

Community owned  
electric, water, & sewer

## THE INNOVATOR

Denison Municipal Utilities  
"Essentials for Life"

April 2024

### APRIL IS SAFE DIGGING MONTH (811) Call Before You Dig

Many of us look forward to getting out in the yard this spring and summer, but we urge you to take caution before digging. Contact Iowa One Call any time you plan to excavate. Whether it's a small or a large construction project, you must submit a locate request at least 48 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) prior to excavation. Iowa One Call will notify the owners/operators of underground facilities who participate in Iowa One call. The various underground facility operators will dispatch "locate" personnel to the area to mark the underground facility locations with flags and paint markings, showing where underground facilities are located so the excavator can avoid damaging the facilities. Iowa law applies to professional contractors as well as home-owners, and encompasses a wide array of outdoor projects including:

- \* Installing a fence
- \* Planting trees or shrubs
- \* Building a patio, addition, deck, garage, outdoor shed or similar structure that requires any form of digging
- \* Putting in a new driveway
- \* Installing a septic system or water drainage system
- \* Terracing or landscaping

Please call the "Iowa One Call" before you dig and make it safe for you and everyone else. If you have any questions, please call our office at 712-263-4154.



Denison Municipal Utilities  
721 Broadway  
P.O. Box 518  
Denison, Iowa 51442  
Phone: 712-263-4154  
Fax: 712-263-8767  
Hours: 7am-4pm

We're on the Web!  
[www.dmuonline.com](http://www.dmuonline.com)

Find us on:  
**facebook®**

### Drinking Water Facts

- ◇ A human's body weight is around 70% water
- ◇ Without water, we could only last about 3-4 days.
- ◇ By the time you feel thirsty, you've lost over 1% of your body water
- ◇ Weight loss can be aided by drinking water instead of soda.
- ◇ Water is necessary for kidney function and other body functions
- ◇ Arthritis can be avoided by drinking plenty of water.
- ◇ Water aids saliva production, which helps prevent tooth decay.
- ◇ Throughout the body, water transports oxygen.
- ◇ Water improves the health and appearance of the skin.
- ◇ Water maintains a healthy body temperature.
- ◇ Drinking enough water everyday can help reduce heart disease & cancer.
- ◇ A healthy water intake for men is 15 1/2 cups & for women it is 11 1/2 cups.



American Water Works Association and its members celebrate Drinking Water Week the first full week in May. Taking place May 5-11 this year, Drinking Water Week serves to highlight the importance of safe drinking water and recognize the tireless efforts of local water professionals who ensure its availability. This year's observance coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

Make sure you check our Facebook page the week of National Drinking Water Week to learn more about your water source and how we make sure your water is **There When You Need It!**

Pictured from left to right are our Water Department employees: Spencer Schultz, Aaron Kolln, Justin Bromert, Johnathan Pauley, Adam Kragel, Luke Gillmor, Dave Bilsten



## Cash Incentives for your HOME

The Bright Energy Solutions rebate program helps you save money, improve comfort and protect the environment.

The following rebates are available:

- Air Cleaner: \$25
- Clothes washer: \$25
- Dehumidifier (portable): \$25
- Dehumidifier (whole-home ducted): \$200
- Dishwasher: \$25
- Heat-Pump Water Heater: \$150
- LED Recessed Downlights: \$2
- Room air conditioner: \$25
- Air-Source Heat Pump (electric backup): \$150 - \$300
- Central Air Conditioner: \$150 - \$300
- Heat pump or A/C tune-up: \$30
- ECM Recirculating Pumps: \$75 - \$900
- Geothermal Heat Pump: \$200/ton
- Mini-Split Heat Pump: \$250 - \$400 per out door unit
- Mini-Split Air Conditioner: \$150 - \$200 per outdoor unit
- ENERGY STAR Smart Thermostat: \$25
- ChargePoint Home Charger or Level 2 Charger: \$150 - \$500

Participating is easy!  
Just visit:

[www.dmuonline.com](http://www.dmuonline.com) or  
[brightenergysolutions.com](http://brightenergysolutions.com)

## CLOSURE

DMU will be closed  
Monday, May 27th  
for Memorial Day &  
Thursday, July 4th  
for Independence Day.

## May is National Electrical Safety Month!

It's the time of year that we raise awareness on how to avoid potential electrical hazards in the home, school, and workplace. According to the National Fire Protection Association, an estimated 51,000 home fires, over 1,400 injuries, nearly 500 deaths, and \$1.3 billion in property damage occur each year as a result of electrical malfunctions.

Home electrical systems are the third leading cause of home structure fires. Eliminating electrical hazards begins with education & awareness. Listed below are some electrical safety tips to help avoid tragic and costly injuries:

- ♦ Install smoke detectors on every level of the home, inside each bedroom, and outside each sleeping area.
- ♦ Test your smoke detectors monthly & replace the batteries annually.
- ♦ Ask a qualified electrician if your home would benefit from AFCI protection, especially during inspections of older homes or upgrades to electrical systems. These advanced new safety devices recognize dangerous conditions that are not detected by standard breakers.
- ♦ Use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage on the light fixture. In homes with young children, install tamper resistant receptacles to prevent electrical shocks and burns.
- ♦ Conduct a basic assessment of your home electrical system, electrical cords, extension cords, and power plugs, and outlets.
- ♦ Look for telltale signs of electrical problems such as dim and flickering lights, unusual sizzling and buzzing sounds from your electrical system, insulation and circuit breakers that trip repeatedly. Contact a qualified electrician immediately.
- ♦ Use extension cords temporarily.
- ♦ Avoid overloading outlets. Use power strips with built-in circuit breakers to distribute high-energy appliances across multiple outlets.

Electrical safety awareness and education among consumers, families, employees and communities will prevent electrical fires, injuries and fatalities. A focus on electrical safety, both at home and in the workplace, can prevent the hundreds of deaths, thousands of injuries and billions of dollars in economic losses that occur each year because of electrical hazards. If you have any questions about electrical safety issues, please contact DMU at 263-4154.

## EARTH DAY 2024 – PLANET VS PLASTICS

Earth Day which began in 1970 will mark its 54th anniversary on April 22, 2024. EARTHDAY.ORG, the global organizer of Earth Day, has announced the global theme for Earth Day 2024: *Planet vs Plastics*.

EARTHDAY.ORG's mission is to diversify, educate, and activate the environmental movement worldwide. Growing out of the first Earth Day in 1970, EARTHDAY.ORG is the world's largest recruiter to the environmental movement, working with more than 150,000 partners in nearly 192 countries to build environmental democracy. More than 1 billion people now participate in Earth Day actions each year, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

Today, not only is Earth Day meant to increase awareness of environmental problems, but it is also becoming a popular time for many communities to gather together to clean up litter, plant trees, or simply reflect on the beauty of nature.

*Planet vs Plastics* unites students, parents, businesses, governments, churches, unions, individuals, and non-governmental organizations in an unwavering commitment to call for the end of plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding 60% reduction in the production of plastics by 2040 and an ultimate goal of building a plastic-free future for generations to come.

