



# City Administrator's Report

## August 2023

# Department of Administration

## City Administrator

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.



### Human Resources Division

#### August Highlights

- The Human Resources Department received 139 applications in August for several positions including parking meter attendant, refuse truck driver, accountant, equipment operator, and various positions at the library. A total of 32 seasonal applications were also received.
- Civil Service tests were held for the equipment operator position and for the landscape horticulturalist were conducted.
- The compensation study has kicked off with em-

#### August Highlights

- Presented 41 agenda items for consideration by City Council during their regular meetings.
- Responded to numerous citizen and City Council requests and concerns.

ployees completing a job task review and the project team identifying the comparable organizations. This project will continue through October when results will be presented to City Council.

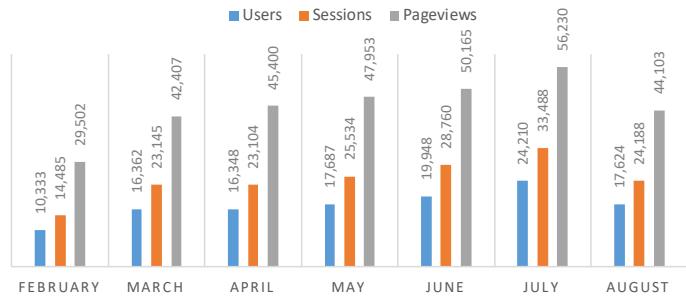
- The safety committee and supervisory group have actively been working on updating safety policies. The group is currently working to implement a near miss program and begin a program for seasonal employees to participate in the safety incentive program.
- A total of 22 employees attended leadership training in August as well.

### Communications Division

#### August Highlights

- Continued monitoring Civic Clerk and Muscatine Connect powered by SeeClickFix.
- Began process of implementation of Municode.
- A total of 31 press releases were produced and distributed to media and Notify Me subscribers.
- Switched virtual application to ZOOM.
- Created 131 social media posts (51 Facebook, 40 Instagram, 38 Twitter, 0 LinkedIn, and 2 YouTube).
- Ended the month of July with 11,145 (+182 from end of July) followers on Facebook, 1,590 (+10) on Instagram, 1,517 (-4) on Twitter, 348 on LinkedIn (+10), and 463 (+0) on YouTube.

### CITY OF MUSCATINE WEBSITE VISITOR ANALYTICS 2023



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@muscataineiowa.gov](mailto:feedback@muscataineiowa.gov).

# Department of Administration

## Finance/Parking Division

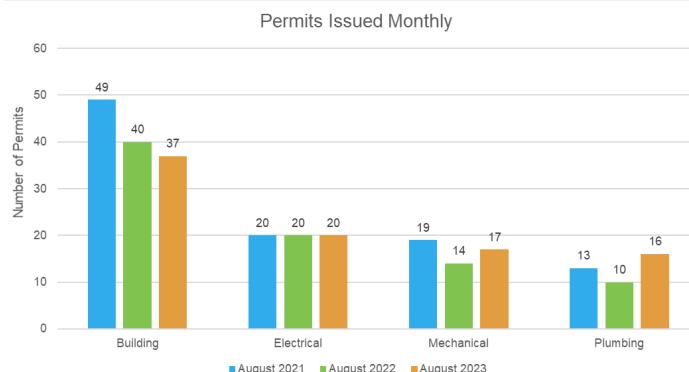
Summary of Activities	July 2023	August 2023	Sept. 2023	Oct. 2023	Nov. 2023	Dec. 2023	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2024	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024	June 2024	Fiscal Year
Accounts Payable Checks & ACH Payments	692	583											1,275
Payroll Checks and Direct Deposits	863	835											1,698
Accounts Receivable Invoices Sent	155	262											417
Finance Cash Register Transactions	454	440											894
Housing Receipt Transactions	189	182											371
Purchase Orders Processed	286	322											608

### August Highlights

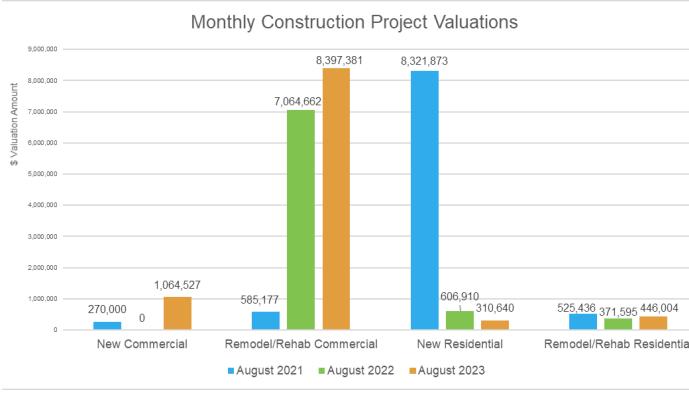
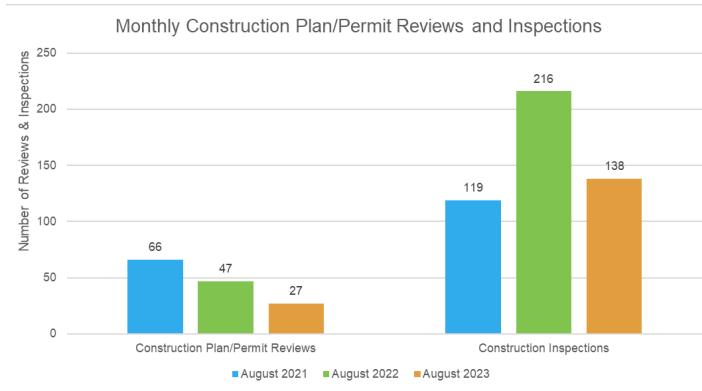
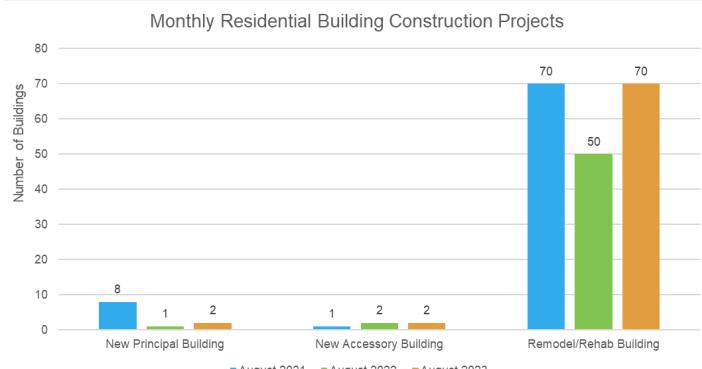
- Continued preparing City audit working papers.
- Auditors on-site August 14-16, 2023. Pulled invoices and receipts for auditor sample selection; gathered payroll documentation for auditors sample selection; prepared or sent the auditors all requested documents for state compliance; and complied with all other auditor requests.
- Prepared and submitted workers comp audit documentation.
- Prepared and submitted the State Outstanding Obligation report.
- Prepared Hershey Manor audit working papers and financial report. Worked with auditors remotely for sample selections and submitted all documentation electronically for audit. Auditor on site for compliance review in September.
- Closed on the State Revolving Fund Loan for the West Hill Sewer Separation project Phase 6-A and 6-B; completed and submitted the first loan draw-down request.
- Completed or reviewed the Compensation Consultant's Questionnaire forms for all Finance, IT, and Parking staff.



# Department of Community Development

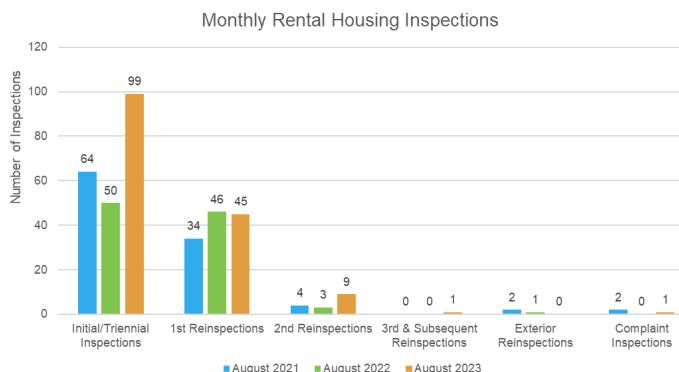


- Principal Building defined as the construction of new building on a previously vacant lot/parcel.
- Accessory Building defined as buildings constructed in addition to the principal building such as garages, storage buildings, shelters, etc.
- Remodel/Rehab defined as buildings undergoing any alterations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

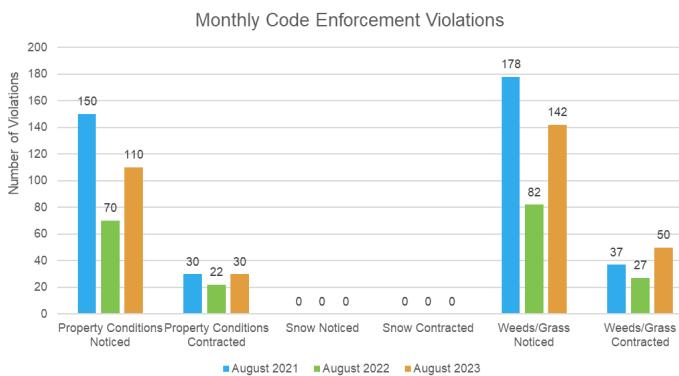


# Department of Community Development

## Muscatine Municipal Housing Agency



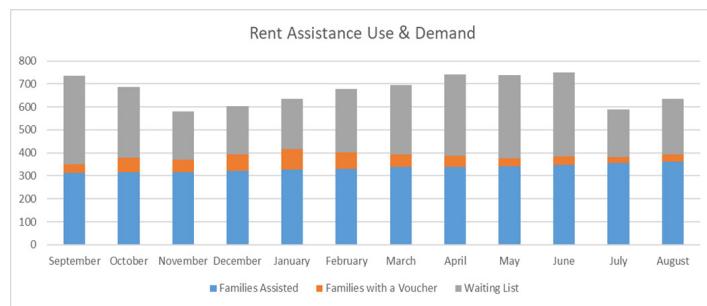
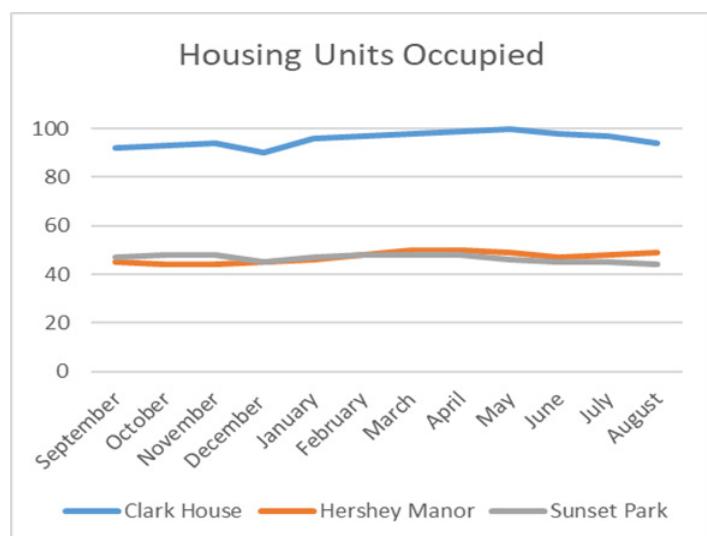
Property Conditions defined as Nuisance Abatements and other Code Violations including but not limited to dangerous tree trimming/removal, zoning regulation violations, etc.



## Department of Community Development

- Awarded one of 11 inaugural Thriving Community Designation from the Iowa Finance Authority
- Demolished 2 unsafe structures
- Awarded \$747,148 Paul Bruhn Grant through the National Parks Service to support the preservation of historically significant properties in downtown Muscatine. One of only 12 entities to be awarded such a grant
- The Muscatine Heart & Soul Coordinator hosted 3 community events to evaluate the Heart & Soul statements and identify opportunities to build on identified assets
- The Housing Market Analysis kick off meeting was held with a variety of public engagement and focus groups planned for September
- Had a 77% voluntary resolution of nuisance noticed conditions.
- Inspected 91 housing units with a 41% pass rate on the first inspection.
- Two unsafe structures were demolished.
- Three properties were declared surplus in preparation for auction.
- Property maintenance notices have been sent 31 property owners which have resulted in the 2 orders of judgement upholding issued citations; 12 properties being or in the process of being repaired ; and 4 properties being sold.

- Eight families began receiving rental assistance
- One family enrolled in the Family Self Sufficiency Program.
- Twenty-three households attended 2 Housing Counseling classes, 6 in the first-time homebuyer course and 17 in a Step Ahead, Renter Education.
- Received a \$2,956,932 grant award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to address environmental hazards including lead-based paint and radon in 65 homes
- We had an overall occupancy of 93% for August.
- Completed 1 unit turnover with 15 more underway.
- Completed 119 work requests within 1 day of receipt.
- Paid more than \$160,818 for housing and utility assistance on behalf of 362 families
- \$6,780 was deposited into escrow accounts for families working toward self-sufficiency
- Earned \$24,709 with 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 a.m. to 5 p.m. 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	9 Reservations in August
Riverview Center	14 Reservations in August
Shelters	52 Reservations in August
Dog Park Passes	117 Dog Park Passes Sold in 2023

## Park Maintenance Division

The Park Maintenance Division want to congratulate the Muscatine Farmers Market on celebrating their 30th Anniversary! Several special events took place in the month of August including: National Night Out, Twisted Cat Catfish Tournament, It Takes a Village Animal Rescue & Resource Event, Calvary Church Event, and all were completed with great success. With the great weather in August, shelter and building rentals were well utilized. Staff continued to provide support to both the Muscatine Aquatic Center and the Mississippi Mist. The hanging baskets in the downtown area continue to thrive and help bring wonderful colors to our downtown!

Subject	Result
Special Event Set-Ups	16 in August

## Cemetery Division

Greenwood Cemetery remains open to the public for walkers, bicyclists and the community's cemetery needs. The Cemetery Steps are also open for public use. The second round of foundations for 2023 are in progress. Staff has been working hard on keeping up with lawn maintenance.

Subject	Result
Cremins	4 burials in August
Full Casket	0 burials in August
County Assisted	0 burials in August
Grave Spaces	2 sold in August
Double Niche Spaces	1 sold in August

## Boat Harbor/Marina Divisions

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 harbor opened for the season in April, and no floods are predicted in the near future. The Marina Operations continue to provide fuel, oil and pump out services to boaters. Hours for the Marina Operations are Friday from 5:00 – 7:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday's from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Requests for fueling and pump out services may also be made by contacting the parks and recreation office at 563-263-0241 Monday through Friday between 10:00 – 11:00 am.

Subject	Result
Long Dock Slips (48 Available)	21 Rented for 2023
Houseboat Dock Slips (8 Available)	2 Rented for 2023

## Recreation Division

Youth and adult recreation programs and special events continue to be offered. Current programs taking place include the Outdoor Play Challenge, Adult Sand Volleyball, Intern Sand Volleyball and the Walking Club. The Fall/Winter Activities Guide has been released with new programs beginning in mid-September.

Subject	Result
Youth Program Participation	166 occurrences in August
Adult Progrfam Participation	424 occurrences in August

# Department of Parks and Recreation

## Aquatics Division

The Aquatic Center opened for the season on May 27 and closed on September 4. The Shallow Area Play Structure tube is being replaced this fall. There were a total of 70 private rentals and 24 Multi-Purpose Room rentals this season. Infant-Toddler swims were well-attended and were held after a story time hosted by Musser Public Library staff each Tuesday from June 6-July 25.

Subject	Result
Lifeguards	31 Lifeguards hired
Pool Party Reservations	70 Pool Parties Booked
Swim Lesson Enrollment	367 Swim Lesson Registrations

## Wellness Division

The City employee wellness programs continue to be offered through the virtual Wellness Center. The Fitness Reimbursement program continues throughout the year. The Wellness Committee will begin meeting this fall to review survey responses and discuss changes for the upcoming year. Flu Shots and Hearing Tests are in the process of being scheduled.

Subject	Result
Participation	7 occurrences in August

## Kent Stein Division

During the regular week Kent Stein Park continues to host our local organizations: MYB (Muscatine Youth Baseball), MBA (Muscatine Baseball Academy), Cardinals/Iconiz Katz baseball, Muscatine Sluggers baseball, Special Olympics adult softball, MGSA (Muscatine Girls Softball Association), Muskies Prospects softball, Monsters softball, Muscatine High School softball, Muscatine High School baseball, and adult softball (3 divisions- Men's, Women's, and Co-ed). The Muskies Prospects, Monsters and MBA also held their tryouts for the 2023-2024 season in August. Staff continues to make improvements to these facilities as issues arise with usage. Some tasks include: leveling fields once every two weeks, adding Ag Lime under the fence row to prevent balls from rolling under, edging grass arches, and power washing around concession stands, walkways, and restrooms. Staff also painted the men's

and women's restrooms. We are still looking for seasonal help as students have returned to school.

## Soccer Complex Division

Games continue to be underway at the main complex for the following groups: Pearl City Soccer Club (youth and adult leagues), Muscatine Soccer Club (youth and adult leagues), ILLOWA, Community Y and ISA. Schedules are posted daily at the kiosk to allow for drop in usage. Staff continues to make improvements to the park to include: edging sidewalks every two weeks, raising sprinkler heads for better playability and edging valve box lids for easier access when servicing the sprinklers. Staff has started to make preparations for the sprinkler project which will be starting next month. We are also still looking for seasonal help as students have returned to school.

## Golf Divisions

The golf course had another good month of play. The course hosted 5 outings in August as well as a couple smaller employee outings from HNI. All the college aged employees left throughout the month for school and will be missed as we turn the corner into the fall. Customer service and cash handling procedures are still the focus for staff training. Due to the lack of water and high heat stress, staff spent a large portion of the month hand watering and spraying wetting agent to keep the grass alive. Maintenance staff also verticut and topdressed greens to let more water move through the thatch layer and to make greens smoother. All sprinkler heads were edged to give them a clean appearance and make it easier for the fairway mowers to see them. Trees continued to be pruned and staff started to come up with a plan as to which trees will need to be taken down this winter.

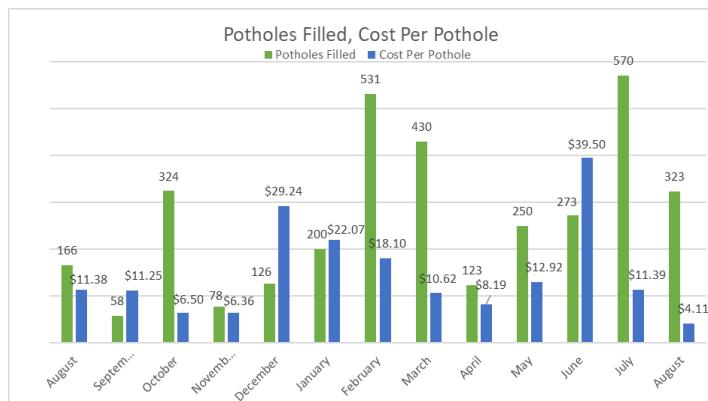
Subject	Result
Outings	18 Outings Scheduled for 2023
Leagues	6 Leagues Scheduled for 2023
Season Passes	203 Season Passes Sold for 2023
Rounds Played	4,540 rounds played in August

# 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 August 2023:**

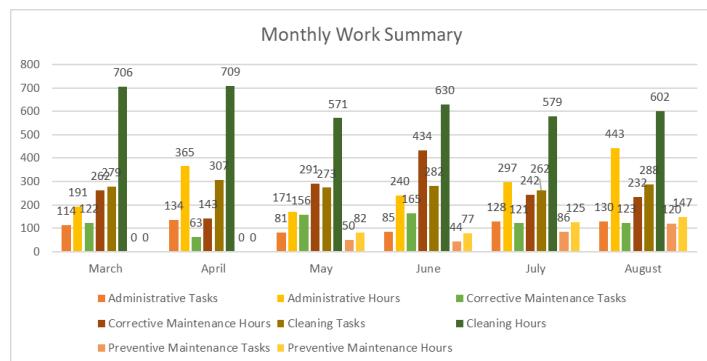
Roadway Maintenance includes activities related to street repairs, snow removal, traffic control, and street cleaning. They are responsible for over 254 lane miles of streets within the city limits.



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.

## **Building and Grounds Activities August 2023:**

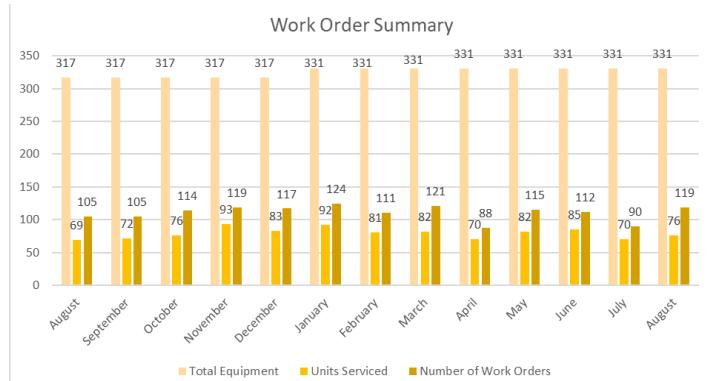
The Buildings and Grounds Division of the Public Works Department is responsible for the upkeep and repair of city facilities, grounds, and equipment. The division is responsible for maintaining the following facilities and grounds: Art Center, City Hall, Library, Public Safety Building, Public Works, 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. Cleaning includes building cleaning and janitorial services. This chart is being capped at six month intervals so that the numbers are legible.

## **Vehicle Maintenance Division August 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.



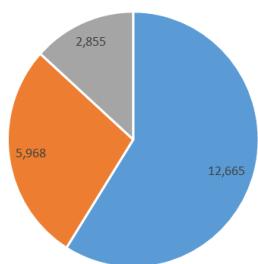
# Department of Public Works

## Transit Summary of Operations for August 2023:

MuscaBus is the city's transit service. It operates four fixed routes, shuttle service, and evening service.

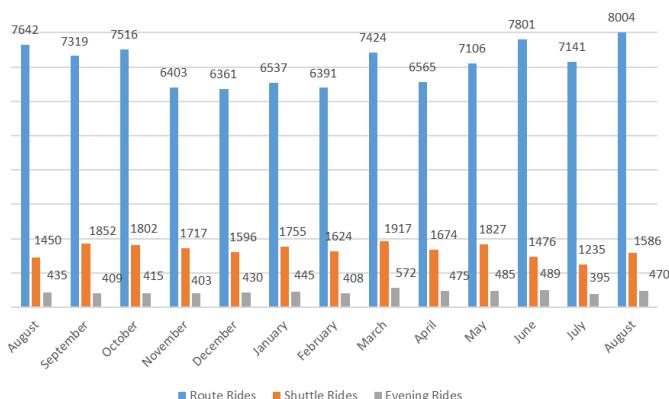
August Miles Driven

■ Route Miles ■ Shuttle Miles ■ Evening Miles



MuscaBus Ridership

■ Route Rides ■ Shuttle Rides ■ Evening Rides

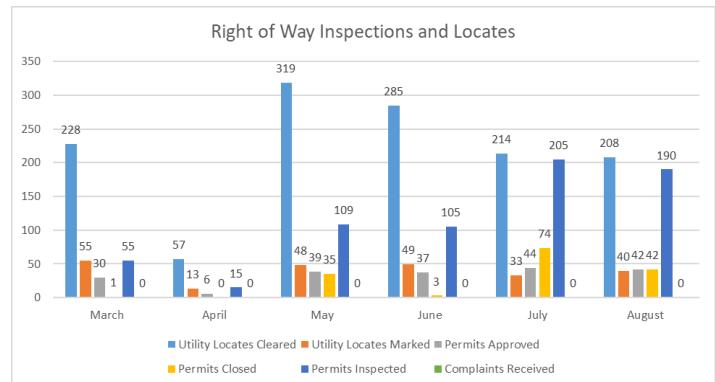


## Engineering Division August 2023:

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

Project Name	Project Start	Percent Complete	Project Notes
Grandview Reconstruction	May 2021	99%	Seeding, Punch List
West Hill Sewer Separation Phase 5	April 2021	85%	Sewer on Climer and Lucas, Paving on Lucas
Park Avenue 4 to 3 lane	March 2021	99%	Punch List
Fulliam Reconstruction Phase 1	August 2023	90%	Sidewalk Paving

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



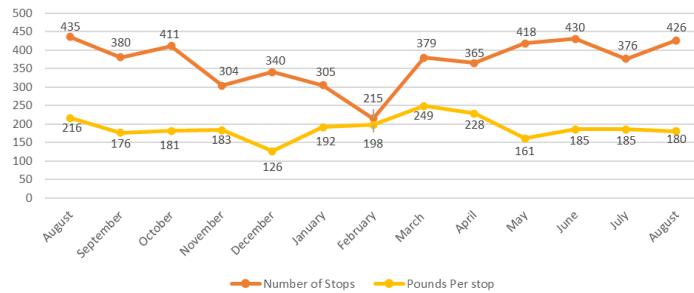
This chart is begin capped at six month intervals so that the numbers are legible.

# Department of Public Works

## Solid Waste Division Report August 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.

Bulky Waste Pounds Per Stop, Per Month



Solid Waste Collections

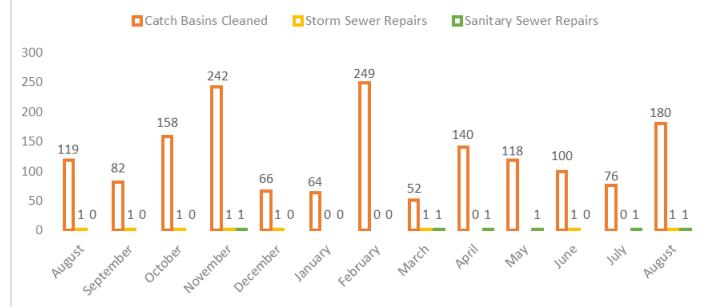


This chart shows the amount of solid waste collected curbside (in tons) as well as the amount of material dropped off at the Transfer Station (per item). Dropped off items include: electronics, appliances, tires, household hazardous waste and recyclables. Also included is the average number of customers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

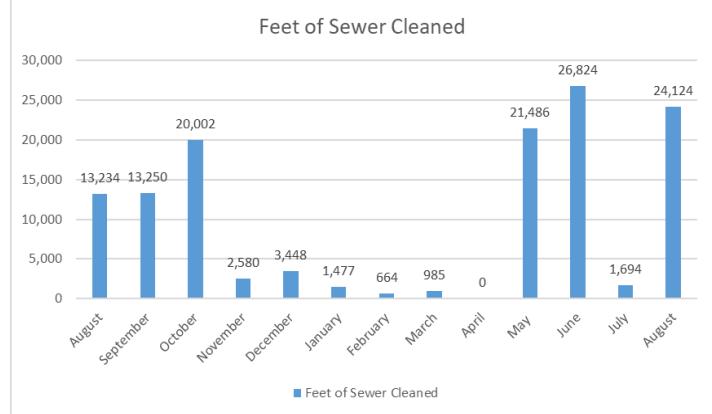
## Collection & Drainage Division August 2023:

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.

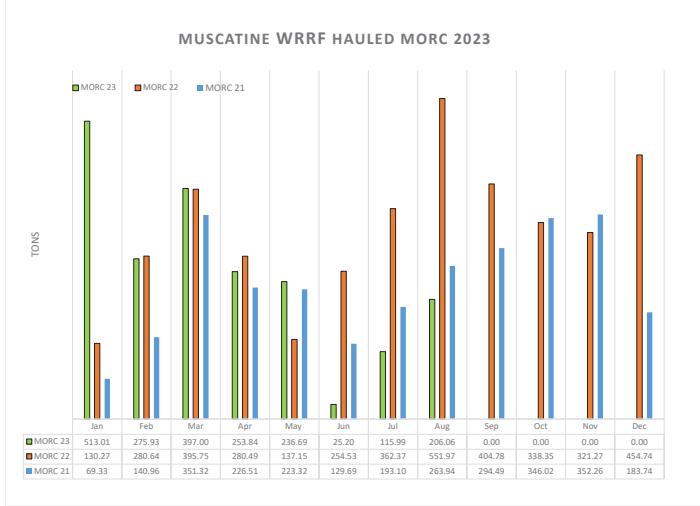
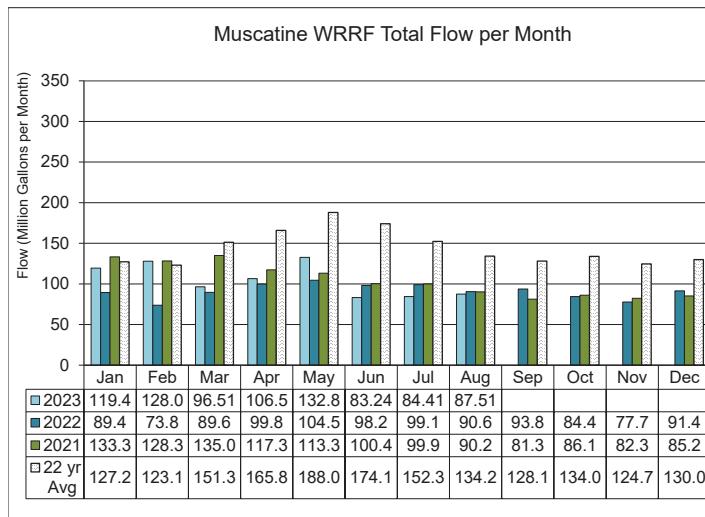
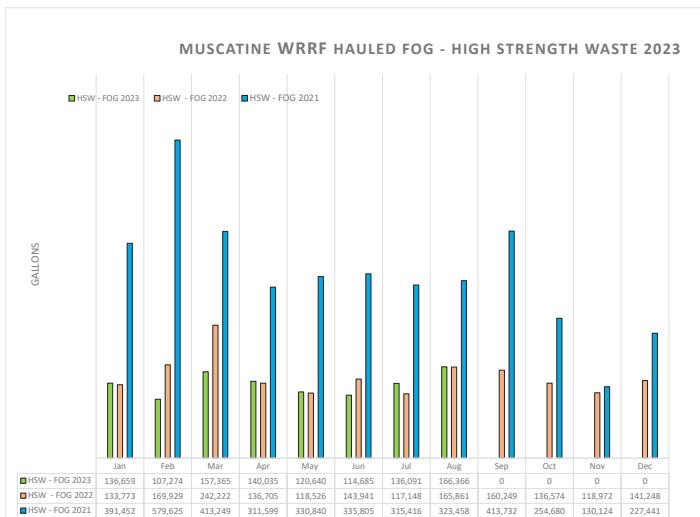
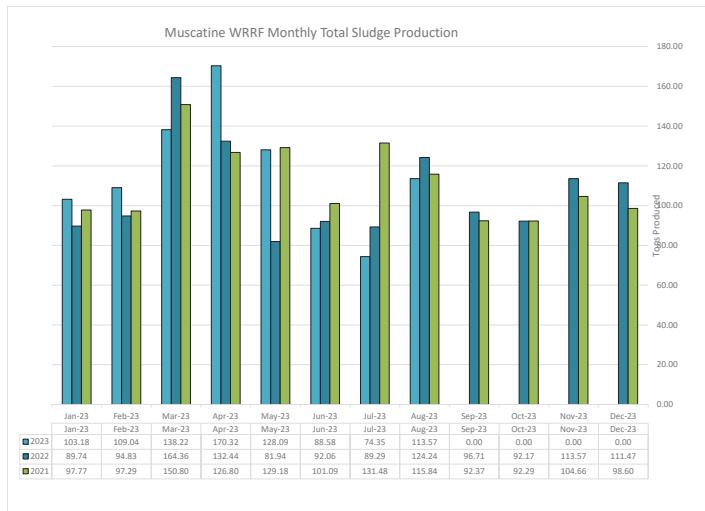
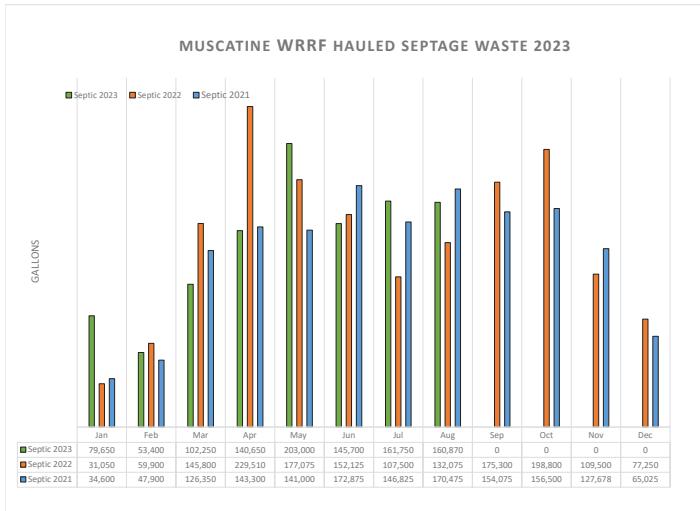
Collection & Drainage Activities



Feet of Sewer Cleaned



# Water Pollution Control Plant



# Public Safety / Muscatine Fire Department



## August 2023 Highlights

- Annual fire hose testing was completed internally by staff and a total of 312 sections of fire hose was tested. This included 1 3/4", 2 1/2" and 5" hose sections. Annual service testing is required by NFPA.
- Stop the Bleed training was held at Station #2 on August 19th.



week recruit academy on August 7th.

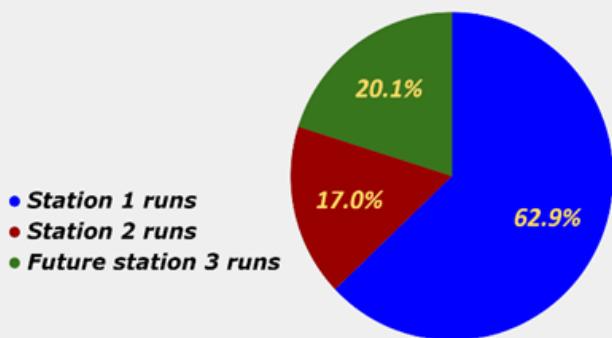
## Staff Updates & Kudos

- Firefighters Carter Hendrix and Carter Dewey started the six

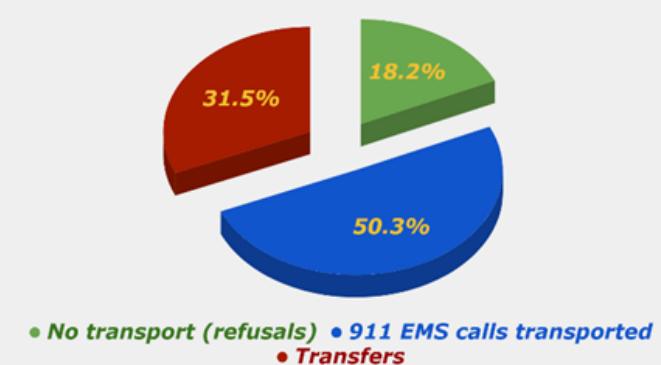
- Four Firefighters were sworn in by Mayor Bark on August 3rd in council chambers. Firefighters Aaron Meredith, Skylar Duncan, Chad Whitehall, and Marissa Janssen.



### Calls per Coverage Area - August 2023



### EMS Call Types - August 2023



## August 2023 REPORT OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

# Public Safety / Muscatine Fire Department

### Demand for Services / Response Activity

	August 2023	AVG. PER DAY	AUGUST 2022	AVG. PER DAY
<b>Fire Responses</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1.94</b>
<b>911 EMS Responses</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>10.03</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>9.87</b>
<b>Out of Town Transfers</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>4.10</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>3.55</b>
<b>Local Transfers</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.48</b>
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>16.61</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>15.84</b>
	<b>August 2023</b>		<b>AUGUST 2022</b>	
Urban Response Time - Goal - 90% within 9 min or less	<b>94.1%</b>		<b>95.1%</b>	
Rural Response Time - Goal - 90% within 15 min or less	<b>97.8%</b>		<b>95.1%</b>	

### Staff Training

Type	August 2023	YTD
Recruit /Probationary	26.1	924.35
Fire Suppression	275.1	2,277.05
EMS / Medical Related	148	1,342.25
Technical/Rescue	0	102.3
Driver/Operator	77.3	472.3
Professional Development/Leadership	38.3	690.6
Paramedic Program	128	1608
<b>Totals</b>	<b>692.8</b>	<b>7,416.85</b>

### Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance

	August 2023	YTD
Fire Vehicle Miles Driven	2,313	21,573
Ambulance Miles Driven	12,106	100,868
<b>Total Miles Driven</b>	<b>14,419</b>	<b>122,441</b>
Work Orders Completed (PPE,Vehicles,Equip.)	407.10	3,446.20
Gallons of Diesel Fuel Dispensed	1,636	12,576
Gallons of Gasoline Dispensed	2,043	16,022.20
<b>Total Gallons of Fuel Dispensed</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>336</b>

### Prevention, Education and Outreach

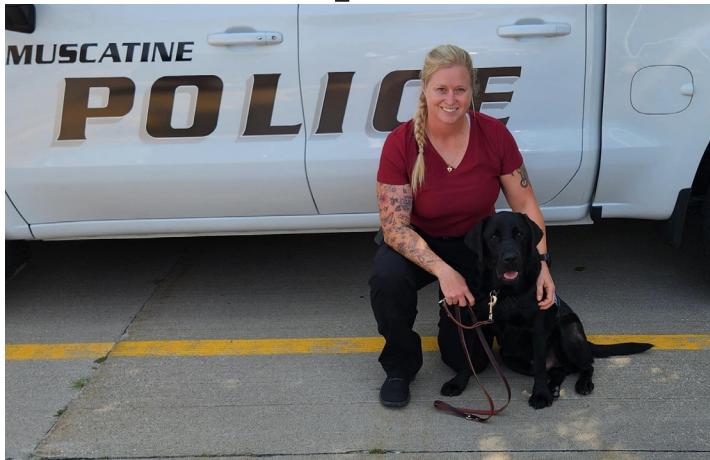
	JUNE 23	YTD		JUNE 23	YTD
<b>Fire Inspections</b>	20	194	<b>Plan Reviews/Site Visits</b>	19	211
<b>Fire Reinspections</b>	12	92	<b>Fire Investigations</b>	4	47
<b>Educational Events</b>	2	44	<b>Permits Issued</b>	29	942

# Public Safety / Muscatine Police Department

## August 2023 Updates

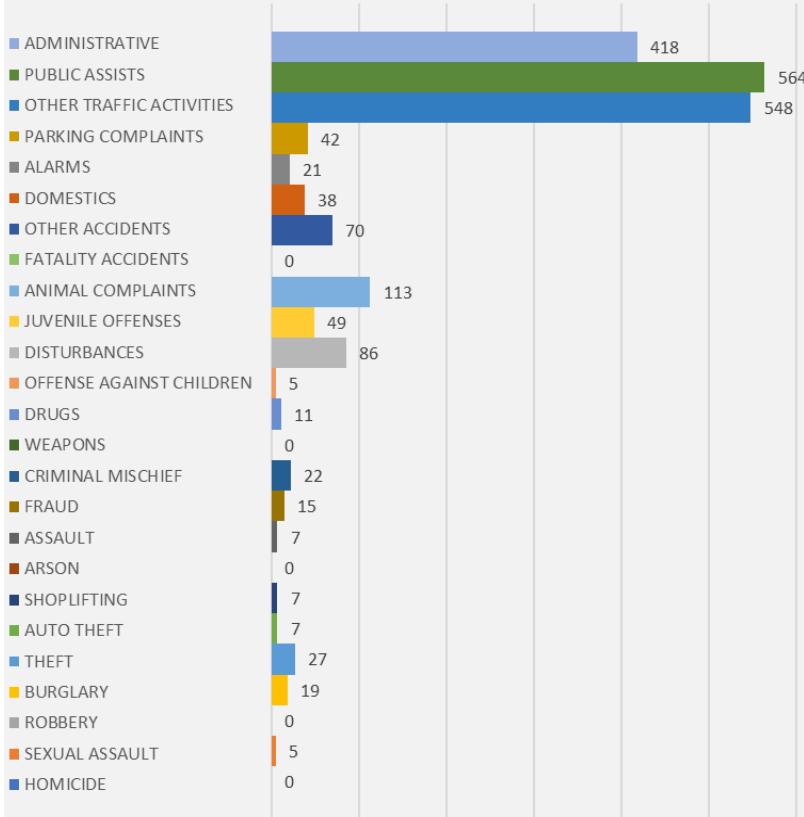


- Lt. Buss coordinated our first National Night Out--a very successful event!!
- We welcomed our first professional therapy dog to the department. K9 Fergus works with Officer Sam Wheeler.
- Chief Kies, Lt. Hesseling and Sgt. DeVrieze hosted a hands-on displays of MSORT vehicles and gear for Crossroads.
- Det. Raisbeck, Det. Jensen, Det. Arnaman and Det. Roseman gave Drug Trends presentations to MPW employees.
- Officer Staley was selected by Muscatine VFW as the "Veteran of the Week". Thanks to Tylor for his service to our community and country!
- Officer Schump help a citizen fix their car and get back on their way! Great job!
- Officer Pena hosted the What Do Don't See trailer at for MPW employees.

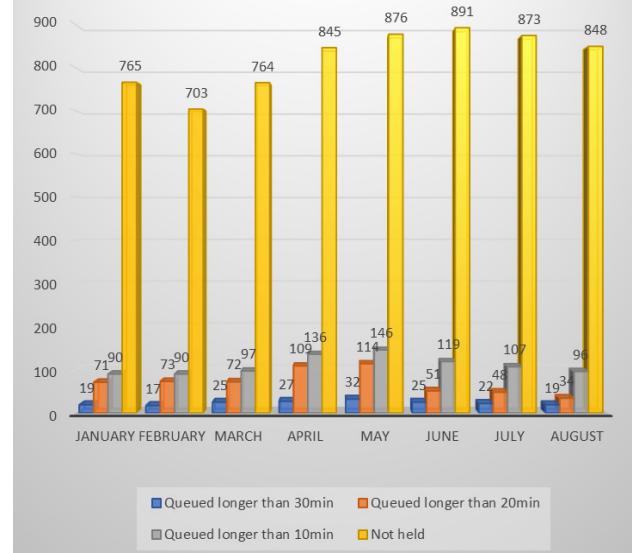


# Public Safety / Muscatine Police Department

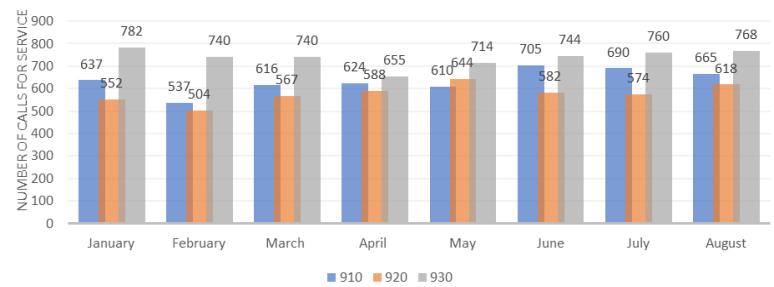
Muscatine PD Calls for Service-August 2023



Police Calls in Queue 2023

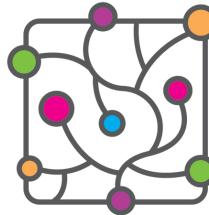


Police Services per Beat 2023



Street Crimes 2023





# Musser Public Library

## THE STORY OF AUGUST 2023

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

I am feeling pretty happy that I just facilitated vinyl checkouts with two patrons who are music fans. They were both here at the same time. One checked out four records and the other got an album too. I can never put my finger on exactly why listening on vinyl is such a unique experience, but it is.

Circulation Staff Member

WE GREETED 10,856 PEOPLE THIS MONTH.

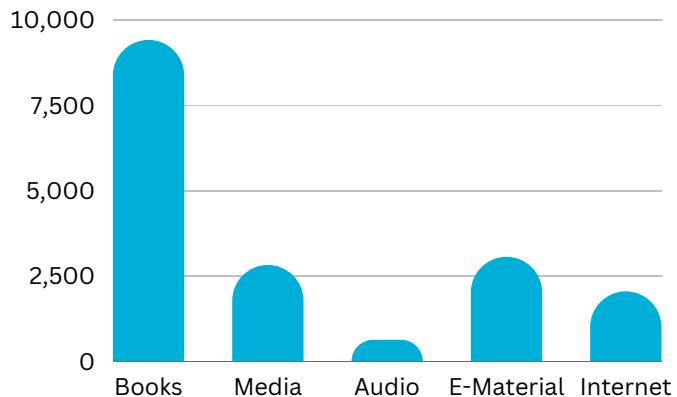
625 OF THEM USED OUR MEETING ROOMS AS GATHERING SPACES.

PEOPLE CAME TO OUR PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES. WE HAD 8 PROGRAMS THIS MONTH!



PHONE: (563) 263-3065  
[WWW.MUSSERPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.MUSSERPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG)

This month, people checked over 15,000 items in the library and online.



PEOPLE ASKED US A LOT OF QUESTIONS.



WE ANSWERED 461 QUESTIONS THIS MONTH.

WE HELPED PEOPLE GET MATERIALS FROM OTHER LIBRARIES 3,301 TIMES.

AND WATCHED US ON TV.

41 new shows debuted  
350 different shows aired  
849 total programs  
524 hours of programming  
average program length:  
36 minutes



PEOPLE VISITED US ONLINE, TOO.

OUR DATABASES WERE USED 7,592 TIMES.

WE HAD 7,321 VISITS TO OUR WEBSITE.

Retro is so in right now. Have you checked out our new collection of vinyl records?

We have a huge selection, with new albums arriving everyday. We have record players too!

## From the Muscatine Art Center

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



***JON FASANELLI-CAWELTI:  
THE MAN FILLED WITH MUSIC***  
**September 21, 2023 - February 18, 2024**

MUSCATINE  
**ART**  
CENTER

## *JON FASANELLI-CAWELTI: THE MAN FILLED WITH MUSIC*

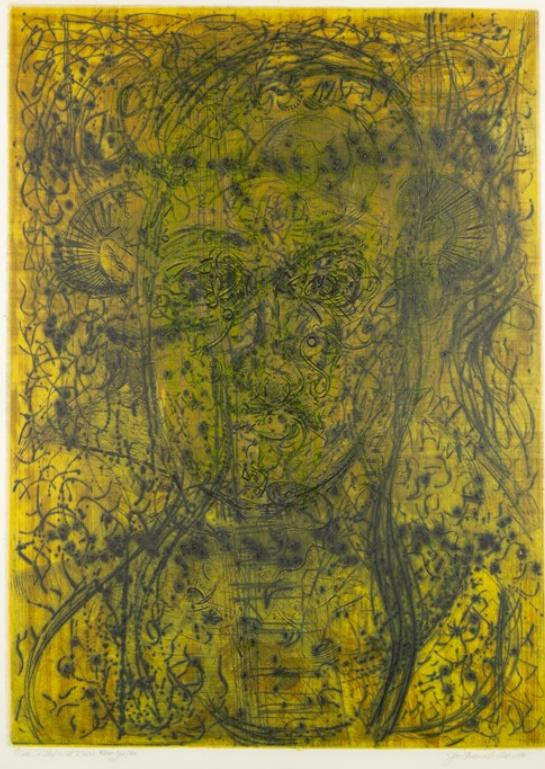
### RECEPTION

Sunday, September 24th, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Music by Bill Anson (1:30 - 3:00 p.m.)

& the Mad Creek Mudcats (3:30 - 4:30 p.m.)

Free Admission



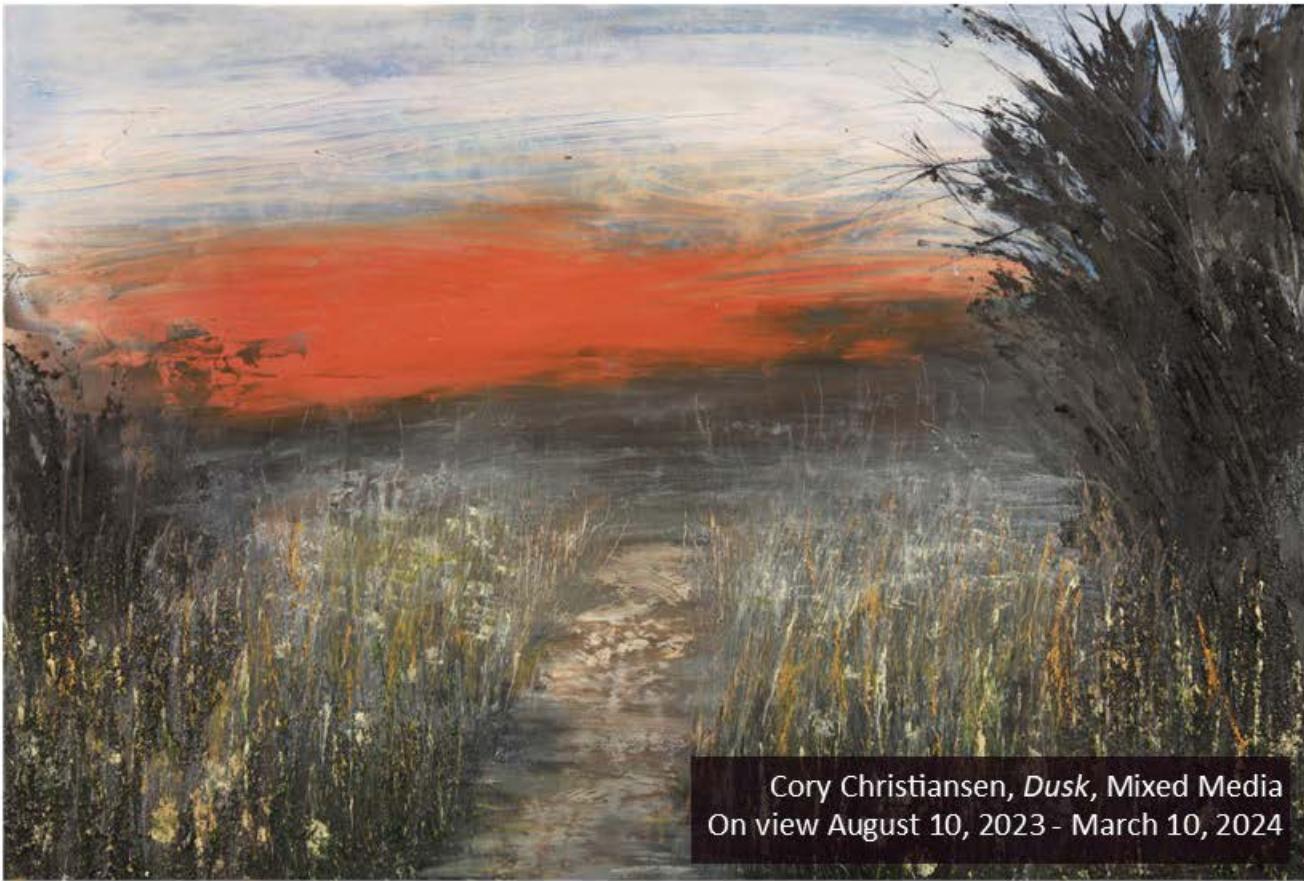
## *MAURICIO LASANSKY: PORTRAITS FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION*

MUSCATINE  
**ART**  
CENTER

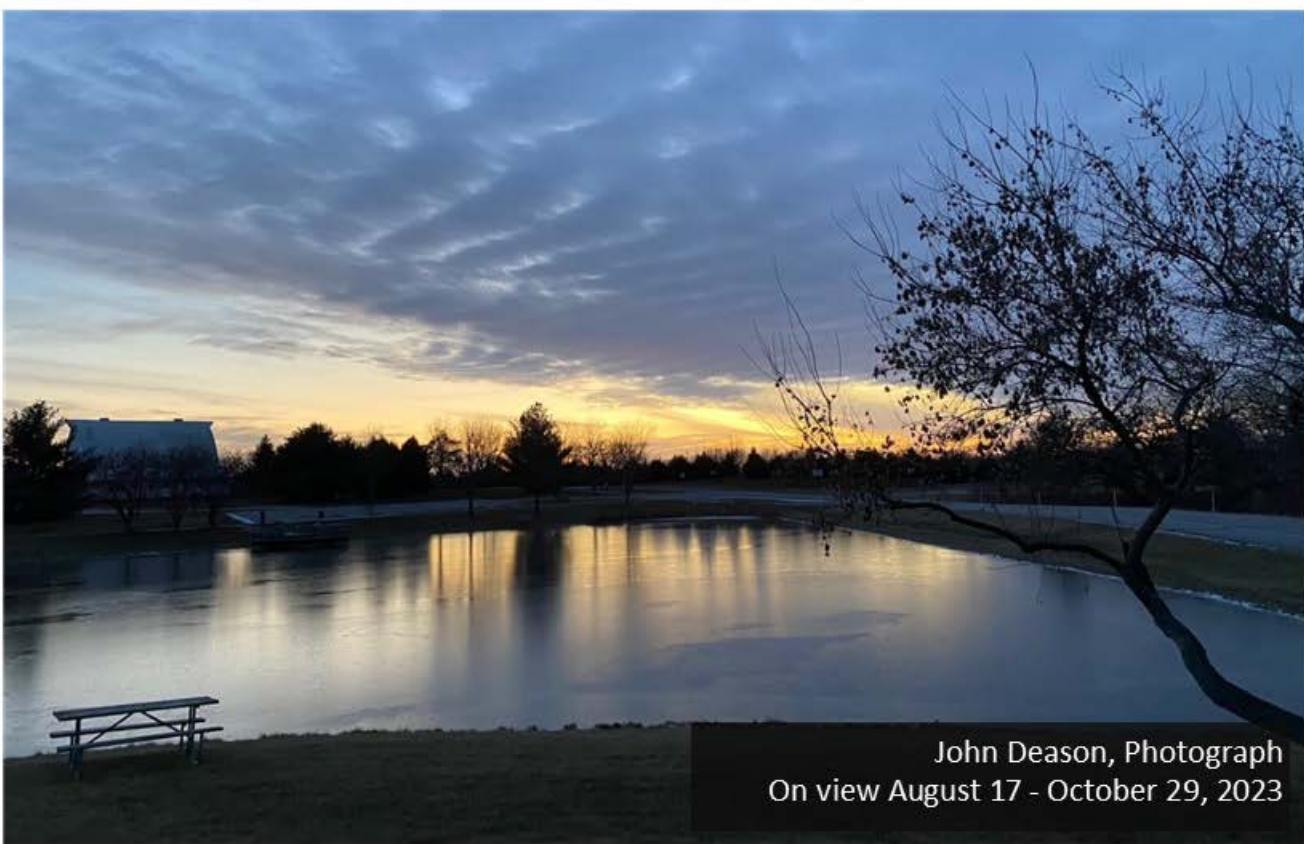
September 21, 2023 – January 28, 2024



## August 2023 REPORT OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY



Cory Christiansen, *Dusk*, Mixed Media  
On view August 10, 2023 - March 10, 2024



John Deason, Photograph  
On view August 17 - October 29, 2023

# CELEBRACIÓN

## DE LAS ARTES

Featuring

### QUAD CITIES BALLET FOLKLÓRICO

Thursday, October 12th  
5:15 - 6:45 p.m.

Muscatine Art Center  
1314 Mulberry Avenue  
muscatineartcenter.org 563-263-8282

FREE ADMISSION



Photo: Quad Cities Ballet Folklorico

ACTIVITIES:

- Mini Piñata Craft
- Hispanic Heritage Crafts
- "Migration is Beautiful" Display
- "Day of the Dead" Display

Food Truck from  
**GUADALAJARA**  
Mexican Cuisine



Photo: AJV Original

**PRESENTED BY:**

**LULAC Muscatine**   **MCC Collegiate LULAC**

**Muscatine UNIDOS 4-H**   **Muscatine Art Center**

**Global Education at Stanley Center**

**RAIN LOCATION**

Muscatine Community College  
Black Box Theatre  
Strahan Hall  
152 Colorado Street

Updates posted on Facebook page  
& website of Muscatine Art Center

**UPCOMING CLASSES and ACTIVITIES**

*Free For Kids*

**mini<sup>ART</sup>masters**

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 September is "Elements of Art", and the theme for October is "Monster Mash".

*Free Workshops for Kids*

Romare Bearden – Saturday, September 16, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. (AGES 7+)

Join Miss Julie to celebrate American artist Romare Bearden by creating a collage of downtown Muscatine, inspired by one of Bearden's most famous works of art, "The Block". Register by September 15.

Weaving with Miss Heather – Saturday, September 23, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. (AGES 8+)

Miss Heather will lead kids in making their own woven project using simple supplies. Learn a little about this art form and create a piece to take home. Register by September 22.

*Adult Studio*

Gelli Printing with Heather Seibel – Thursday, September 14, 5:15 – 6:45 p.m.

Gelli printing uses a flexible gel plate to create textures and layers of colors without the use of a printing press. Come try out this unique art form and create a beautiful monoprint. Fee is \$15 or \$13.50 for Friends members. No experience necessary. Register by September 13.

Red Barn Studio: Bowl Full of Blooms – Sunday, September 17, 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.

Paint a bowl full of beautiful watercolor flowers. Fee is \$15 or \$13.50 for Friends members. No experience necessary. Register by September 15.