

CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, IOWA

Est.: August 13, 1935

FALL 2005

Population: 987 (2000 Census)

TO THE CITIZENS OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS:

COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTED David Wood resigned his Council position in July. Our thanks to Mr. Wood for his 3 ½ years of service as Council member. We are grateful that he has agreed to continue as Webmaster on a volunteer basis. Erling Anderson was appointed in August to finish Mr. Wood's term which ends December 31, 2005. Our thanks also to Adrian Schoenmaker (Council member 5 years) and Gloria Jacobson, (Council member 8 years; Mayor 6 years) neither of whom plan to run for re-election.

SIDEWALK REPAIR SURVEY In June 2005, the Streets and Sidewalks Committee completed a city-wide survey of all sidewalks in University Heights. Approximately 440 panels that fit the criteria for repair were marked with orange paint. In total, around 150 residences have sidewalks that need repair. Due to the large number of panels identified, the City Council will extend the original repair schedule into next year, allowing residents additional time to make or plan for these repairs. In the spring of 2006, the City will be sending a detailed notification letter to residences with sidewalk panels that have been marked for repair. This letter will document the criteria used to identify panels in need of repair. The City will have several contractors bid on replacing numerous sidewalk panels throughout the community, with the hope that the large quantity of panels to be repaired will result in a very competitive price for our residents. Residents will then have four options:

1. Have the City's contractor perform the repairs with the cost to be paid by the residents.
2. Arrange for another contractor to perform the work with the cost to be paid by the residents.
3. Perform the work themselves. Work will be subject to City standards. Contact the City Engineer to obtain construction standards.
4. Do nothing, in which event the City will cause the work to be done with the cost assessed as additional property taxes.

GRANDVIEW COURT A Planned Unit Development (PUD) application was submitted by Regency Homes for the development of the Grandview Court condominium property. The proposal includes renovating the existing 92 dwelling units comprising the current five buildings, adding a one-bedroom unit to each of these existing buildings and constructing a new three-story building near the center of the property. The new building will have 36 units, bringing the unit total to 133. The application was approved and construction work is underway.

LIBRARY PROGRESS REPORT The Iowa City and Coralville libraries have notified University Heights that as of July, 2006 they will not be offering fee card service to our citizens. They want a contract for services paid by the City which will enable our residents to use either library at no individual cost. The cost to University Heights would be double our current outlay for the first year and then it would accelerate to 5-6 times our current cost over the two following years. A survey of the community regarding current usage and the desire for continued library services has been conducted. The results indicated approximately 50% favorable and 50% unfavorable from the 86 residents who participated. A group of citizens has submitted a petition to the Council to place a question on the November general election ballot whether or not to have a tax levied to partially cover the cost of the proposed library contract. The amount generated by the levy is controlled by law and would help in defraying some of the cost.

Boy Scout Troop 211, chartered by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, plans to retire flags annually on Flag Day, June 14. Contact David Giese, 338-8720, if you have a flag that needs to be retired.

Leaf Vacuuming Day – Monday, October 31. Leaf Pick-up Day – Saturday November 12.

Christmas Tree Pick-up Days – Tuesday January 3 and Tuesday January 10.

www.university-heights.org

RENTAL HOUSING CODE University Heights has had a Rental Housing ordinance for a number of years which prohibits occupancy by more than two unrelated persons. This ordinance was approved to maintain the high quality residential nature of our community and to provide for rental housing permits, periodic inspection of rental properties and corresponding fees. Recently this ordinance was amended requiring rental permits for any dwelling which is not owner-occupied. Ordinance #149 requires a rental permit and certificate of occupancy any time a room or a home is provided to anyone other than the owner, regardless of whether rent is charged. Thus, if a parent(s) from out-of-town owns a home in University Heights and they permit a family member(s) to live there free of charge, they must obtain a rental permit and certificate of occupancy unless the inhabitants are also owners of the property. We encourage citizens to report to any Council member, city staff, police officer or the mayor if you are aware of a dwelling where this ordinance is violated.

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN The City Council has approved a project that could lead to the adoption of a Comprehensive Development plan. There are a few areas in the City which may be available for future development and therefore it seems prudent to be prepared. Pat Bauer, Chair of the Zoning Commission, has agreed to oversee this project. He has arranged with Prof. Heather MacDonald of the University of Iowa Department of Urban and Regional Planning, to assign this project to a group of graduate students at no cost to the City. Citizens are invited to attend all hearings regarding this process.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS GARDEN CLUB This spring a garden club was started by Scott and Carol Ann Christiansen of 1461 Grand Ave. Their purpose is to have neighbors in University Heights design and maintain the flower bed in the city-owned triangle area of Melrose, Koser and Golfview. The cost of the flower bed and retaining wall was covered by donations and the labor done by many volunteer residents throughout the city. Anyone interested in volunteering can come any Saturday at 9:30 a.m. during the growing season to the outside seating area of Taste On Melrose for coffee and gardening. Donations can be sent to Carol Ann Christiansen. **A fall meeting will be held Saturday, September 10 at 9:30 a.m. at the Taste On Melrose.** New plans for spring 2006 will be discussed. Come with ideas! Thanks to all the volunteers this flowerbed has become a beautiful display for all to enjoy driving through our city.

NEW ORDINANCES Ordinance #137 was passed allowing the hunting of whitetail deer with bow and arrow by persons licensed by the DNR and permitted by the City of University Heights during designated hunting seasons.

Ordinances #138-145 were passed, all corrective in nature and involving little or no change in Council policy. They dealt with possession of alcohol by minors, disorderly conduct, public intoxication, prohibition of open containers of alcohol in public places, interference with public officers, public urination, operation of motor vehicles by individuals whose licenses are revoked and providing penalties.

Ordinance #146, amending Zoning Ordinance #79, regarding multifamily planned unit development (PUD) was passed.

To conform with the International Building Code, Ordinance #147 was approved providing for changes in building, residential, plumbing, mechanical, fuel gas and electrical codes.

Amending Ordinance #110 (Rental Housing Code), Ordinance #149 was passed requiring rental permits for any dwelling which is not owner occupied.

Ordinance #150, amending Ordinance #79, to permit multifamily PUD development to retain existing garages at Grandview Court Condominiums, construct a new garage within 20 ft. of the southerly property line and permit approval of an application that includes parking spaces 18 ft. in length.

Ordinance #151, amending Ordinance #108, increases the fine for possession of alcohol under legal age to \$200 and to \$500 for subsequent offenses.

Ordinance #152, amending Ordinance #79, changing the height restriction of buildings to thirty-nine feet.

OTHER COUNCIL ACTIONS

- ❑ Approved a \$500 contribution to fund a feasibility study of the Cedar-Iowa River Excursion service plan.
- ❑ Received a \$250 grant from MidAmerican Energy Co. to use for community protection activities.
- ❑ An Eagle Scout project to further renovate the City Triangle Park at the corner of Koser and Melrose was approved and has been completed by Kendall Giese, 1138 Melrose Ave. The project included backfilling the curbs, installing more sidewalk to the water fountain, installing the new bike rack and removing some existing shrubbery and replacing it with other plantings. All materials and labor were donated.

We hope this newsletter is helpful. We request your continued cooperation to help keep University Heights an attractive, safe, pleasant place to live.

Sincerely,

Mayor and Council Members. City of University Heights

COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THEIR COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Gloria Jacobson, Mayor

415 Ridgeview Ave.
338-3489
**gloria-jacobson@
university-heights.org**

Stan Laverman
*Chair, Community Protection
Chair, e-government.*

24 Highland Drive
351-5893
**stan-laverman@
university-heights.org**

Louise From, Mayor Pro Tem
Chair, Streets and Sidewalks

207 Monroe St.
354-1433
**louise-from@
university-heights.org**

Adrian (Yon) Schoenmaker
*JCCOG
Civil Defense/Disaster Service*

27 Leamer Court
351-3774
**yon-schoenmaker@
university-heights.org**

David Giese
*Chair, Finance.
Community Protection*

1138 Melrose Ave.
338-8720
**david-giese@
university-heights.org**

Erling Anderson
*Chair, Building, Zoning and
Sanitation.*

220 George St.
354-7897
**erling-anderson@
university-heights.org**

www.university-heights.org

GENERAL COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

You are invited to attend University Heights City Council meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers at 1004 Melrose Avenue. If you are a person with a disability which requires accommodation in order for you to attend, please contact the City of University Heights in advance at 337-6900; leave a message and your call will be returned. In the alternative, contact the City Clerk, Jerry Musser, at 351-8402.

An agenda is posted in the window of the City office prior to the meeting. Minutes of all meetings are published in the Press-Citizen, posted in the window of the City Office, and can be read on the City website. Ordinances are available for inspection from the UH City Clerk (337-6900), and are also available for reading on the website. The City of University Heights has a City information telephone number (**337-6900**). Any citizens with questions or concerns about City business or activities should call and leave a voice message. Leave a descriptive message with your name and phone number, and you will be contacted.

Members of the UH City Council are interested in maintaining an open, responsive City Council that follows consistent policies while serving the needs of the community. The UH City Council would like to call your attention to the following services and regulations.

FIRE PROTECTION: Emergency Number 911.

To report a fire, dial **911**, give your name, address, and state that you live in University Heights. Fire protection is provided under contract by the Coralville Volunteer Fire Department and other members of the Johnson County Mutual Aid Fire Departments. Routine calls should be made to the Coralville Fire Department, 248-1835.

POLICE SERVICES: Emergency Number 911.

The emergency number should be used when immediate attention is necessary. Simply dial **911**, give your name, address, and state that you live in University Heights. **Please use it at once if you notice something suspicious or need help. Do not just wait and watch!**

The University Heights Police Department provides police protection for the City. Ron Fort is the Police Chief. If you need a Police Officer, phone **356-5275**, and an Officer will be dispatched. You can leave non-emergency voice mail messages for City Police Officers by calling **887-6800**, and someone will get back to you. Use **911** for calls requiring an immediate response.

The Police request that you keep your garage door closed when you are at home, and make sure that you close it when you leave. Do not leave your garage door opener in an unlocked vehicle in your driveway, as burglars can gain access to homes through garages. Residents are also asked to keep their gates closed and locked, as subjects can go from yard to yard to avoid detection. The Police would appreciate a call concerning any suspicious activity.

House checks while you are out of town can be arranged by calling **356-5275**.

WATER AND SEWER SERVICE:

The Iowa City Water Department provides service and maintenance in University Heights. If you have problems with your water or sewer service or bill, call 356-5066. For emergency calls about water service, 24 hours a day, call 356-5166; for sewer emergencies, call 356-5177.

University Heights citizens should remember that the dates provided with sewer and water bills for Christmas tree and leaf pick-up (vacuuming) apply to Iowa City only and not University Heights.

BUS SERVICE AND JOHNSON COUNTY S.E.A.T.S.:

UH is provided bus service by contract with the Iowa City Transit Authority. The level and cost of service is equal to that provided to Iowa City residents. Schedules and bus stop locations can be obtained from the Transit Authority. The Johnson County S.E.A.T.S. transit service is under contract to provide transit service of elderly (65 years of age or older) and disabled UH citizens. This service costs \$1.50 per trip and is available by calling 339-6125.

WATER DRAINAGE: Iowa Law generally provides that the owners of land at higher elevations have easement rights over adjoining lands at lower elevations for the drainage of surface waters. The law further provides that landowners who increase the quantity of water or change the flow of water onto lands of others may be held liable for resulting damage. These general principles of state law apply within the limits of the City of University Heights. Furthermore, all UH citizens need to be aware that sump pump discharges are not to be directed in any way that can cause damage to city streets. Over the past few years a number of incidents have occurred where sump pump system discharges have undermined and damaged city streets. Property owners should be aware that if their property is near such street damage they can be assessed a portion of the street repair costs. The UH City Council asks all property owners to not only make sure that their own sump pump system discharges correctly, but that they check their neighbors' discharge location. If any citizen has any questions, concerns or problems with this issue, please contact one of the councilpersons.

Property Owner Alert: If you find holes emerging on your property that may indicate the undermining of City streets, please notify the City Engineer. Such holes need to be filled to help prevent erosion.

LEAF BURNING: Open burning of leaves and yard waste in the City of University Heights has been discontinued and is not permitted at any time. This ban is the result of a city-wide survey indicating the wishes of the citizens.

DISPOSAL OF LEAVES, GRASS CLIPPINGS, AND OTHER LAWN DEBRIS: City ordinances prohibit citizens from placing leaves, grass clippings, and other lawn debris on city streets. This includes mowing grass and leaves into the street. If you use a commercial mowing service, please insure that they understand that mowing grass and leaves into the street is prohibited.

SNOW AND/OR ICE REMOVAL: City streets in University Heights are cleared of snow and ice by Johnson County Refuse. Both sand and salt are used in winter. Repeated sanding of intersections is authorized as needed. On days (or evenings) when plowing is likely, please do not leave your cars on the street, as they interfere with plowing. They may be ticketed.

Ordinance #97 was enacted to provide citizens with guidance for the removal of snow and/or ice from their sidewalks and driveways. The ordinance prohibits property owners or persons in possession (renters) from removing snow and/or ice accumulations from their property and placing them on the private property of another without their prior permission. Property owners or renters are prohibited from placing snow and/or ice accumulations on public property or public right-of-ways. Further, property owners or renters are prohibited from pushing, transporting or carrying snow and/or ice accumulations from their property into, upon, or across a street or alley right-of-way for the purpose of depositing the snow and/or ice on the other side of the street or alley right-of-way without prior approval of the Council. This provision does not apply to snow and/or ice hauled and deposited upon private property with the consent of the property owner.

Sidewalk snow removal is the responsibility of each property owner. You should have snow removed within a reasonable period of time (24 hours) after each snowfall. The property owner is legally liable for accidents due to failure to clear sidewalks. The City has the authority through ordinance to remove snow from sidewalks not cleared within 24 hours and charge the cost to the property owner without prior notification. This can be quite expensive for the property owner. We hope such action does not become necessary.

SIDEWALKS: Property owners are responsible for maintenance of sidewalks on their property. Broken or uneven areas should be repaired or replaced. The City Engineer should be contacted before work is done (Josiah Bilskemper at Shive-Hattery, 354-3040). The city has the authority through ordinance to make necessary repairs and charge the cost to the property owner. Property owners will be notified if they fail to maintain their sidewalks or make adequate repairs.

RIGHT OF WAY EXCAVATION; Prior to performing an excavation in the street or in the street right of way, an excavation permit is required. Contact the City Clerk or the City Engineer.

BUILDING, PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR: Jim Kessler, 248-1720.

CITY CLERK: Jerry Musser, 337-6900 (City Office) or 351-8402 (Home).

ENGINEERING SERVICES: Josiah Bilskemper, Shive-Hattery Engineers & Architects, 354-3040.

LEGAL SERVICES: Steven Ballard; Leff, Hauptert, Traw & Willman, 338-7551.

RENTAL HOUSING INSPECTOR: Dawn Stoddard, 248-1720.

TREASURER: Lori Kimura, 466-1702.

WEBMASTER: David Wood, 351-8691.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: The Board of Adjustment is appointed by the Mayor and hears appeals to the UH Zoning Ordinance. The board consists of five members: Thomas Breese, Vinton Rowley, Russ Boyer, Laura Bowers and Michael Flaum.

ZONING COMMISSION: The Zoning Commission is appointed by the Mayor and recommends changes to the UH Zoning Ordinance. The board consists of five members: Patrick Bauer (chair), Andrew Dudler, Weldon Heitman, Mary Richard, and Karl Robertson.

LIBRARY SERVICES: Currently both Iowa City and Coralville Public Libraries allow University Heights residents to purchase library cards. Non-resident library services at the Iowa City Public Library costs \$120.00 per year for a family and \$75.00 per year for a family at the Coralville Library. Residents who purchase a card at either library will be reimbursed \$75.00 per year. This rebate is limited to one (1) year from the date of the receipt. Mail your receipt to the City Office, 1004 Melrose Avenue. Reimbursements are approved at the next Council meeting, and checks mailed shortly thereafter.

PARKS AND RECREATION: All parks in Johnson County are available to you. Iowa City and Coralville Recreation Department services are also available to residents of University Heights. The charges for swimming lessons, trips, participation in recreational leagues, and swimming tickets sponsored by the those departments are greater for nonresidents.

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION FACILITY AT THE IOWA CITY LANDFILL: The Hazardous Waste Collection Facility is part of the Iowa City Recycling Center at the Iowa City Landfill. The Landfill is located at 3900 Hebl Avenue (continue on Melrose Avenue about 2 miles west of Iowa City). Hazardous wastes and/or materials can be found throughout the home. Examples include: oven cleaner; drain and toilet bowl cleaner; gasoline; battery acid; weed killer; pesticides; solvents; oil-based paint; shoe polish; moth balls; syringes. Look for labels on the items: words such as DANGER, WARNING, and CAUTION are signals for hazardous waste. Proper disposal hazardous waste/materials is important to the safety of your family and household pets, as well as the quality of our environment. Reduce the risk of poisonings, fires, and toxic fumes by properly disposing of such materials at the Iowa City Recycling Center. Never dispose of hazardous waste/materials directly into your garbage or into the waterways of our community. **All residents of University Heights are eligible to use this free service.** Please follow these instructions for using the facility:

1. Take a quick inventory of the items you want to dispose. Make a list of the general types and quantity of waste. You'll be asked about your items when you make your appointment.
2. Call the Iowa City Landfill office at 356-5185 to set up an appointment.
3. **Appointments are available Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 7:00 AM – 1 PM.**
4. Keep items in their original containers – never mix materials together. Label unmarked containers.
5. Transport materials to the Iowa City Recycling Center in sturdy, leak proof containers, preferably in your trunk or truck bed. Cushion glass or breakable containers.
6. **Arrive for your appointment on time!**
7. Pull up to the facility and remain in your vehicle. The Iowa City Landfill staff will assist you.
8. Please fill out a short survey after the collection is complete.

Iowa City Landfill staff will be there to assist only at your appointment time and **no unscheduled drop offs will be accepted.** This procedure allows the staff the time to carefully process the specific type of hazardous waste/materials you bring to the site. While you are there, feel free to look through the Exchange Room. Items that are brought into the Hazardous Waste Collection Facility which are still in their original containers and in usable condition will be placed in this room for people to pick up at no charge. Automobile fluids and paints are some of the items most likely to be available. No appointment is necessary if you want to check out the Exchange Room for usable items and don't intend to drop items off. If you have any questions, please call 356-5185.

YARD WASTE, RECYCLED MATERIALS AND HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE COLLECTION

The University Heights sanitation program is provided by Johnson County Refuse
 Steve Smith, 2595 Eagle Avenue, Oxford, IA 52322
 Phone: 828-4498 Mobile phone: 330-1726

SERVICE	PICK-UP	COST	STEPS OR CONDITIONS
GREEN BIN Paper Recycling	Every Tuesday	\$4.25/Month Paid for by the City of University Heights	Newspaper, magazines, computer paper, junk mail and envelopes on one side of the divider. Flattened corrugated or chipboard cardboard on the other side of the divider. NO wrapping or tissue paper. NO Kleenex. NO soiled or dirty paper. NO paper plates. NO Styrofoam peanuts. Cut down large cardboard into 2' x 2' pieces.
YELLOW BIN Non-paper Recycling	Every Tuesday	Included With paper	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Glass (clear, green, & brown bottles and jars, rinsed clean). 2. Tin and aluminum food cans (clean and remove labels). 3. Plastic containers #1 through #7 (NO lids; NO Styrofoam; NO plastic bags; NO toys).
REFUSE (garbage)	Every Tuesday	\$1.00/Sticker	Stickers sold at Cub and Fareway. One sticker for a 20/22 gallon capacity container; two stickers for 23-32 gallon containers (40 pound limit). For Yearly sticker call 828-4498. Garbage Containers Must Not Be Larger than a 35 Gallon Size Container.
Yard Waste*	Every Tuesday	\$1.25/Sticker	Stickers sold at Fareway only. One sticker placed on up to 39 gallon bags (40 pound weight limit).
Tree Branches*	Every Tuesday	\$1.25/Sticker	Cut tree branches into lengths no longer than 3' x 3" in diameter. Bundles no larger than 48" around. Place sticker around the string holding the bundle together. (Each residence will be allowed one free bundle of branches per week.)
Leaf Vacuuming	October 31	Paid by City	Be patient. It takes most of a day cover the entire City.
Leaf Pick-up	November 12 (Saturday) Leaves out by 7:00 a.m.	Paid for by The City of University Heights	Place leaves in plastic bags, garbage cans, or other suitable containers. Please do not fill little bags and then put them into a large bag; plastic does not compost and the hauler must empty each bag. Before the morning of the pick-up, take leaves to the curbside.
Christmas Trees	January 3, 2006 January 10, 2006 (Tuesday) Trees out by 7:00 a.m.	Paid for by The City of University Heights	For pick-up at any other time, attach 2 yard waste stickers.
Other bulky Rubbish	Phone 828-4498	Paid by Resident	You can make special arrangements for removal of appliances, tires, and excessive amounts of yard waste or tree clippings by calling Steve Smith at Johnson Co Refuse.

***Residents may take yard waste to the Iowa City Landfill at no charge**

www.university-heights.org

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS HAS A SMALL NUMBER OF ORDINANCES WHICH, ALONG WITH STATE LAWS, KEEP OUR CITY RUNNING SMOOTHLY. SEVERAL OF THESE ORDINANCES ARE SUMMARIZED HERE SO THAT YOU CAN COMPLY WITH THEM. AN UNOFFICIAL VERSION OF THE ORDINANCES CAN BE FOUND ON THE CITY WEBSITE – www.university-heights.org.

BUILDING AND ZONING:

Nearly all of the property in University Heights is zoned R-1, single family residential. Permitted uses within this zone include occupancy by a family and one person not a member of the family. "Family" is defined as one person or two or more persons related by blood, marriage or adoption occupying a dwelling as an individual housekeeping unit.

This ordinance also provides that **no building shall be erected or altered unless a building permit is issued by the building inspector**. It is the responsibility of the property owner to make sure that required permits are obtained. Do not assume that the contractor will do this. The UH Building Inspector is Jim Kessler, and he can be reached by telephone at 248-1720.

There are also ordinances that regulate fences and driveways. If you are building or changing a fence or driveway, check with the City Clerk (337-6900) or Building Inspector (248-1720) first.

If any UH citizen has any questions about the zoning ordinance, or if you would like to report a possible violation of the ordinance, please feel free to contact the UH City Attorney, Steven Ballard, at 338-7551.

PET ORDINANCE:

It is the pet owners' responsibility to have their animal (**dog, cat or other pet**) under control at all times. The ordinance prohibits any **dog or cat** off the owner's property without being on a leash or under control. Allowing your pet to cause damage or defilement to public or private property is a nuisance and is prohibited. When walking your pet, keep it on the public "parking" part of the street. When using a retractable leash please be considerate of your neighbors and don't allow your pet access to property far away from the street.

VENDOR ORDINANCE:

Ordinance #81 is especially pertinent to football season. It prohibits the display or sale of goods or services on any public property (parks, streets, alleys, sidewalks) in University Heights. This ordinance also applies to private property in a residential zone (other than home occupations or personal garage sales allowed by the zoning ordinance). The purpose of this ordinance is primarily to regulate sales of goods and services during football games. It has been required due to possible problems with food sales and blocking of pedestrian traffic. It will also assist in reducing the clean-up of city property following these events.

VEHICLE PARKING:

Overnight parking is prohibited on most city streets. Blocking the sidewalk is also prohibited. Diagonal parking on Marietta is limited to University Heights permit holders only, to deter vehicles being stored by non-residents. Parking on yards is prohibited except on days of Iowa home football game days.

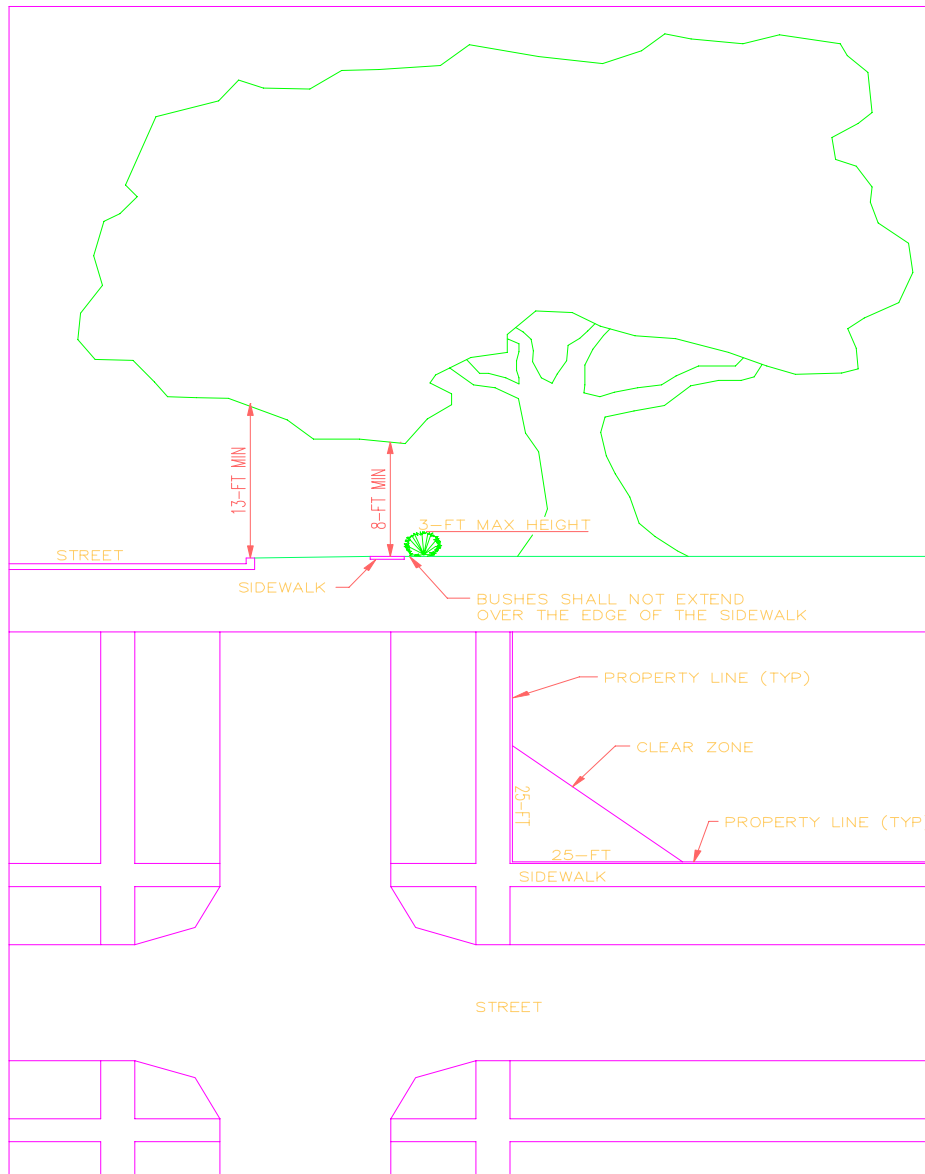
There is no parking on any University Heights streets east of Sunset on the day of a University of Iowa home football game, except for permit holders on Marietta. On game days, no parking is also enforced on the east side of Mahaska, Monroe, and Ridgeview Streets, and the south and east side of Koser west of Sunset, and the south side of Highland west of Sunset. Parking is not allowed at any time on the area between the street (curb) and the property line. Blocking of any sidewalk is prohibited. Violations result in cars being towed by Big Ten Towing of Iowa City. You may park cars on your property during football games, but the car must not be parked on the area between the street and sidewalk and must not block or obstruct the sidewalk. Persons who park cars on their property are responsible for clean-up immediately following sporting events.

On streets that allow parking on one side only, residents who are having a garage sale may borrow temporary signs from the Police that notify those attending about the restrictions. Leave a message on the Police Dept. phone (887-6800) in advance of the sale, and signs will be delivered to you.

TRIMMING OF TREES AND SHRUBS:

Ordinance #52 requires the owners of private property to be responsible for the proper care and maintenance of all trees and shrubs located in the "parking" adjoining their property. All trees and shrubs on this property should be trimmed to allow free passage of pedestrians and vehicular traffic and not obstruct the vision of traffic signs on any street intersection.

The minimum clearance of a tree or shrub shall be 8 feet over sidewalks and 13 feet over all streets. We urge you to check the trees and shrubbery on your property or parking areas so that they remain in compliance with this ordinance. The City has the authority through ordinance to have this work performed and charged to the property owner.



Ordinance #105 requires that corner lots do not have hedges, fences, or other plantings that obstruct the sight distance within a specified corner triangle of the property. The maximum height allowed is 3 feet within the clear zone. **The parking area is the space between the curb and sidewalk or where there is no sidewalk, between the curb and property line. Permission of the City Council is required before adding or removing trees from the parking area.**

www.university-heights.org

*** New Storm Water Regulations in University Heights ***

In the past, storm water management has been primarily focused on managing the **quantity** of storm water generated during storm events. To provide flood control for residents, street intakes and storm sewer pipes are designed to convey storm water to the local waterways (i.e. streams, rivers, and lakes) at a rate fast enough to prevent this water from ponding on streets and yards.

To comply with new federal regulations, University Heights is required to implement a new storm water management program, which takes into consideration the **quality** of storm water runoff by using practices that reduce the discharge of pollutants often found in storm water. The program is designed to protect water quality, and satisfy the appropriate requirements of the Clean Water Act.

What is Storm Water Runoff?

Storm water runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent storm water runoff from naturally soaking into the ground.

What Is The Problem?

Pollutants accumulate on impervious surfaces between rainfall events. Storm water can pick up trash, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly into a local waterway. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water. Polluted storm water runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals and people.

Sediment from construction sites, or salt and sand from snow/ice removal...

Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids...

Bacteria from pet waste, and other **pathogens**...

Trash such as plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, and cigarette butts...

...can cloud water and make it difficult for aquatic plants to grow. It can also destroy aquatic habitats.

...can poison aquatic life. Animals and people can become sick from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.

...can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, or contribute to beach closures.

...washed into water bodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles and birds.

Polluted storm water often affects drinking water sources. This, in turn, can affect health and increase drinking water treatment costs.

What is involved with the new storm water management program?

At this point, University Heights has created and up-to-date map of the City's storm sewer system, and continues to provide storm drain marking (No Dumping, Drains to River) and annual street sweeping to remove sediment from city streets. Some additional requirements include:

1. Providing public education and outreach.
2. Providing opportunities for citizens to participate in program development.
3. Inspecting storm drain outlets to detect illicit discharges.
4. Reducing sediment loss from construction sites.
5. Establishing municipal procedures to maintain storm water quality.

www.university-heights.org

What Can You Do?

- ❑ **Dispose of household hazardous waste properly.**
Never dump household hazardous waste such as pesticides, fertilizers, paint or solvents into a storm drain, open waterway or ditch. Beyond posing a threat to our health and environment, such dumping is illegal. For property housed hazardous waste disposal information, call the Iowa City Landfill & Recycling Center at 356-5185, or visit their website at www.icgov.org/hazardous.htm.
 - ❑ **Report Potentially Hazardous Spills or Dumping to 887-6800**
If you see a potentially hazardous material flowing to a storm sewer, ditch or waterway, immediately call 887-6800 to report this activity.
 - ❑ **Lawn Care & Yard Waste**
Use fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide products sparingly. Follow the instructions carefully and apply only the recommended amount. Check the weather forecast and related instructions to avoid having to repeat the application.
Plant trees and shrubs---the roots hold water in the ground, slowing runoff and soil erosion. Trees can lower air conditioning costs too!
Re-direct roof drains to gardens or other vegetated areas.
Dispose of yard waste properly. Consider composting or mulching yard waste.
 - ❑ **Please Don't Litter**
Trash left along our roadways and in our city washes into our waterways through rain and melting snow. Beyond being an eyesore and a danger to wildlife, debris can allow standing water to breed disease-carrying mosquitoes. It can also block storm drains, preventing water from draining properly.
 - ❑ **Clean Up After Your Pets**
Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters. When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local water bodies.
-

Interested in learning More?

Storm Water Program Overview	http://www.epa.gov/ndes/pubs/fact2-0.pdf
Storm Water in Iowa	http://www.iowastormwater.org
Tips for Homeowners	http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/solution_to_pollution.pdf
Water Efficient Landscaping	http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/waterefficiency.pdf
Storm Water Runoff Info	http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/after_the_storm.pdf

For More Information Contact:

City Engineer Josiah Bilskemper with Shive-Hattery (354-3040; jbilskemper@shive-hattery.com)

Want to be involved? Residents who are interested in helping with the Storm Drain Marking Program, or who would like to be a part of the Storm Water Advisory Committee (annual meeting), please contact the Streets & Sidewalks Chairperson, Louise From, at 354-1433

By practicing health household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings and automotive fluids off the ground and out of storm water.

www.university-heights.org