-5826 for emergencies | Street@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Recreation programs | Ambroz Recreation Center, 2000 Mt. Vernon Rd. SE | 319-286-5731 | Ambroz@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Sewer backup or problems | City Services Center, 500 15th Avenue SW | 319-286-5802 or 286-5826 for emergencies | Sewer@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Traffic signals and street lighting | City Services Center, 500 15th Avenue SW | 319-286-5802 | Traffic@Cedar-Rapids.org |
| Utility billing | City Hall, 101 1st Street SE | 319-286-5900 | WaterMail@Cedar-Rapids.org |

For more information about the City of Cedar Rapids and its services, call 319-286-5080 or visit www.CityofCR.com.

City Council

To leave a voice message for a City Council member, call 319-286-5051. To find your district, go to www.CityofCR.com, click on City Council and look for the Find Your District link.



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Leading INNOVATION *close to home*

As Cedar Rapids' heart care leader, we take great pride in being the first to bring new life-saving procedures and technology to our community. It's what you'd expect from a nationally recognized heart program.

Now, we are taking heart care to the next level by creating a Heart and Vascular Institute in Cedar Rapids. The Institute features a wide range of specialties with advanced training that focus on the following areas:

- Cardiac and vascular surgery
- Cardiovascular imaging
- Electrophysiology
- Advanced heart failure treatment and care
- Heart disease prevention
- Clinical trials and research
- Structural heart disease (including nonsurgical cardiac valve implantation)
- Coronary and vascular therapeutics

Doctors at the new Heart and Vascular Institute will have the expertise to treat 95 percent of heart-related issues so patients are able to stay close to home. No longer will there be a need to seek treatment outside of Cedar Rapids for heart care because that specialized care is right here in our community.

Another first for Cedar Rapids because the point of unity is you

Learn more about the Heart and Vascular Institute at unitypoint.org/heart or by calling (319) 364-7101.



UnityPoint Health
Cedar Rapids

**&Heart
&Vascular**
INSTITUTE