

# Department Activity Report

## March 2023



## March 2023 REPORT OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY



# Muscatine City Council Past/Present/Future

## March 2 Regular Session

- Public Hearing on proposed sale of property at Lot 1 Arrowhead Lake.
- Public Hearing on Ordinance updating designated truck routes.
- Set public hearing to declare City owned real estate as surplus and authorizing sale of property by sealed bid.
- Set public hearing on plans and specifications for Phase 1 of Fulliam Avenue Reconstruction Project.
- Set public hearing on plans and specifications for Phase 6 of the West Hill Sanitary & Storm Sewer Separation Project.

## March 9 Budget Session

- Wrap up of budget discussions including discussion on Special Revenue Funds.

## March 9 In-Depth Session

- Overview of proposed International Fire Code updates
- Overview of Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Program
- City participation in Choose Green Business Program.

## March 16 Regular Session

- Public Hearing to declare City owned real estate as surplus and authorizing sale of property by sealed bid.
- Public Hearing on plans and specifications for Phase 1 of Fulliam Avenue Reconstruction Project.
- Rescheduling public hearing on plans and specifications for Phase 6 of the West Hill Sanitary & Storm Sewer Separation Project.
- Set public hearing on Maximum Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget.
- Set public hearing on FY2024 Annual Plan & Amendments to the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy.

## April 6 Regular Session

- Public Hearing on plans and specifications for West Hill Sanitary and Storm Sewer Separation Project Phase 6A and 6B.
- Public Hearing on maximum tax levy for FY 2023-2024 budget.
- Final reading of ordinance updating designated truck routes.
- Set public hearing for April 20 on proposed FY 2023-2024 budget.
- Set public hearing for April 20 on declaring Tom Bruner Field as surplus and authorizing sale to Muscatine Community School District.
- Request to accept a \$1,738,000.00 Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Grant for the Mulberry Neighborhood Project.
- Request to approve sidewalk connectors from Kent Stein Park to Muscatine Soccer Complex and Sunset Housing.

## April 13 In-Depth Session

- Update from Parks and Recreation on Special Event Process.
- Update on Water and Resource Recovery Facility CIP and Sewer Rate Study.
- Update on impact of changes in state law on home occupation regulations.
- Update on potential nuisance appeal process.

## April 20 Regular Session

- Public Hearing for 2024 Consolidated Funding Application and Public Transit Infrastructure Grant Application.
- Public Hearing on proposed Amendment #1 to FY 2022-2023 budget.
- Public Hearing on proposed FY 2023-2024 budget.
- Public Hearing on declaring Tom Bruner Field as surplus and authorizing sale to Muscatine Community School District.

Note that this list is not all inclusive and only notes major discussion items. Please consult the published Council Agenda at <https://www.muscatineiowa.gov/86/Agendas-Minutes> or view Council meetings at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofMuscatine>

## March Highlights of City Activity

**Department of Administration** - Presented 39 regular agenda items for consideration by City Council. Continued to assess recent changes in state laws that may have an affect on city operations. Completed work with Finance Director on proposed FY 2023-2024 budget.

**Department of Public Works** – The Solid Waste Division had a busy month with 379 stops for bulky waste curbside pickup with an average of 249 pounds collected per stop. That is 10 fewer stops than in 2022 (389 stops) but more pounds per stop (190 per stop in 2022). MuscaBus ridership reached 7,424 route rides, the second highest total in the past 12 months. March 2023 also had 1,917 shuttle rides and 572 evening rides, both the highest number of rides per month over the last 12 months.

**Finance Department** – Finance Director with the City Administrator, completed the application for Community Projects funding to Representative Miller-Meeks for funding for the Papoose Force Main Redundant Line Project.

**Community Development Department** – The department worked through the last IEDA requirements to officially be awarded the \$1.78 million grant for the Mulberry neighborhood revitalization project. Four notices of noncompliance with property maintenance codes were sent. A number of properties previously noticed have deadlines in May, but this year six property owners have presented plans for compliance while four are being cited

**Housing Agency** – Nineteen households attended four Housing Counseling classes, four in the first-time homebuyer course and 15 in Step Ahead, Renter Education.

**Parks and Recreation Department** – The City of Muscatine has been recognized as a Tree City USA community for it's 30th consecutive year. Staff has also been busy with cleaning landscape beds throughout the community and preparing them for the spring season. The petunias for the hanging baskets have arrived, and have been transplanted in preparation for the hanging basket program in downtown Muscatine. The tennis courts at Weed Park and the pickleball courts at Taylor Park have been cleaned and the nets have been installed in preparation for the upcoming season.

**Fire Department** – Chief Ewers worked three 24 hour shifts riding alongside fire department staff assigned to an ambulance as a firefighter/paramedic in order to work a shift will all three shifts. Firefighter Travis Edwards received an Exemplary Service Award for this work on fire investigations and the fire investigation program. Lieutenant Andrew McSorley received an Exemplary Service Award for his work and dedication for the Recruit Academy and training our members.

**Police Department** – Many Promotions and position changes occurred in March.

Congratulations to:  
Chief Tony Kies  
Captain Jeff Jirak  
Lieutenant John Hesselung  
Sergeant Jeff DeVrieze  
Corporal Mitch Griffin  
Detective Britt Jameson

The City Administrator's Monthly Report is intended to provide a brief summary of City activities, with links to additional information where possible. Due to the variety and complexity of City functions, however, the report is not all-encompassing. Please always feel free to contact the City of Muscatine for more information or with questions or concerns. View past and upcoming events on the City's calendar. Any feedback can be provided to the City Administrator's office by sending an email to [feedback@muscatineiowa.gov](mailto:feedback@muscatineiowa.gov).

# Department of Administration

## City Administrator's Office

The City Administrator's office is responsible for the overall management and administrative coordination of the activities of the City of Muscatine. The Office focuses on providing transparent and efficient city services that meet or exceed community expectations.



### March Highlights

- Presented 39 regular agenda items for consideration by City Council.
- Coordination of in-depth presentations on an overview of proposed International Fire Code updates, Law Enforcement Mental Health & Wellness Program, and City participation in Choose Green Business Program.
- Responded to numerous citizen and City Council requests and concerns.

## Human Resources Division

### March Highlights

- Eighty-nine applications were received for a variety of positions for a variety of positions including seasonal openings. Two new employees were onboarded.

The recruiting process for seasonal positions continues. Those looking for positions with parks and recreation can visit the City's website for various openings. The link for the career center is <http://www.muscatineiowa.gov/1598/Career-Center>. There are also so openings for the City Engineer, Equipment Operator, Transit Dispatcher, Police Officer, and Fire Fighter.

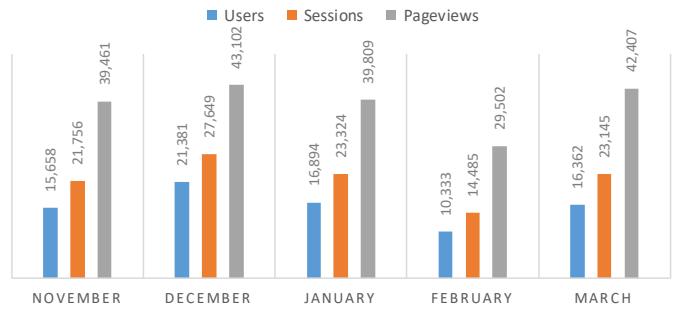
- The HR Department has been working with operating departments to update and streamline payroll processing systems, resulting in time savings for office personnel. HR personnel have been visiting departments individually to train on the updated steps and assist in the transition.

# Communications Division

### March Highlights

- Continued monitoring and implementing updates to Civic Clerk and Muscatine Connect powered by SeeClickFix.
- Continued working with CivicPlus and the design committee on the redesign of the City of Muscatine website.
- A total of 34 press releases were produced and distributed to media and Notify Me subscribers.
- Five virtual meetings held for various departments using GoToMeeting.
- Created 152 social media posts (75 Facebook, 47 Instagram, 52 Twitter, 2 LinkedIn, and 3 YouTube).
- Two "Muscatine In Focus" presentations.
- Ended the month of March with 9,699 (+48 from end of February) followers on Facebook, 1,538 (+9) on Instagram, 1,508 (-10) on Twitter, 428 (+0) on YouTube.

### CITY OF MUSCATINE WEBSITE ANALYTICS



# Department of Administration

## Finance/Parking Division

### March Highlights

- Prepared the final budget schedules with the final taxable valuation information from the State for City Council's review at the special meeting before the March 9 In Depth meeting.
- Prepared Amendment #1 to the FY 23 Budget and the FY24 Budget on the Department of Management website and prepared the notices for public hearings.
- Finance Director with the City Administrator, completed the application for Community Projects funding to Representative Miller-Meeks for funding for the Papoose Force Main Redundant Line Project.
- Submitted required documentation for the Hershey Manor HVAC project reimbursement requests from the re-financed loan proceeds held by Grandbridge Financial.
- Submitted the actuarial report and supporting documents to the Iowa Insurance Division for the 509A-Iowa Public Body Self-Insured Group Health-care plan due March 31st.
- Entered the revised estimate revenues and expenditures into the Springbrook financial software.
- Prepared and submitted Public Housing Operating Subsidy forms; these forms are used by HUD to calculate the Public Housing HUD Operating Subsidy for calendar year 2023.

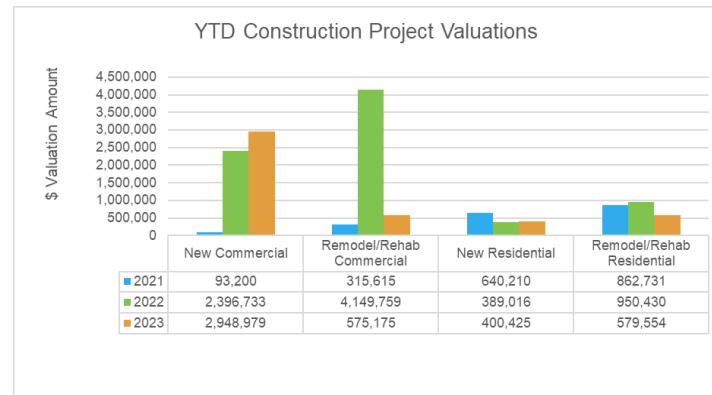
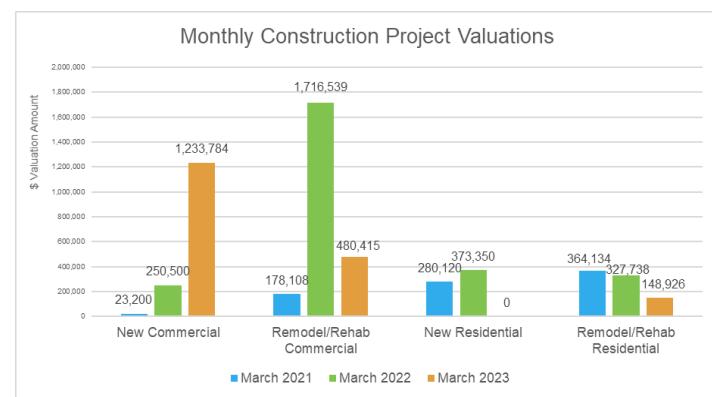
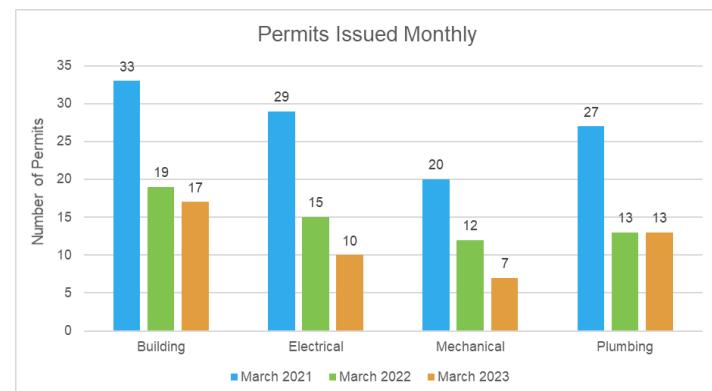
- Finance Director continued the weekly virtual training sessions on the IONWave (electronic bidding) system; this also included the Public Works Director, Public Works Administrative Secretary, the IT Manager, and Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor



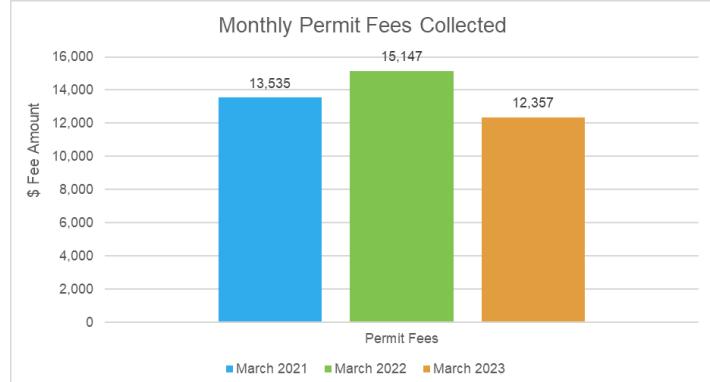
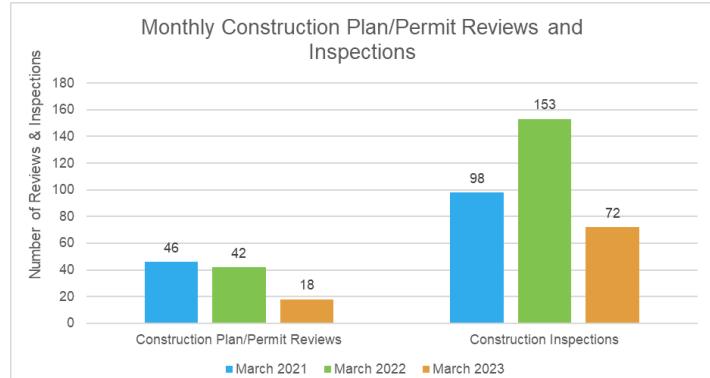
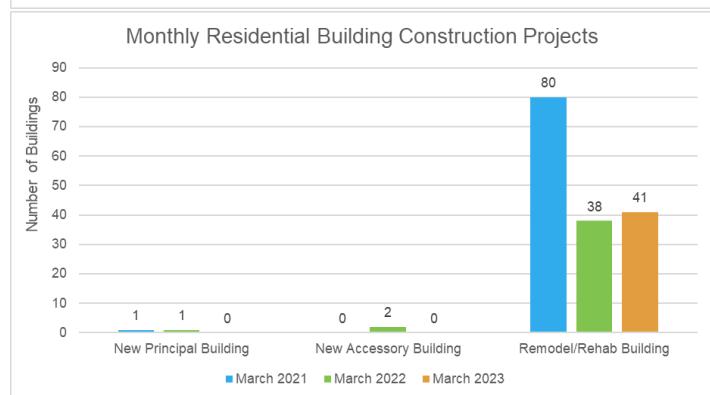
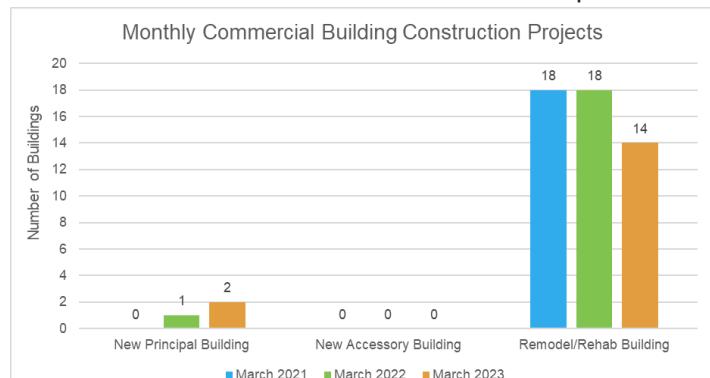
Summary of Activities	July 2022	August 2022	Sept. 2022	October 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2022	January 2023	Feb. 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
Accounts Payable Checks & ACH Payments	666	567	552	607	529	486	597	504	553			
Payroll Checks and Direct Deposits	883	848	1,174*	744	721	682	655	653	1,004*			
Accounts Receivable Invoices Sent	193	284	222	195	255	278	141	172	196			
Finance Cash Register Transactions	396	449	417	552	498	486	548	477	742			
Housing Receipt Transactions	194	217	211	183	186	194	191	216	215			
Purchase Orders Processed	270	322	256	230	240	259	246	228	248			

\* Payroll checks and direct deposits for September 2022 & March 2023 included 3 payrolls.

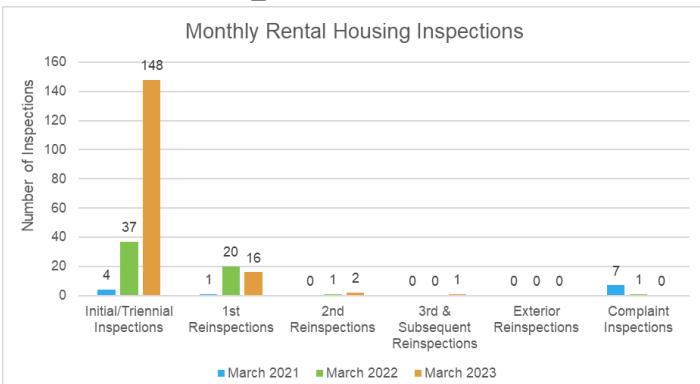
# Department of Community Development



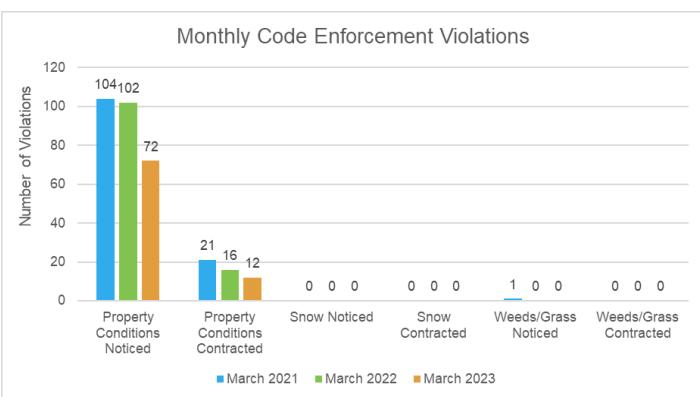
- Principal Building defined as the construction of new building on a previously vacant lot/parcel.
- Accessory Building defined as buildings constructed in addition to the principal building such as garages, storage buildings, shelters, etc.
- Remodel/Rehab defined as buildings undergoing any alterations whether it be for a remodel or repair.



# Department of Community Development



Property Conditions defined as Nuisance Abatements and other Code Violations including but not limited to dangerous tree trimming/removal, zoning regulation violations, etc.



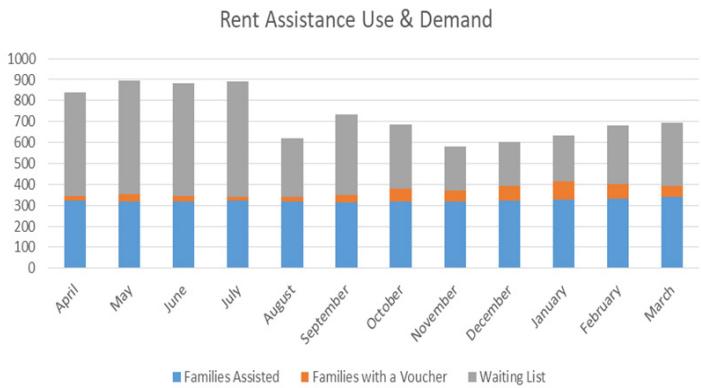
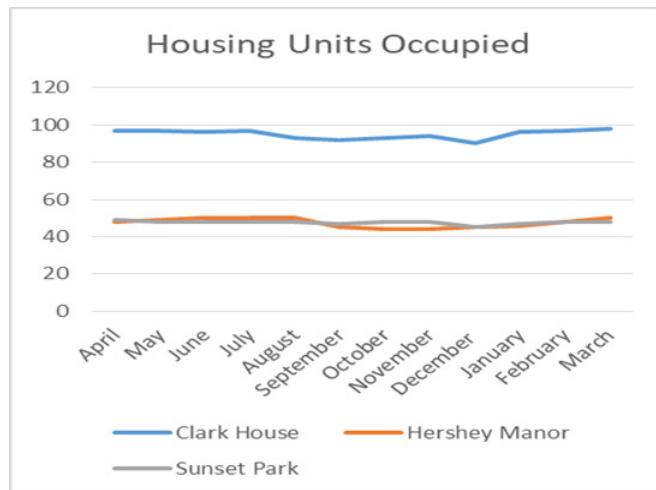
## Department of Community Development

- We worked through the last IEDA requirements to officially be awarded the \$1.78 million grant for the Mulberry neighborhood revitalization project.
- Contractors cleared another dilapidated structure on behalf of the City.
- 4 notices of noncompliance with property maintenance codes were sent. A number of properties previously noticed have deadlines in May, but this year 6 property owners have presented plans for compliance while 4 are being cited
- The Community Development Director, as part of a three person committee, met with representatives from 5 of the state's Congressional offices, including Senator Grassley and Representatives Nunn and Miller-Meeks. The exception was Representative Hinson.
- An informational session was held at Musser Public Library on the Grandview Corridor Façade Grants.
- The architect was on-site to complete field measurements and 3D modeling, the next step in implementing the Downtown Revitalization Program.
- The City Planner attended the National Mainstreets Conference to meet the training requirements to maintain the Certified Local Government status and learn about programs and methods to rehabilitate historic downtowns.

## Muscatine Municipal Housing Agency

- 10 families began receiving rental assistance
- Nineteen households attended 4 Housing Counseling classes, 4 in the first-time homebuyer course and 15 in Step Ahead, Renter Education.

- Staff worked with the grant writer to submit a \$2.8 million EDI request to Representative Miller-Meeks' office to make improvements at the Clark House.
- Housing staff attended the Iowa NAHRO Conference and learned about new and proposed rules governing the voucher and public housing programs.
- The Housing Programs Manager and Housing Choice Voucher Specialists continue to work with Regional Management for Pivotal to support the residents of 3 properties.
- A contract for window replacement at Hershey Manor was executed and windows are ordered.
- We ended the month with only 2 vacancies at Sunset Park and Clark House, and Hershey Manor was 100% occupied! Overall occupancy is over 98%
- 134 work orders were received, with an average completion time of 1.3 days, which is due to 2 products taking 17 or more days to be available
- Completed turnover of 4 units
- Started in unit work for HVAC replacement at Hershey
- Paid more than \$165,000 for housing and utility assistance on behalf of clients
- \$6,452 was deposited into escrow accounts for families working toward self-sufficiency
- Earned \$22,339 with a 91% proration of administrative fees
- Paid \$145,509 for housing and utility on behalf of clients
- \$4,695 was deposited into escrow accounts for families working toward self-sufficiency
- Earned \$22,205 after a 91% proration of administrative fees



# Department of Parks and Recreation

## Park Administration Division

The main office is open to the public with regular office hours Monday - Friday 8 am to 5 pm. There continue to be many requests to hold special events on public property. The complete special event listing can be found at our website. If you wish to hold a special event within the parks system, please contact our office at 563-263-0241 or by email at [parksoffice@muscatineiowa.gov](mailto:parksoffice@muscatineiowa.gov). Please enjoy the many services provided through the Parks and Recreation Department and contact us to let us know about your experiences as we love to hear from you!

Subject	Result
Pearl City Station	5 Reservations in March 2023
Riverview Center	6 Reservations in March 2023
Dog Park Passes	56 Passes Sold in 2023

## Park Maintenance Division

The City of Muscatine has been recognized as a Tree City USA community for it's 30th consecutive year. Staff has also been busy with cleaning landscape beds throughout the community and preparing them for the spring season. The petunias for the hanging baskets have arrived, and have been transplanted in preparation for the hanging basket program in downtown Muscatine. The tennis courts at Weed Park and the pickleball courts at Taylor Park have been cleaned and the nets have been installed in preparation for the upcoming season. The platforms at the Weed Park Rose Garden playground and 4th Street playground were replaced in late March. Several playground slides throughout the parks have been replaced, with a few more remaining to be replaced this spring.

Subject	Result
Seasonal Employees	15 Seasonal Employees Recruited

## Cemetery Division

Greenwood Cemetery remains open to the public for walkers, bicyclists and the community's cemetery needs. The 2023 spring cemetery cleanup was successfully completed in late March. The cemetery steps were re-opened to the public in late March. Staff worked on settling and leveling graves throughout the cemetery. Staff also worked on repairs and re-setting markers throughout the cemetery.

Subject	Result
Burials	6 Burials Took Place
Burial Spaces	0 Burial Spaces Sold

## Boat Harbor/Marina Divisions

Staff is preparing the operations for the 2023 season. Staff is adjusting docks daily with the rising river levels. Long Dock and Houseboat Dock boat slips are available for rent for the 2023 season. Please contact the parks and recreation office for more information or to make arrangements. The Marina has gas and diesel for sale and has a pump out station for boater's convenience. Requests for fueling and pump out services may be made by contacting the parks and recreation office at 563-263-0241.

Subject	Result
Long Dock Slips (48 Available)	0 Rented for 2023
Houseboat Dock Slips (8 Available)	0 Rented for 2023

## Recreation Division

Youth and adult recreation programs and special events continue to be offered. Current programs taking place include Youth Gymnastics, BlastBall, Adult Volleyball Leagues and the Walking Club. The 2023 Summer Brochure is being distributed around the community and is available to view on the City website. Summer program registration will begin on Tuesday, May 2. The Melon City Bike Rodeo is scheduled for May 12.

Subject	Result
Youth Program Participation	422 participation occurrences in March
Adult Program Participation	1,246 participation occurrences in March

# Department of Parks and Recreation

## Aquatics Division

Staff recruitment has begun and previous employees received information to apply for the 2023 season. The Shallow Area Play Structure crawl tube and slide are scheduled to be replaced this spring. The Aquatic Center will open on May 27th for the season.

## Wellness Division

The City employee wellness programs continue to be offered through the virtual Wellness Center. The Fitness Reimbursement program continues throughout the year. Staff is collecting survey responses from employees and establishing a Wellness Committee in an effort to reorganize the Wellness program mix. The Biometric Screening program included 76 participants in the screenings and 47 follow-up appointments to discuss results with UnityPoint nurses.

Subject	Result
Participation	82 occurrences in March

## Kent Stein Division

Kent Stein Park opened the last week in March. The park was ready for our first softball tournament for the 2023 season. However, we had to cancel due to six inches of snow. The park remained open for the last full week of March with drop in usage. Staff continues to make improvements to the Parks and its facilities for the upcoming season. Some of those tasks have been working on leveling infields, changing light bulbs, picking up sticks and debris, and preparing restrooms for the season. Supplies, chemicals, and fertilizer are still coming in for the 2023 season. We are continuing to clean up the park and work on small equipment needs. Staff finished the spring start up list for Kent Stein and have started a follow-up list of new items that need attention.

## Soccer Complex Division

The soccer complex opened the weekend of April 1st. Supplies, chemicals and fertilizers continue to come in for the 2023 season. We are working on our winter maintenance on small equipment. We are waiting for the arrival of the robotic painter and training for the first full week of April. Staff stringed and painted the field in preparation for our season opener with the Muscatine High school and West Liberty soccer games. Staff completed the Soccer Complex start up list and is awaiting better weather to turn on the field irrigation. Soccer goals nets were installed on both Main complex and Soccer West facility.

## Golf Divisions

The golf course and driving range opened on March 6th. There were 3 different snow storms that closed the course for a total of 8 days after opening. Coca Cola delivered the new coolers as part of the new agreement for the clubhouse. Maintenance staff finished winter maintenance on all equipment and finished cutting dead trees on the course.

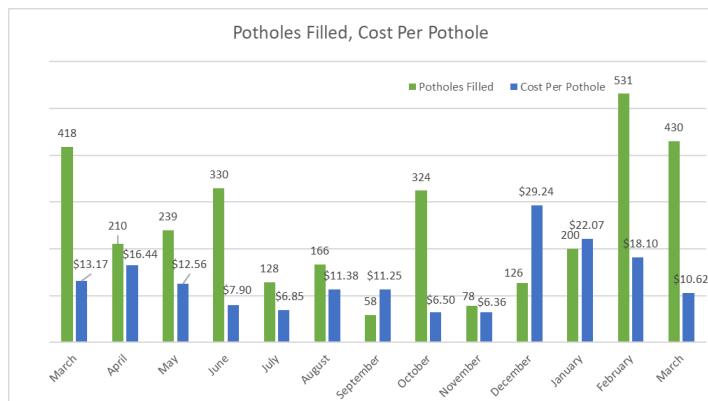
Subject	Result
Outings	14 Outings Scheduled for 2023
Leagues	5 Leagues Scheduled for 2023
Season Passes	137 Season Passes Sold for 2023
Simulator Usage Hours / Dollars Generated	22 Hours / \$397.50 Revenue

## Department of Public Works

The Public Works Department is composed of eight divisions which include: Administration, Building & Grounds Maintenance, Collection & Drainage, Engineering, Roadway Maintenance, Solid Waste, Transit (Muscabus), and Vehicle Maintenance. For budgeting purposes several of these divisions are broken down into subdivisions. For the purpose of the monthly report there will be several divisions that will be reporting consistently, while others may only be reporting on special events or accomplishments.

### Roadway Maintenance Division March 2023:

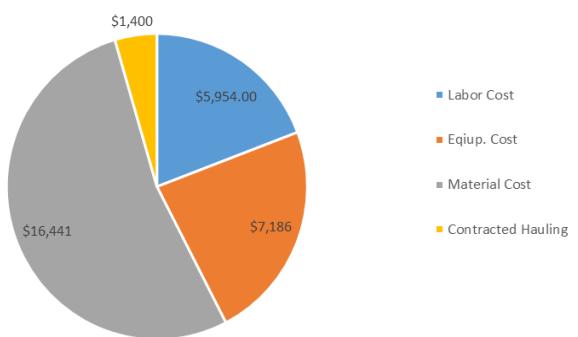
Roadway Maintenance includes activities related to street repairs, snow removal, traffic control, and street cleaning. They are responsible for over 254 lane miles of streets within the city limits.



This measure indicates the number of potholes filled, and the approximate cost to fill each pothole. Beginning January 20, 2021, a "standard" pothole is defined as being the size of large pizza box. Potholes will be divided no smaller than one half of a pizza box. Beginning in April of 2022, we began tracking pavement repairs separately from potholes. This has lowered the pothole numbers as many of them were previously counted in larger pavement patches.

### March Snow Event Totals

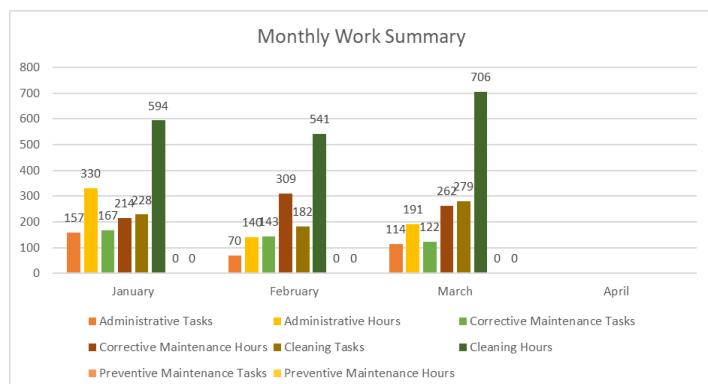
Total Cost: \$30,981



The chart above shows the amount of time, equipment and material used for snow and ice removal.

### Building and Grounds Activities March 2023:

The Buildings and Grounds Division of the Public Works Department is responsible for the upkeep and repair of city facilities, grounds, and equipment. The division is responsible for maintaining the following facilities and grounds: Art Center, City Hall, Library, Public Safety Building, Public Works, South Fire Station, and certain maintenance functions at the Airport.

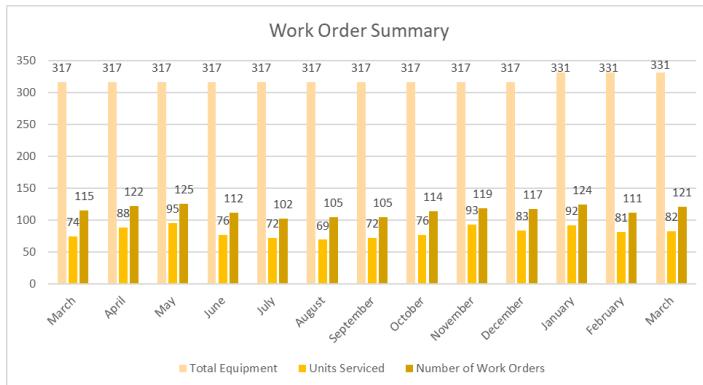


This chart indicates the number of work activities and the hours committed to them per month. Administrative tasks include ordering equipment and materials, requesting and receiving bids and quotes for work or supplies, project oversight, delivery of building supplies, training and paid time off. Corrective maintenance tasks are unscheduled repairs or work done on as-needed or emergency basis. Preventive maintenance tasks include routine, scheduled maintenance items and building cleaning and janitorial services.

# Department of Public Works

## Vehicle Maintenance Division March 2023:

The Vehicle Maintenance Division services and repairs approximately 331 pieces of equipment and vehicles from all city departments with the exception of the fire trucks and ambulances.

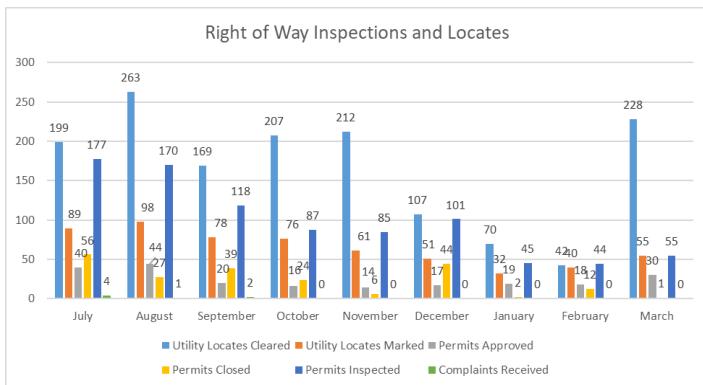


## Engineering Division March 2023:

The following table describes current and proposed construction projects and their status:

Project Name	Project Start	Percent Complete	Project Notes
67th Street Sidewalk	September 2022	99%	Punch List
Grandview Reconstruction	May 2021	95%	Sidewalks
West Hill Sewer Separation Phase 5	April 2021	68%	Sewer on Climer and Lucas
Park Avenue 4 to 3 lane	March 2021	99%	Punch List
2nd Street Streetscape	March 2021	99%	Punch List

The following chart describes the monthly activities of the Right of Way Inspector:



## Transit Summary of Operations for March 2023:

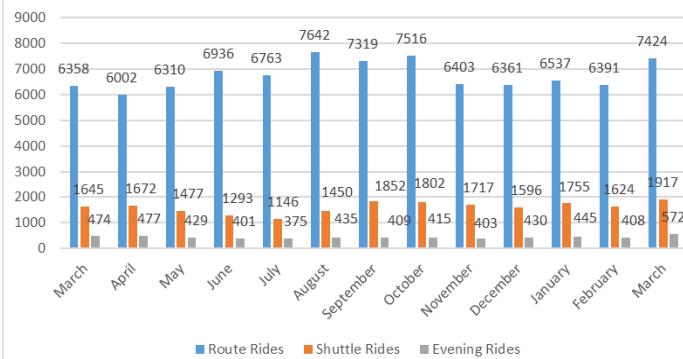
MuscaBus is the city's transit service. It operates four fixed routes, shuttle service, and evening service. A major highlight this month was putting into service our two new low floor Frontrunner buses.



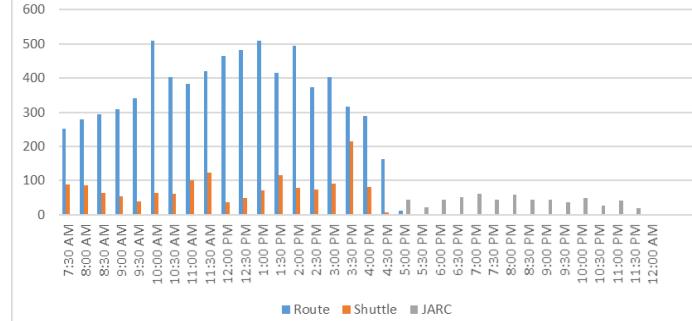
March Miles Driven



MuscaBus Ridership



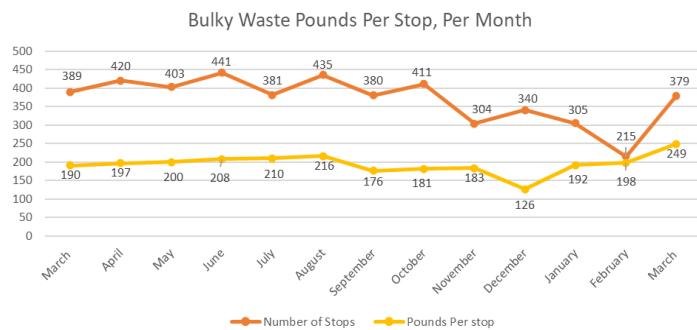
March Average Ridership by Time of Day



# Department of Public Works

## Solid Waste Division Report March 2023:

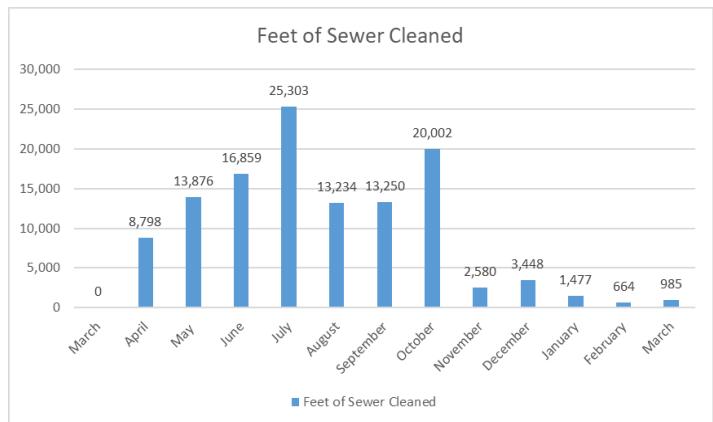
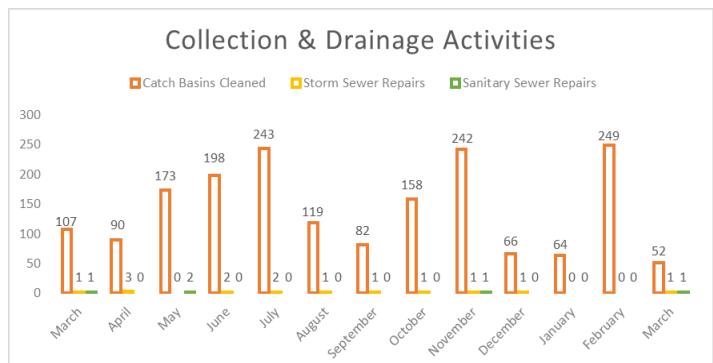
The Solid Waste Division consists of activities related to refuse collection, transfer station, compost site, and landfill, as well as overseeing the contracted recycling collection. Of special note this month was the replacement of the Transfer Station tipping floor.



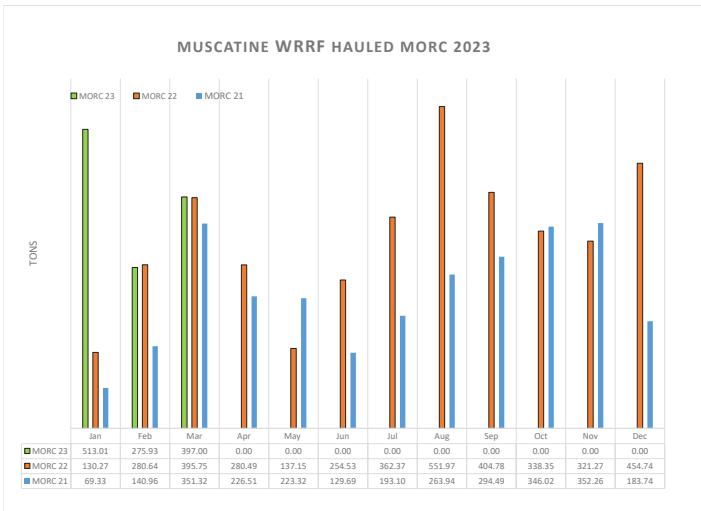
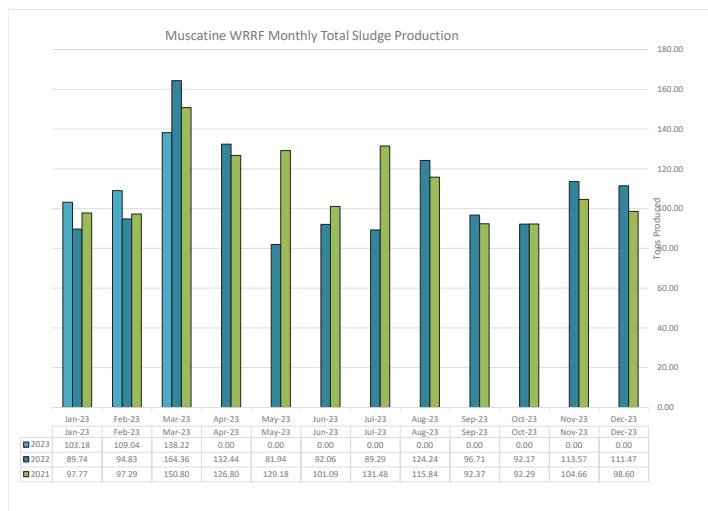
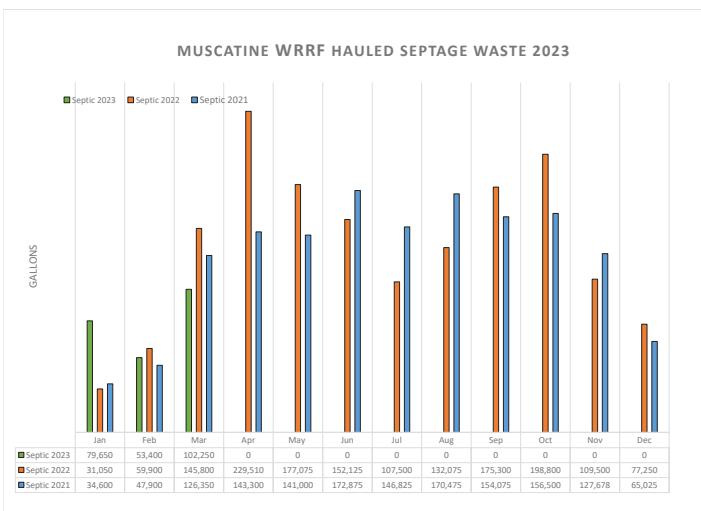
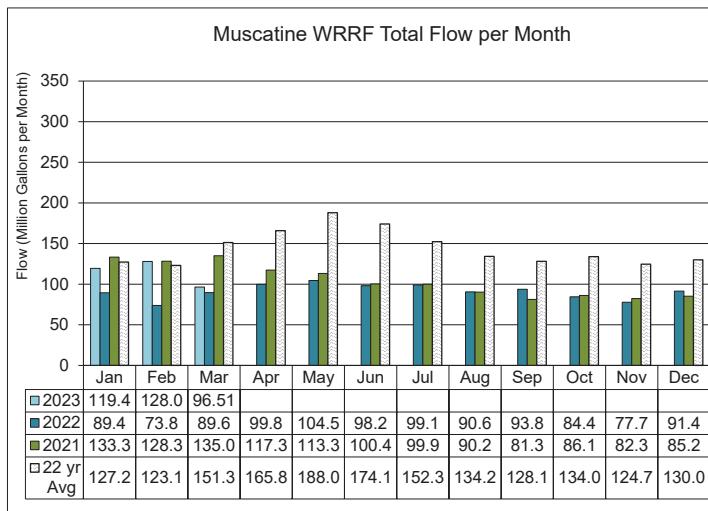
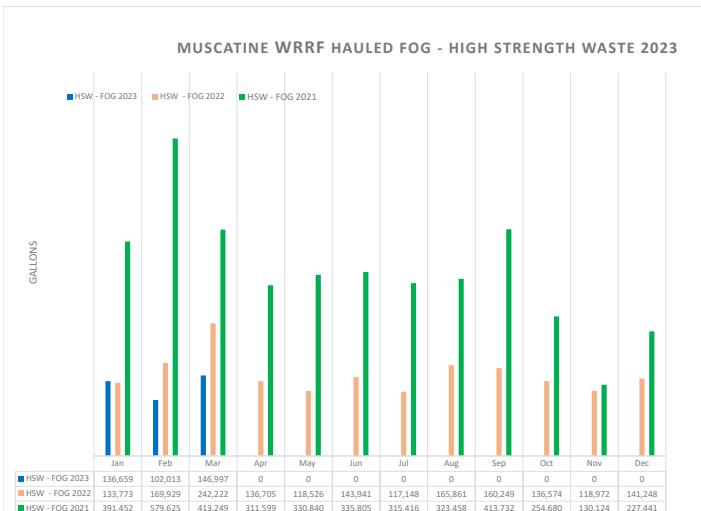
This chart shows the amount of solid waste collected curbside (in tons) as well as the amount of material dropped off at the Transfer Station (per item). Dropped off items include: electronics, appliances, tires, household hazardous waste and recyclables. Also included is the average number of customers per day at the Transfer Station.

## Collection & Drainage Division March 2023:

The Collection & Drainage Division is responsible for inspecting and maintaining the city's sanitary, storm, and combined sewer systems. This includes 993 storm water manholes, 2,407 sanitary sewer manholes, 151 combined sewer manholes, 2,840 stormwater catch basins, 112 miles of sanitary sewer and 68 miles of storm sewer pipe.



# Water Pollution Control Plant



# Public Safety / Muscatine Fire Department



## Fire Department December Report

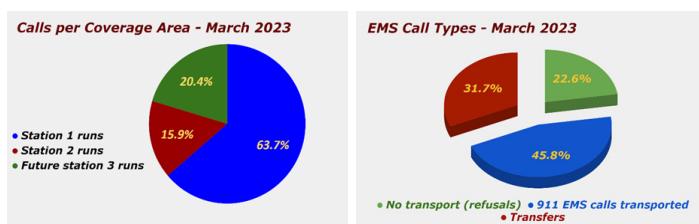
By: Fire Chief Jerry Ewers

### March 2023 Highlights

- The 1989 Smeal Fire Engine was declared surplus and donated to Ukraine.
- Department In-Service training on the new Pierce Fire Engine was conducted in March.
- Staff members conducted annual Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) fit testing at Grain Processing.
- The Annual Peer Support golf outing was held at Bridgeside Links.
- The Annual Special Olympics vs Public Safety (Police, Fire, and SO) Basketball game was held at the YMCA on March 23, 2023.

### Staff Updates & Kudos

- Firefighter Griffin Wilder, Samuel Martin, and Dustin Bartels was hired and started the month long recruit academy on March 27, 2023.
- Chief Ewers worked three 24 hour shifts riding alongside fire department staff assigned to an ambulance as a firefighter/paramedic in order to work a shift with all three shifts.
- Firefighter Travis Edwards received an Exemplary Service Award for this work on fire investigations and the fire investigation program.
- Lieutenant Andrew McSorley received an Exemplary Service Award for his work and dedication for the Recruit Academy and training our members.



## March 2023 REPORT OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

# Public Safety / Muscatine Fire Department

### Demand for Services / Response Activity

	March 2023	Avg. Per Day	March 2022	Avg. Per Day
<b>Fire Responses</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1.55</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>2.23</b>
<b>911 EMS Responses</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>10.48</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>7.97</b>
<b>Out of Town Transfers</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>4.16</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>3.39</b>
<b>Local Transfers</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>.32</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>.35</b>
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>16.52</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>13.94</b>
	March 2023	Avg. Per Day	March 2022	Avg. Per Day
Urban Response Time - Goal - 90% within 9 min or less	94.6%		94.0%	
Rural Response Time - Goal - 90% within 15 min or less	96.6%		95.7%	

### Staff Training

Type	March 2023	March 2022
Recruit /Probationary	26.9	115.3
Fire Suppression	394.45	262.05
EMS / Medical Related	172	281.4
Technical/Rescue	0	465.3
Driver/Operator	138	31
Professional Development/Leadership	74	21
Paramedic Program	320	320
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,125.35</b>	<b>1,496.05</b>

### Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance

	March 2023	March 2022
Fire Vehicle Miles Driven	2,627	3,129
Ambulance Miles Driven	13,329	11,450
<b>Total Miles Driven</b>	<b>15,926</b>	<b>14,579</b>
Work Orders Completed (PPE,Vehicles,Equip.)	29	37
Gallons of Diesel Fuel Dispensed	482.60	391
Gallons of Gasoline Dispensed	1,826.60	1,372.50
<b>Total Gallons of Fuel Dispensed</b>	<b>2,309.20</b>	<b>1,763.50</b>

### Prevention, Education and Outreach

	March 23	March 22		Mar 23	Mar 22
<b>Fire Inspections</b>	19	12	<b>Plan Reviews/Site Visits</b>	14	13
<b>Fire Reinspections</b>	7	13	<b>Fire Investigations</b>	4	4
<b>Educational Events</b>	2	3	<b>Permits Issued</b>	99	190

# Public Safety / Muscatine Police Department

## March Updates

- Many Promotions and position changes occurred in March

Congratulations to:  
Chief Tony Kies  
Captain Jeff Jirak  
Lieutenant John Hesseling  
Sergeant Jeff DeVrieze  
Corporal Mitch Griffin  
Detective Britt Jameson

- Officer Elliott presented "tactics for teachers to avoid the fight" at MCC
- SRO Pena spoke with 7th graders on careers in law enforcement
- SROs met with all school building administrators to go over threat building threat assessments received from the State.
- SRO Shoultz started planning for Operation Prom

- The Department completed a refresher on ABLE training
- All officers completed CPR training-big thanks to FF Chelf for instructing!
- All officers completed Defensive Tactic training.
- Capt. Jirak spoke to 4th grade students about child safety and police careers.
- Lt. O'Connor sat on a leadership panel at Ss. Mary Mathias School and answered questions from middle schoolers about what it takes to be a leader.



# Public Safety / Muscatine Police Department





# Musser Public Library

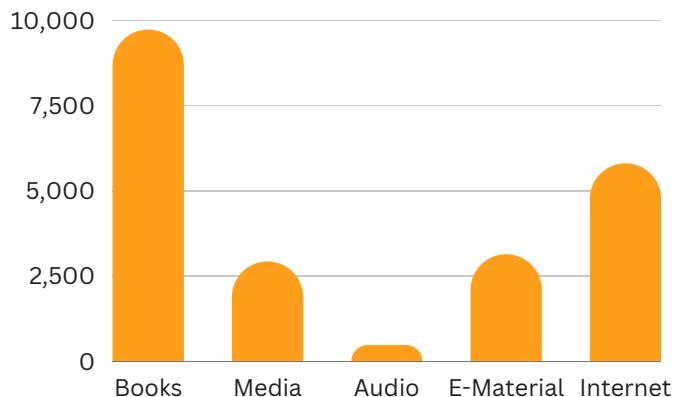
## THE STORY OF MARCH 2023

PEOPLE LOVE WHAT WE DO AND WE LOVE SHARING THAT WITH YOU!

We have been moving collections around recently, most notably the Book Sale items, audiobooks, and the Book Club Kits. I had just finished moving the book sale items when a patron asked where they'd gone. I showed her. Right after, she asked about Book Club Kits. The timing was just too funny.

from a Reference Staff Member

This month, people checked out over 20,000 items in the library and online.



PEOPLE ASKED US A LOT OF QUESTIONS.



WE ANSWERED 652 QUESTIONS THIS MONTH.

WE'VE DELIVERED 1,191 ITEMS TO PATRONS AT HOME THIS YEAR.

WE GREETED 9,783 PEOPLE THIS MONTH.

634 OF THEM USED OUR MEETING ROOMS AS GATHERING SPACES.

PEOPLE CAME TO OUR PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES. WE HAD 37 PROGRAMS THIS MONTH!



AND WATCHED US ON TV.

40 new shows debuted  
296 different shows aired  
801 total programs  
551 hours of programming  
average program length:  
41 minutes



PEOPLE VISITED US ONLINE, TOO.

OUR DATABASES WERE USED 10,535 TIMES.  
WE HAD 10,672 VISITS TO OUR WEBSITE.

So far this fiscal year, we have circulated 279,857 items!

We get some of our biggest checkout numbers during the summer!

## From the Muscatine Art Center

For a complete list of exhibitions, classes, programs, and projects at the Muscatine Art Center, request a copy of the quarterly newsletter or subscribe to the monthly e-newsletter by contacting [art@muscatineiowa.gov](mailto:art@muscatineiowa.gov).

### EXHIBITIONS



## STUDENT ART EXHIBIT

**April 20 - May 21, 2023**

Muscatine 4th and 5th graders are adding a burst of color and creativity to the Stanley Gallery.

Participating elementary schools are Franklin, Grant, Jefferson, Madison, McKinley, Saints Mary & Mathias, and Mulberry.

Join us on **Sunday, April 23** from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. for the **Student Exhibition Reception**.

*Admission is free of charge.*

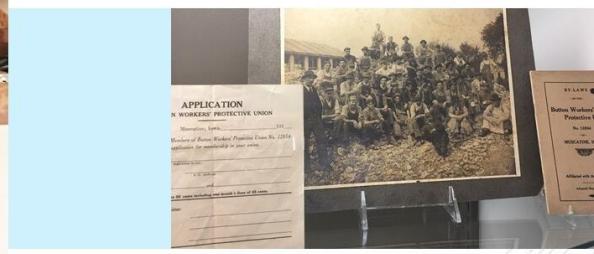


1314 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA  
563-263-8282  
[muscatineartcenter.org](http://muscatineartcenter.org)



## Muscatine's Pearl Button Industry

on view in the Local History Room  
Historic House – Second Floor



# Art Array 2023

On view at the Muscatine Art Center

March 17 - May 28

## Artists



Carol Anthony  
NeVada Baker  
Joseph Barnard  
Kent Broadbent  
Cory Christiansen  
Garth Conley  
Duffy De France  
Tracy Edens  
Robin Edwards  
Jim Elias

Laura Farahzad Mayer  
Kay Flanders  
Cara Fuller  
Jim Houseman  
Jon Lawrence  
Rick Lodmell  
Melissa Morse  
Janet Rees  
Peter Xiao

## Congratulations:

(1st) Carol J. Anthony, (2nd) Cory Christiansen, (3rd) Rick Lodmell  
Honorable Mentions: Garth Conley, Tracy Edens, Duffy De France

## Judges

Jame Hayes

Mary Alice Sessler

Organized and sponsored by:

Muscatine County Arts Council

[muscatineartscouncil.org](http://muscatineartscouncil.org)  
P.O. Box 815 • Muscatine IA 52761-0815



## March 2023 REPORT OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

### UPCOMING CLASSES and ACTIVITIES

#### Free For Kids



Introduce your children (ages 2 to 7) to the world of art with free art classes. Each class consists of a story and two art projects! Classes meet most **Wednesdays from 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. and Thursdays from 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.**

Classes are FREE! Call 563-263-8282 to register. The theme for April is "Celebrate Earth", and the theme for May is "ROAR, Dinosaur!".

#### Free Workshops for Kids (ages 6 and up)

Bridget Riley Op Art – Saturday, April 29, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Join Miss Julie to celebrate English artist Bridget Riley by creating a unique Op Art piece of your own.

Marisol Escobar Sculpture – Saturday, May 13, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Join Miss Julie to celebrate Venezuelan-American artist Marisol by making a wooden chair sculpture.

Fairy Gardens for Kids – Saturday, May 13, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Join Miss Katy in the studio after the Marisol Escobar sculpture class to create magical fairy gardens! Each participant will make their own fairy house and garden. Bring your own container. All other supplies will be provided.

#### Free Teen Workshop (ages 13 and up)

Up-Cycle It – Saturday, April 22, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

To celebrate Earth Day, we will make a few projects from upcycled materials including keychains, bracelets, and more. Bring a snack and your favorite CDs or records to listen to while we create!

#### Free For Families



### STUDENT ART EXHIBIT

4th & 5th Grade Student Art Exhibition Reception  
Eulenriegel Puppet Theatre Free Performance  
**Sunday, April 23, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.**  
(announcements and performance at 2:00 p.m.)

The reception includes craft projects in the studio, packaged snacks, a special announcement from Global Education at Stanley Center and Muscatine Sister Cities, and a puppet show by Eulenriegel.

This year's special entertainment is the puppet performance, *Kate Shelley's Train Rescue*. Eulenriegel's story of the lone teenager, Kate, who saves the train, preventing the passengers from plunging to a watery death. Created and performed by puppeteer Stephanie Vallez. This exciting tale unfolds in the pages of two giant pop-up books. Vallez uses paper puppets, masks, and rod marionettes as well as fun, low-tech special effects.

Admission is free of charge. The reception is open to all. No reservation is needed.



1314 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA  
563-263-8282  
muscatineartcenter.org



Thursday, April 27

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Muscatine Art Center  
1314 Mulberry Avenue

The Muscatine Community Stage is returning to the Muscatine Art Center! Author Misty Urban and poets from The Writers on the Avenue will present their original work. Emerson Taylor from the Musser Public Library will showcase the youth program. Local teens will perform segments from "Library of Rock" and original musical creations by Mr. Taylor and the "Songwriting 101" crew.

Are you interested in sharing a poem, short story, a song, or other performance on stage? Text **563-260-3508** to find out how.



#### Live Reptiles with Muscatine County Conservation –

**Saturday, May 6, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

In partnership with Muscatine County Conservation, join us in the Muscatine Art Center studio to learn about some reptiles with naturalist Michelle Berns! Kids will get to see live reptiles and hear about their habitats and habits. Then, make a snake inspired craft to take home! There is no registration for this free event.

#### Adult Studio

##### Thursday Night Makerspace

Program Coordinator Katy guides participants in these informal Makerspace workshops. Class fee is \$15 or \$13.50 for Friends members. All supplies included unless otherwise noted.

##### Faux Mercury Glass Bottles - Thursday, April 13, 5:15 – 6:45 p.m.

Recreate the antique look of mercury glass using only a few simple steps! Gather your own bottles (no more than two, wide mouth preferred), or use some of ours.

#### Gold Leaf Bowl - Thursday, May 11, 5:15 – 6:45 p.m.

In this workshop, we will use delicate gold leaf to decorate the inside of ceramic bowls. Note: these bowls are meant to be trinket bowls and are not food safe.

#### Red Barn Studio – Iceland Poppies - Sunday, April 16, 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.

Artist Vada Baker returns to the Muscatine Art Center with fresh new projects to usher in the spring! Vada gives step-by-step instructions on how to complete your poppies. Learn new techniques and have all your questions answered in this un studio class you won't want to miss. Class fee is \$15 or \$13.50 for Friends members. All supplies included.

#### Fundraiser for Friends of the Muscatine Art Center



A tea party celebrating women

**Saturday, May 6**

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.  
Music Room  
Muscatine Art Center

**Tickets: \$25/\$20 Members  
Reservations Required**

This fundraiser for Friends of the Muscatine Art Center includes tea (or coffee) with both savory and sweet treats.

Musical Entertainment - Ladies of Note

Presentation - Laura Musser McColm's tableware and historic menus with Muscatine Art Center Registrar, Virginia Cooper

Reservations are made on a first-come, first served basis. Tables of two, four, six, and eight can be booked. To reserve your spot, call **563-263-8282**.