

# Celebrate July 4 safely

## DNR offers tips for a safe holiday weekend

The Fourth of July holiday weekend draws thousands of people to state parks, beaches, lakes and rivers across Iowa. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has compiled safety tips and precautions to help to keep individuals, friends and family safe this holiday weekend.

### No fireworks allowed on the Upper Mississippi Refuge

For those heading to the Mississippi River for a boating or camping trip, there are few things to know before departing. Fireworks are not allowed on the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge due to their disturbance to wildlife and the litter they leave behind. As we enjoy the bright colors and thunderous explosions, it’s easy to overlook the impact to wildlife around us. The abrupt lights and sounds are often seen as a threat by nesting bald eagles and easily startle great blue herons and other colonial nesting birds. The shock of fireworks can cause wildlife to flee, ending up in unexpected areas or roadways, flying into buildings and other obstacles, and even abandoning nests, leaving young vulnerable to predators. The threat to wildlife doesn’t stop at startling lights and sounds; litter from firecrackers, bottle rockets and other explosives can be choking hazards for wildlife and may be toxic if ingested. The refuge includes most islands and beaches on the Mississippi River from Wabasha, Minn., to Rock Island, Ill. Check the maps online <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/upper-mississippi-river-pool-maps> to see a visual representation of the area. Federal law enforcement officers will be patrolling the Refuge looking for fireworks as well as glass bottles, which are also

banned on Refuge beaches. Officers also want to remind people of the importance of wearing their personal floatation devices (PFDs) while on the water.

### Fireworks safety

Fireworks are a spectacular and traditional way to celebrate the Fourth of July. Be sure to keep in mind that fireworks are strictly prohibited in state parks – only sparklers are allowed. Fireworks can cause serious burns and eye injuries. The Iowa Department of Public Health encourages families to make sure an adult supervises fireworks and keeps young children from playing with or igniting them. Keep fireworks pointed away from you and others when igniting them, and back up quickly after lighting. If fireworks don’t ignite or burn fully, don’t try to relight them or pick them up. Keep a bucket of water or hose on hand to respond to a fire or mishap. Individuals with asthma or other lung impairments should be aware of air quality conditions following firework shows, which can temporarily emit smoke and small particulates in the air, impacting breathing. Always pick up litter and dispose of any unused fireworks in a safe manner.

### Beach and swimming safety

Water is refreshing and fun, but it’s essential to know how to stay safe in and around water to prevent accidental drownings. Stay safe while swimming, whether it’s a backyard pool, a pond or lake, or a public pool. Keep a close eye on others, especially children. Assign a designated adult to watch over children – never assume someone else is watching them. Be close enough to touch the child at all times. Even in ankle deep water, a current can be strong enough to sweep a swimmer off their feet and out into deeper water.

Swim with a buddy. Avoid swimming or wading in rivers. Those who haven’t swam in a long-time should refresh their abilities. All children should learn to swim with formal lessons. Always wear a life jacket. Make sure kids wear their life jackets before getting in the water. Avoid alcohol while swimming. Stay within the roped-in area of the lake and obey posted signs and flags. Learn how to perform CPR. If you are already certified, learn the latest techniques and refresh your skills by recertifying. Check with your local hospital, workplace or doctor’s office for training opportunities. Take a water bottle along and keep it nearby throughout the day. It’s easy to get dehydrated in the sun, particularly if you’re active and sweating. Iowa’s public beaches do not have life-guards on duty, and alcohol is prohibited at some public beaches. Glass bottles are also prohibited on beaches. Pets are prohibited on beaches as well.

### State park and campground safety

The Fourth of July is one of the busiest times to visit a state park as people enjoy beaches and outdoor activities in the summer sun. Pack snacks, food, water and personal hygiene products to bring along for hiking and other recreational activities in state parks. Stay hydrated with plenty of fluids. Pack bug spray and sunscreen. Keep pets on leashes. Slow down on park roadways and obey posted speed limit signs. Families and kids are often walking or biking on the roads. Share the trail – be aware of hikers, bikers and equestrians when using multi-use trails. Bikers yield to hikers and horseback riders. Give plenty of space and communicate your presence to keep everyone safe.

If a parking lot becomes full at a park or campground, staff may temporarily close the parking lots and limit the number of visitors at that point. If there is no parking available, do not park in the grass areas, along roadways or any other area that is not a designated parking lot. Violators will be cited. If a park is busy, consider visiting a nearby state park that is less populated. Or visit the park during non-peak times, which often include mornings and evenings. Pick up any trash and carry out what you carry into the park. Don’t transport firewood; buy it locally. Burn all the firewood at your campsite rather than leaving it or transporting it to a new area. Use designated fire rings or grills, and fully extinguish fires when done. Don’t burn trash. Be respectful of your neighbors camping around you. Keep noise levels low, especially at night. Check the DNR website for current alerts and closures. Those who plan to fish should have a current fishing license. Anyone 16 years and older must have a fishing license to fish Iowa waters. Purchase one at <https://gooutdoorsiowa.com> or by downloading the Go Outdoors Iowa app on your mobile device through the Google Play store or the App Store. You can also buy your fishing license at some retailers in your area.

### Boating safety

Plan ahead and avoid peak hours and large crowds of boating. Park your vehicles and trailers in designated parking spaces NOT in grass areas or they will be ticketed and towed. Alcohol and boating don’t mix. Wind, sun glare and heat can enhance the effects of alcohol, hindering the operator’s ability to make necessary decisions.

# LEGALS

## PUBLIC NOTICE LOUISA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO VACATE ROAD

The Board of Supervisors of Louisa County, Iowa, is proposing the vacation of the alley set forth below and sale of the described property to the adjacent landowners: The alley contained within the Danny Ashland Subdivision in the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 74 North, Range 3 West of the 5th P.M., Louisa County, Iowa, as shown by the plat appearing in Surveyor’s Record 1, Page 151, in the Office of the Recorder of Louisa County, Iowa; A public hearing will be held in the office of the Louisa County Board of Supervisors, Wapello, Iowa on July 15th, 2025, at 09:15 AM. Any interested persons may appear in support or opposition to this action and be heard at this meeting. Or comments can be emailed to [sschnedler@louisacountyia.gov](mailto:sschnedler@louisacountyia.gov) Published in the Wapello Morning Sun July 3, 2025.

## PUBLIC NOTICE LOUISA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO VACATE ROAD

The Board of Supervisors of Louisa County, Iowa have acted to vacate and close the following described Louisa County Secondary Road: Segments of unused Right of Way on Louisa County, located in Wyman, Iowa, more particularly described as: Area 1: Parcel “E” of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter

of Section 30, Township 74 North, Range 5 West of the 5th P.M., Louisa County, Iowa, as shown on the Plat of Survey recorded April 29, 2025, as Instrument Number 2025-0561. Area 2: Sixteen (16) foot wide alley running along the East side of Lot 1, Lot 12 and the East-West alley of Buck’s Addition to the Town of Wyman, in Louisa County, Iowa. A public hearing will be held in the office of the Louisa County Board of Supervisors, Wapello, Iowa on July 15th, 2025, at 09:00 AM. Any interested persons may appear in support or opposition to this action and be heard at this meeting. Or comments can be emailed to [sschnedler@louisacountyia.gov](mailto:sschnedler@louisacountyia.gov) Published in the Wapello Morning Sun July 3, 2025.

## LOUISA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**64 June 17, 2025** The Louisa County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at the Supervisor’s office. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Shawn Maine, Chair. The following board members were present: Kevin Hardin and Scot Hunt. Board members voting “AYE” unless otherwise noted. Public attending meeting: Jim Rudisill, Randy Schlutz, Adam Shutt, Randy Foor, Bill Small, Bryan Stephens, Ed Mears, Barb Kerr, Adam Parsons, Cyndi Mears, Curt Hartlieb, and Jacob Ewart. Attended via Zoom: Secondary Roads, Assessor’s Office, Recorder’s Office, Treasurer’s Office, Tracy Holladay, Susie Garrett, Vicki Frank, and David DeBauche. Pledge of Allegiance Motion Hunt, second Hardin, to approve agenda for June 17, 2025, with tabling item #20 regarding 28E between Louisa County and It Takes a Village Animal Rescue. Motion Hardin, second Hunt, to

approve minutes for the June 10th, 2025, meeting. Motion Hardin, second Hunt, to approve claims for June 17th, 2025, in the amount of \$588,909.43. Meetings attended: Maine attended the department head meeting and the last Mental Health meeting before it changes jurisdiction to the State. Hardin and Hunt had no meetings this week. The following payroll changes were reviewed: Christina Dresser, Dispatch, Resignation effective 6/20/25; Brian Thye, Complex Grounds mower, \$12/hr. Public Input: Randy Foor questioned if Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) funds was being used today for the transfers. Maine informed him there were no transfers from LOST funds today. Discussion was held regarding the LP tank at the Complex. After reviewing a quote on the repairs, Maine and Hunt mentioned they were going to make some more calls to get more information. Adam Shutt, Engineer, provided his weekly update.

Motion Hunt, second Hardin, to approve the Louisa Communications “Application of Construction on Louisa County Right of Way” allowing them to install fiber optic cable along K Avenue and 70th Street. Motion Hardin, second Hunt, to proceed with the vacate alley process in Ashland Subdivision. Motion Hardin, second Hunt, to approve Resolution 202527 for Interfund Transfer from General Basic to County Attorney Recovery money fund in the amount of \$45,268.71. RESOLUTION 202527 TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND TO COUNTY ATTORNEY RECOVERY FUND WHEREAS, the Louisa County Board of Supervisors recognize that the Iowa Code provides for the establishment of a delinquent fine collection fund for the County Attorney’s Office once the annual

statutory collections threshold is reached, AND WHEREAS, the Louisa County Board of Supervisors does wish to continue the County Attorney’s Delinquent Fine Collection Program, AND WHEREAS, a separate fund for the accounting of the revenues and expenses for this funding source has been established for the portion of revenues directed to be used by the Louisa County Attorney’s Office and expenditure of these funds is restricted pursuant to the Iowa Code and the County has established a separate fund to accurately segregate and account for the use of these funds, 65 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that County Attorney collections funds in the amount of \$45,268.71 shall be transferred from the general fund (0001) to the COUNTY ATTORNEY RECOVERY MONEY (0008) fund effective upon adoption of this resolution. AYES: Shawn Maine, Chairman Board of Supervisors, Kevin Hardin and Scot Hunt ATTEST: Susan Schnedler, Auditor

Motion Hunt, second Hardin, to approve Resolution 202525 for Interfund Transfer from Rural Services & General Basic to Secondary Roads in the amount of \$762,817.00. RESOLUTION FOR INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFER 202525 2024-2025 WHERE AS, it is desired to authorize the Auditor to periodically transfer sums from the rural services basic fund to the secondary road fund during the 2024-2025 budget year, and WHEREAS, said transfers must be in accordance with the Section 331.432 Code of Iowa, NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Louisa County, Iowa as follows: Section 1. A sum not exceeding the amount of \$762,817.00, and in compliance with the calculations as required in Section 331.434(6) is ordered that the second half amount not to exceed \$762,817.00 to be transferred from the Rural Services Basic and General Basic in the following amounts to the Secondary Road fund, effective June 17th, 2025.

\$712,508.00, from Rural Services Basic and \$50,309.00 from General Basic. Section 2. The Auditor is directed to correct her books accordingly and to notify the Treasurer of this operating transfer accompanying the notification with a copy of this resolution and record of its adoption. The above foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Louisa County, Iowa on June 17th, 2025, the vote thereon being as follows: AYES: Shawn Maine, Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Kevin Hardin and Scot Hut ATTEST: Susan Schnedler, Auditor Motion Hunt, second Hardin, to approve Resolution 202526 for FY2026 Appropriations beginning July 1st, 2025. RESOLUTION 202526 FOR APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, it is desired to make appropriations for each of the different offices and departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 in accordance with Section 331.434, Subsection 6, Code of Iowa. NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Louisa County, Iowa as follows: Section 1. The amounts itemized by fund and by department of the attached schedule are hereby appropriated from the resources of each fund so itemized, to the department listed in the first column on the same line of the attached schedule. Section 2. Subject to the provisions of other county procedure and regulations, and applicable state law, the appropriations authorized under Section 1 shall constitute obligations from the itemized fund, effectively July 1, 2025. Section 3. In accordance with Section 331.437, Code of Iowa, no department or officer shall expend or contract to expend any money or incur any liability or enter into any contract which by its term involves the expenditures of money for any purpose in excess of the amounts appropriated pursuant to this resolution. Section 4. If at any time during the 2025-2026 budget year the auditor shall ascertain that the available resources of a fund for that year will be less than said fund’s total appropriations, he/she shall immediately so inform the Board and recommend

appropriate correction action. Section 5. The auditor shall establish separate accounts for the appropriations authorized in Section 1, each of which shall report the status of such accounts to the applicable departments and officers (daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly) during the 2025-2026 budget year. 66 Section 6. All appropriations authorized pursuant to this resolution lapse at the close of business June 30, 2026. The above and foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Louisa County, Iowa on June 17th, 2025, the vote thereon being as follows: AYES: Shawn Maine, Chairman, Board of Supervisors Kevin Hardin and Scot Hunt ATTEST: Susan Schnedler, Auditor

The amounts appropriated for each department: Board of Supervisors \$136,563; Auditor \$284,629; Treasurer \$286,035; Attorney \$342,601; Sheriff \$2,335,599; Recorder \$159,518; REAP \$11,600; Conservation Land Acquisition \$90,000; Road Clearing \$30,000; County Engineer \$ 5,400,700; Veterans Affairs \$59,398; Conservation Board \$570,936; Health Board \$678,913; Weed Commission \$3,894; Department of Human Services \$4,500; County Complex \$170,500; Medical Examiner \$29,500; Jail \$1,063,300; District Court \$ 80,550; Libraries \$55,532; Historical Society \$3,000; G.A. Assistance \$14,675; G.A. Administration \$60,425; Personnel \$254,000; General Services \$126,501; Information Technology \$344,611; Zoning \$63,320; Sanitation \$81,385; County Insurance \$83,160; Other Community Services \$4,400; Non-departmental \$2,430,081. Jacob Ewart, Conservation, gave his monthly update. Cyndi Mears, GA, gave her monthly update. Curt Hartlieb, VA, gave his monthly update. Motion Hardin, second Hunt, to approve the following firework permits: Marlin O’Donnell, Dave Hills, Grandview Community Club, Donald Lindholm, Becky Eutsler, Brian & Tammy Hayes, and Lakeside Club.

Discussion was held regarding the trees around the Courthouse. The Supervisors agreed to make inquiries to seek guidance on the appropriate action, whether the trees should be topped or removed entirely. The following claims were examined and approved: a1 quality tire, tires ..... 3728.56 access systems, off supp ..... 59.99 access systems leas, off supp ..... 127.74 acorn naturalists, public ed program..... 142.56 abs, off equip..... 72.03 advanced correct h c, med health serv ..... 3412.25 agriland fs , fuel ..... 13643.07 alex mincer, employee mileage ..... 22.10 alliant , utilities ..... 692.35 altorfer , parts ..... 755.80 amazon , park maint off supp ..... 557.21 austin hayes, employee mileage ..... 19.50 bci burke , park maint ..... 1100.72 brad quigley backyard invest, rent assistance ..... 550.00 brandons body shop , mv equip maint rpr..... 2702.48 brozene hydraulic , tools..... 250.00 c r supply, roadside sprayer..... 31764.05 capital one, equip maint .. 1038.22



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