

OMU QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

OWNED BY THE PEOPLE IT SERVES



JUNE 2023 VOL. 59 ISSUE NO. 2



OMU TREE GIVEAWAY

Recently, we have found many signs of emerald ash borer infestations in our area. The emerald ash borer is a parasite that slowly destroys ash trees from the inside. They feed on the tissues under the bark of ash trees. Signs that your ash tree may have emerald ash borers include S-shaped or D-shaped holes in the bark; canopy dieback; bark splitting; and increased woodpecker activity.

Each year in the spring, OMU has an annual tree giveaway for our utility customers. It was decided at a recent OMU Board of Trustees meeting that our tree program would be temporarily suspended to help our customers with the emerald ash borer problem. We will be offering to our customers that have a tree(s) removed due to infestation or location to our electrical lines, the opportunity to purchase a tree to replace the one(s) removed by OMU. These customers can purchase a tree of their choice from an approved list of trees suited for our area.

To qualify for reimbursement, the tree(s) must have been removed by OMU; a call to Iowa One Call to have all underground services marked has been done; and you must be an OMU electric customer. OMU will give you a credit on your electric bill of 50% of the cost of a tree up to \$50 based on proof of purchase. Please contact our office at 641-832-3731 for a list of approved trees prior to purchase.

AIR CONDITIONER TUNE-UP REBATE

An air conditioner tune-up is a preventative maintenance service that prepares your air conditioner for increased use in warmer months. It ensures key components are running well and that the AC system is running at peak performance. During an AC tune-up, a professional comes to your house to inspect your indoor and outdoor AC components.

Osage Municipal Utilities will offer a \$20.00 credit against your utility bill to any customer who contracts for an air conditioning tune-up with one of the following plumbing, heating, or electrical contractors:

• Adams Plumbing and Heating 641-732-5623
• Allison Plumbing and Heating 641-732-4415
• Kenny's Services 641-832-2473
• Wright Plumbing and Heating 641-732-5208

To qualify for your credit, have your contractor complete the Osage Municipal Utilities check list after they perform your central air conditioning tune-up. They will bring the completed form along with a copy of your air conditioning tune-up bill to our office and we will apply a \$20.00 credit to your account.

The OMU offices will be closed
Monday, May 29th for
Memorial Day
Tuesday, July 4th for
Independence Day

OMU General Information

Office Hours 7:30 am – 4:00 pm M-F
Phone/After Hours # 641-832-3731
General Manager Stacy Walsh
Board of Trustees Tom Kenny, Chairperson
Nan Jakobson
Josh Olson
Troy Machin
Jan Adams



RECYCLING TIPS & TRICKS

- Set a recycling container next to your trash can.
- Check with your local recycling company about their guidelines.
- Keep recycling rules visible.
- Use reusable grocery bags and water bottles.

Congratulations Graduates

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. – Eleanor Roosevelt.

Congratulations to all the students completing their studies. We are especially pleased to recognize the following children of OMU employees. Sydney Muller (daughter of Justin Muller) will be graduating from Osage High School. She will be attending Hawkeye Community College and then Allen College for a BSN in nursing. Gabe Muller (son of Justin Muller) will also be graduating from Osage High School. Gabe's plans are to attend the University of Iowa in the fall, majoring in Computer Science. Cole Jeffries (son of Tony Jeffries) will be graduating from Osage High School. Aliyah Creger (daughter of Stacy Walsh) will be graduating from Iowa State University with a Master's Degree in Educational Administration and Leadership. Aliyah will be an Instructional Coach for the PCM Middle School in Prairie City, Iowa in the fall. Congratulations to all of you!





Be part of OMU's Community Solar Farm

Do your part by supporting a renewable energy source, helping preserve the environment for future generations.

Located at 412 Joseph Lessard Court

OMU's Voluntary Solar Program is a community based solar project open to OMU electric customers. Eligible customers may participate by choosing to purchase units of Solar Array capacity in return for the right to receive a production-related credit on their monthly utility bill. Customers choose their level of investment with no on-going maintenance costs. Participating customers are not purchasing physical equipment, but rather the right to receive a credit associated with their share of the output produced by the Solar Array. Please contact our office at 641-832-3731 for more information.

Please be advised, customers that elect to purchase solar panels or any other electric generating facilities for their own residence need to contact OMU prior to doing so.



You must contact Iowa One Call at least 48 hours in advance when planning to excavate. This does not include holidays and weekends. A One Call ticket is valid for 20 calendar days from the time of the call. **ALWAYS** check yard markings and Iowa One Call Positive Response ticket status before beginning excavation. Only buried facilities registered with Iowa One Call will be located and marked. Private facilities, like LP gas lines, sprinkler systems, gas grill lines, etc will not be marked. Paint and flag markings are approximate, and the tolerance zone is 18" on either side of the markings. You should hand dig with caution in the tolerance zone. To start a One Call ticket, call 811 or 1-800-292-8989. You can also go to their website: onecall@iowaonecall.com

2022 Annual Water Quality Report

The City of Osage is proud to provide safe, dependable water to you. As our customer, you have a right to fully understand the efforts we make to assure that your water is safe to drink. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your drinking water and its compliance with government standards. The 2022 Annual Water Quality Report is available as of 6/30/23 at City Hall, Osage Municipal Utilities, and the Osage Library. This report will not be mailed to individual households.

It can also be viewed at the following website:

<http://iowaccr.org/Osage>



COMPLAINT PROCEDURE NOTICE

If you have a complaint with Osage Municipal Utilities, please call 641-832-3731 or write to us:

Attention: Stacy Walsh
720 Chestnut Street
Osage, IA 50461
gm@osage.net

If your complaint is related to OMU's service rather than its rates and OMU does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board. The IUB's Customer Service staff can assist you between 8am - 4:30pm M-F

By Email: customer@iub.iowa.gov
By phone: 877-565-4450
By mail or in person: Iowa Utilities Board
Attn: Customer Service
1375 E. Court Ave
Des Moines, IA 50319-0069

By fax: 515-725-7398

Osage Municipal Utilities offers efficiency rebates including:

- Tankless Gas Water Heaters \$300
- Central Air Conditioners \$50-\$400
- Mini-Split Heat Pumps \$200-\$600
- Gas Furnaces \$350
- Energy Star Smart Thermostat \$75
- Wi-Fi Programmable Thermostat \$10
- Electric Vehicle Chargers \$250