



City of Nevada

News Along the Highway

March 2010

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2010 Census

The US Census is required by the Constitution to count every resident in the United States every ten years. The 2010 Census will help communities receive over \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like:

- Hospitals
- Job training centers
- Schools
- Senior centers
- Bridges, tunnels and other public works projects
- Emergency services

The data collected by the census also help determine the number of seats your state has in the US House of Representatives.

In March, 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the ten questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit from a census taker, who will ask you the questions from the form.

The 2010 Census form is just ten questions and you may actually review the form online at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/how/interactive-form.php>. The census **DOES NOT** ask about the legal status of respondents or their Social Security Numbers. Any personal data you provide is protected under federal law.

The mailing package from the Census Bureau consists of a ten-question form and a postage-paid return envelope. Any request for census information from the Census Bureau will be clearly identified as coming from the US Census Bureau and as OFFICIAL BUSINESS of the United States. It is a federal offense for anyone to pretend they represent the Census Bureau. Before your household receives a mailed form, a phone call or visit from the Census Bureau, you will be given a few days' notice with a letter from the Census Bureau Director.

50 Days to Fit Health Fair/Luncheon

Get Fit Nevada is hosting a Health Fair/Luncheon on Wednesday, March 3 from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Gates Memorial Hall. The goal of this Health Fair is to provide health information in a fun and interactive environment. All community members are invited to the fair. Please RSVP by calling 382-4352. Free will donations are requested for the lunch. Lunch will include a salad and wrap bar. This is a come and go event.

Baseball/Softball Registrations Due!

A reminder that Baseball and Softball registrations are due in early March. Programs are available for 4 year olds - 6th grade. For more information please contact Parks and Recreation at 382-4352.

Summer Staff

Parks and Recreation is looking for Baseball/Softball Umpires and Aquatic staff. Apply at Park and Rec. office in Gates Hall.

Free Day for Waste on April 24

The City of Ames will be sponsoring a Free Day at the Resource Recovery Plant Saturday, April 24 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Residents of Story County are eligible to use the Plant on this day to dispose of **regular household waste**. **Furniture, carpet, and lawn mowers** will be accepted but not processed in the Plant; these items will be landfilled/recycled. Separating these items from other regular household waste before bringing them to the Plant will prevent delays in service. Please access the plant from the west on 2nd Street, not from Lincoln Way. Expect a wait, so please be patient!

April 24 is also Yard Waste free day, and includes brush. Yard waste such as lawn clippings, branches, shrubs or trees will not be accepted; these items must be disposed of at All Seasons Contracting Services, 407 Freel Drive. All Seasons' phone number is 233-8508.

Meeting Schedule

- **Council: Mar. 8 and 22, City Hall Council Chambers 5:30 p.m.**
- **Library: Mar. 15, Library Meeting Room 4:30 p.m.**
- **Planning and Zoning: Mar. 1, City Hall Council Chambers 6:15 p.m.**

Library News

Spring Break is March 15 through 19 and there will be no regular community story times at the Nevada Public Library. But we will have free special story times every day that week from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Travel @ the Library will visit the White House in Washington, DC; listen to jazz in New Orleans; hail a cab in New York City; lasso a calf on a Western ranch; and find a starfish in a tidal pool. Travel itinerary includes stories, poems, and activities. Children, ages 5 to 10 years, can Travel @ the Library one or more days during Spring Break week. Please register your child at the library or call 382-2628.

This month the Reading Group will be reading The Shack by William P. Young. If you are interested in discussing this book, they will be meeting on March 25 at the Nevada Public Library at 1:30 p.m.

Open Burning of Landscape Waste does not start until April 1 and will continue until May 15 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Spring Cleaning

By: Sgt. Ricardo Martinez II

With a little hope and prayer, spring is just around the corner. The break in the weather may start people to be thinking about Spring Cleaning. This includes those chores that have been put off or incomplete because of the winter weather.

The City of Nevada has a Nuisance Abatement Ordinance intended to focus on properties within the city which need to be cleaned. Any person causing or maintaining a nuisance who fail to remove the nuisance within a reasonable time specified in the city ordinance is in violation. This includes business and residential areas, including but not limited to front and back yards, by the garage, behind the storage shed, etc. On rented property, the tenant and landlord of any property found to maintain a nuisance may be in violation as well.

A nuisance may consist of any or all of the following: refuse, garbage, rubbish, ashes, scrap lumber, building materials, abandoned or unattended refrigerators, inoperative appliances, other substances offensive to sight, smell, or detrimental to the health, welfare and best interests of community.

Another area of concern is those "projects." Typically these include the car, truck, or old tractor which "just needs a little tinkering." Any junk motor vehicle, junk machinery, or any unlicensed motor vehicle may fall into this category. This includes any vehicle with any broken or loose fenders, bumpers, trunks, roofs, hood ornaments, door handles, doors, window handles, running boards, tailpipes, steering wheels, trunk handles, and radio aerials, or any other decorative pieces. Additionally, any vehicle or machine which has become or threatens to become the habitat of rats, mice, snakes, vermin, insects or other wild or domestic animals. Also, any vehicle or machine which contains gasoline, diesel oil, or other flammable fuel, in a container other than a factory installed fuel tank, or any vehicle or machine which is rendered inoperable for more than 15 days because it lacks one or more wheels (excluding the spare), no engine, no transmission, no differential, no drive shaft, no axel, or any component is missing which renders the vehicle inoperable under its own power, or any vehicle or machine which, because of its defective or obsolete condition, constitutes a threat to the public health and safety.

Last year the Nevada Police Department investigated over one hundred thirty nuisance abatements. Most of these properties were cleaned up within two weeks. However, with two properties, the residents were issued municipal infractions. First offense violations are \$500, and repeat offenses are \$800, with court costs of \$85.

If you wish to know more about this topic, check the City of Nevada web site under Code of Ordinances, or contact the Nevada Police Department at 382-4593. So, clean up your yard and avoid any legal problems which will cost you time and money.

Permits Needed

Spring will be arriving soon and it is the season to begin planning improvements to your property. The Planning and Zoning Department is here to help, please go to City's web site to see if a permit is needed or see if there are any other requirements or call 382-5466 and ask for Shawn.

Also – Don't forget to call Iowa One Call at 1-800-292-8989 at least 48 hours before digging so that underground utilities can be located. As of April 2007, the national 811 three-digit dialing system allows easy access to Iowa One Call. Now it's easier than ever to request underground facility locates, just dial **811**. This is a free service to all persons planning an excavation for any type of building, construction or landscaping. The required 48 hours notice does not include weekends or legal holidays. They will accept calls 24 hours a day seven days a week.

Sump Pumps

The Planning and Zoning Department wishes to remind everyone that sump pumps are not allowed to pump into the street until April 1 and can do so until November 1. A 3 year permit needs to be filled out, they are available at City Hall or the City's web site, and there is no cost.

15th STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The contract for the reconstruction of 15th Street from Lincoln Hwy to N Avenue was awarded to Con-Struct, Inc. of Ames, with a total project bid of \$295,861.

The City Council of Nevada approved the contract at the December 14 Council meeting. Construct, Inc. anticipates beginning this project after school has let out for the summer, weather permitting. The project completion date is August 15, 2010.

The project will involve the reconstruction of 15th Street with a 31 foot wide concrete street from Lincoln Hwy to N Avenue, there will be some driveway removal and replacement with the project. An 8 foot wide concrete trail on the east side of 15th Street will also be part of the project. There will also be some minor storm sewer work during the project.

The project is part of the City's five year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The City will have a representative on site during the project to ensure the work is done according to the plans.

The property owners will be notified prior to the start of the project as 15th Street will be closed during the project. If you have any questions please contact City Hall at 382-5466.