



08.01.2026

CITY OF ELKHART

AUGUST 2026

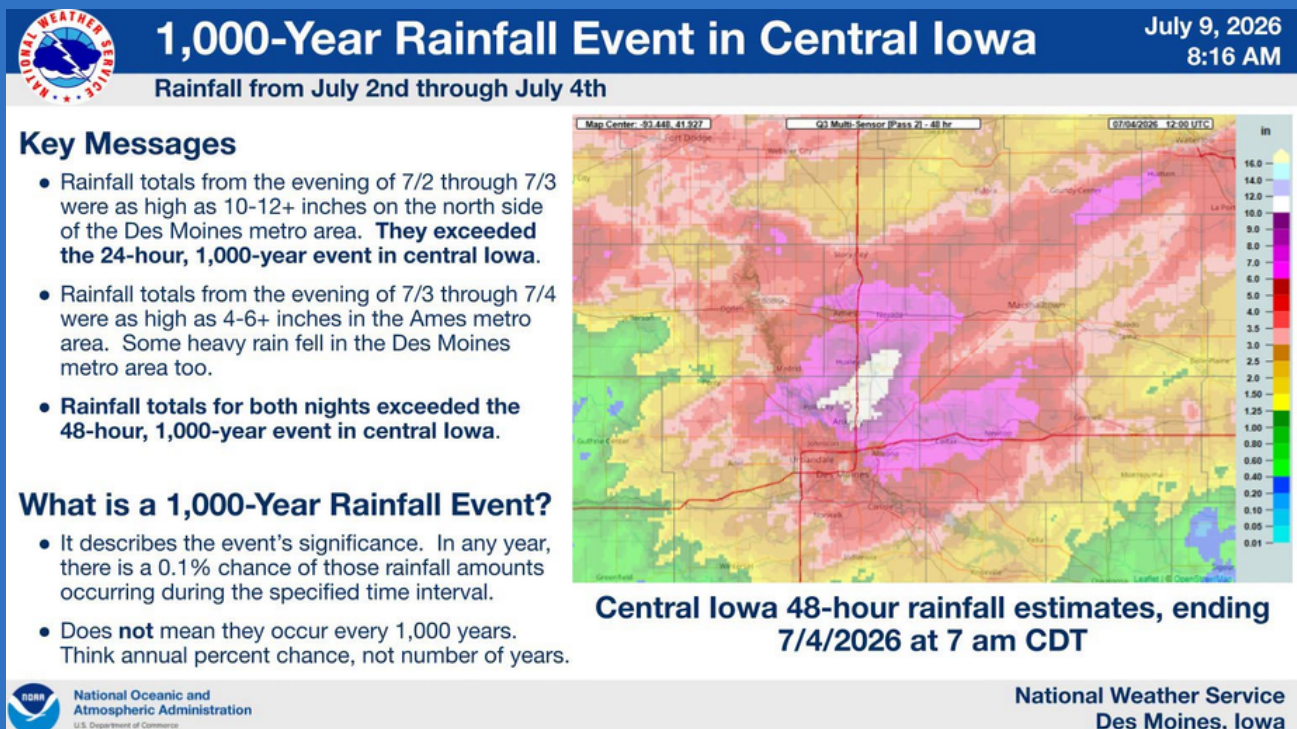
City Newsletter

City Update



ELKHART EXPERIENCED A HISTORIC RAINFALL EVENT ELKHART WAS IMPACTED BY AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE 1,000-YEAR RAINFALL EVENT DURING THE JULY 2-4 STORMS. THIS MEANS THERE IS ONLY A 0.1% CHANCE OF THAT AMOUNT OF RAINFALL OCCURRING IN ANY GIVEN YEAR—NOT THAT IT ONLY HAPPENS ONCE EVERY 1,000 YEARS

THANK YOU TO OUR PUBLIC WORKS STAFF, EMERGENCY RESPONDERS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO WORKED TOGETHER DURING AND AFTER THE FLOODING. WE APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S PATIENCE AS RECOVERY EFFORTS CONTINUE.



WERE YOU IMPACTED BY THE JULY 3-4 STORMS? POLK COUNTY RESIDENTS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE IOWA INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM, WHICH OFFERS UP TO \$7,000 FOR ESSENTIAL NEEDS.

SUPPORT MAY INCLUDE TEMPORARY HOUSING, FOOD, PERSONAL PROPERTY REPLACEMENT, AND HOME REPAIRS FOR HOUSEHOLDS AT 200% OR LESS OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL.



If you have been affected by a disaster, don't worry, help is available! If the county you live in has been placed under a declaration you may be eligible.
Current declared counties can be found here- [Homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/assistance](https://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/assistance)

IOWA INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Provides financial support to households who have been affected by a disaster and have an annual income of 200% or less of the federal poverty level. Eligible households may receive up to \$7,000 for qualifying items under four categories: temporary housing, food assistance, personal property, and home repair.

WHAT TO DO:



If you have insurance, file a claim with your insurance company.



Apply for the grant within 45 days.



Gather all the necessary documents for the grant.



Respond promptly if they ask for more documents.

DISASTER CASE ADVOCACY

This program helps households who have experienced a disaster. A disaster case advocate will work together with the household to assess overall needs, create a recovery plan, and get access to available resources.

WHAT TO EXPECT:



Ask for help from a disaster case advocate.



Meet with your advocate to review your needs.



Create a plan to recover from the disaster.



Get help from resources and achieve your goals.

ELKHART PARKS & RECREATION

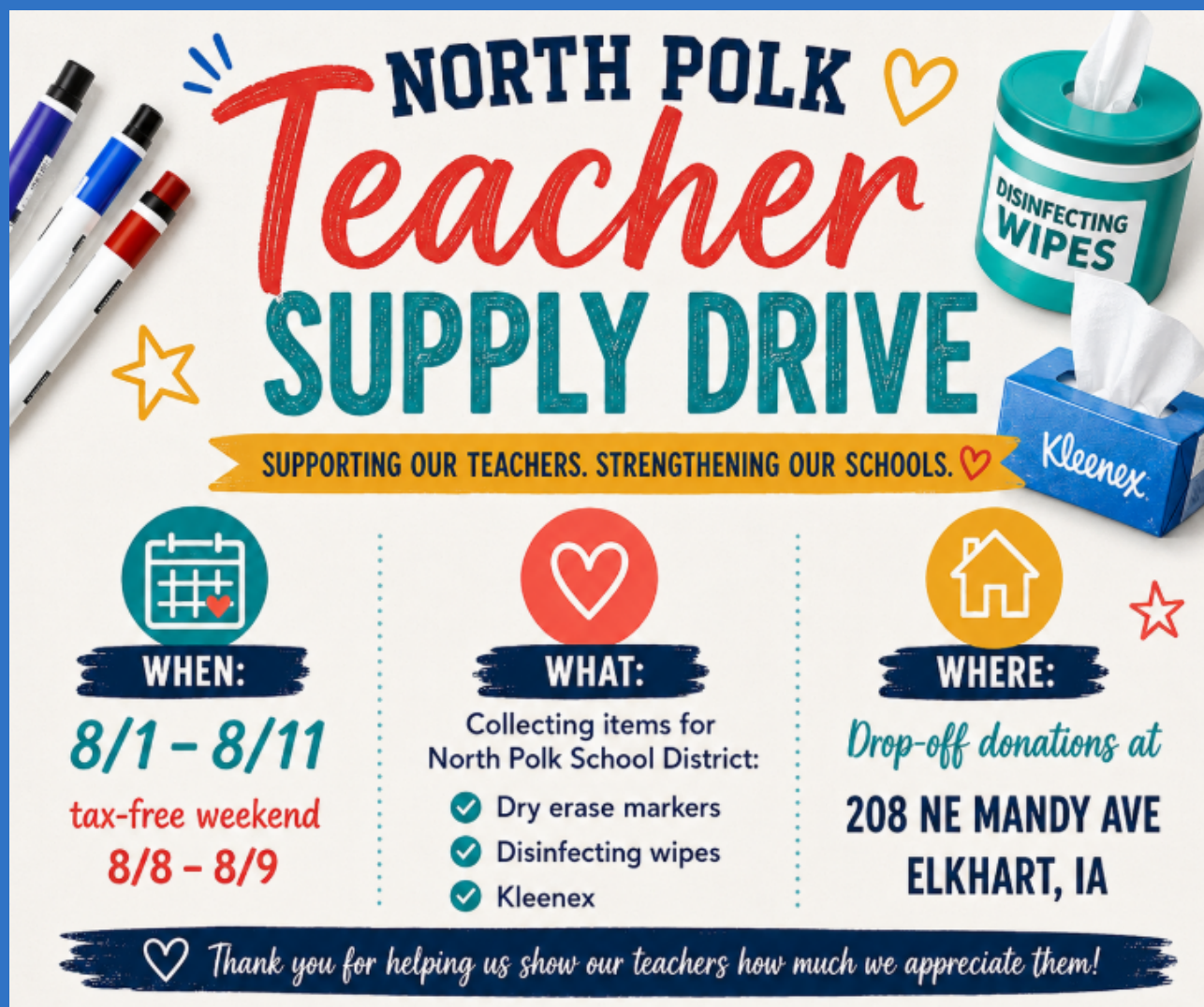
Please fill out this survey to share your thoughts about Elkhart Parks & Recreation Improvements.

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW!



🌳 ELKHART PARKS & RECREATION SURVEY
YOUR OPINION MATTERS!
TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO COMPLETE THE PARKS & RECREATION SURVEY AND HELP PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY PARKS.
WEBSITE IS LISTED BELOW!

[HTTPS://DOCS.GOOGLE.COM/FORMS/D/E/1FAIPQLSDMAYGDS-31MDABVD2JBETWCE92QMKTPrAGUZOGVKHSZ5G-7G/VIEWFORM](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIPQLSDMAYGDS-31MDABVD2JBETWCE92QMKTPrAGUZOGVKHSZ5G-7G/viewform)



NORTH POLK TEACHER SUPPLY DRIVE: AUGUST 1-11
LET'S KICK OFF THE SCHOOL YEAR BY SHOWING OUR
APPRECIATION FOR THE AMAZING TEACHERS IN THE
NORTH POLK SCHOOL DISTRICT! WE'RE COLLECTING DRY
ERASE MARKERS, DISINFECTING WIPES, AND KLEENEX TO
HELP STOCK CLASSROOMS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL
YEAR.

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT:
208 NE MANDY AVE
ELKHART, IA

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR TEACHERS!

☀️ SUMMER BINGO CHALLENGE!

PICK UP A FREE SUMMER BINGO CARD AT CITY HALL AND COMPLETE FUN SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR A CHANCE TO WIN PRIZES!

🏆 EACH COMPLETED ROW = 1 PRIZE ENTRY

★ BLACKOUT = 5 PRIZE ENTRIES

 **RETURN COMPLETED CARDS TO CITY HALL BY AUGUST 10TH**



SUMMER BINGO



VISIT CITY PARK 🌳	READ A BOOK OUTSIDE	SPOT A RABBIT	EAT A POPSICLE OUTSIDE	GO BAREFOOT IN THE GRASS
DRAW ON THE SIDEWALK WITH CHALK	TAKE A WALK AROUND THE POND	RUN THE BASEBALL DIAMONDS 🏟️	WATER A PLANT	FLY A KITE
PICK UP 5 PIECES OF TRASH	TAKE A FAMILY PHOTO OUTDOORS	FREE SPACE: GO OUTSIDE AND PLAY!!!	WATCH THE SUNSET	SAY HELLO TO A NEIGHBOR
HAVE A PICNIC	FIND 5 INTERESTING ROCKS	BLOW BUBBLES	ATTEND A NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT	VISIT THE FREE LIBRARY 📖
DONATE TO THE BLESSING BOX FOOD PANTRY 🍲	FIND A 4-LEAF CLOVER (OR TRY!)	MAKE A NATURE BRACELET WITH A FRIEND	CREATE "THANK YOU" CARDS FOR THE ELKHART FIRE DEPARTMENT	DROP OFF OLD ELECTRONICS RECYCLING 🗑️

How To Play:

- ☀️ Complete fun outdoor activities and mark off squares as you go
- ☀️ Each square = one completed activity
- ☀️ Ask a grown-up for help when needed
- ☀️ Completed Rows = 1 entry in the prize drawing
- ☀️ Blackout (completing the entire card) = 5 entries into the prize drawing
- ☀️ Turn in to City Hall by August 10

Not sure where some places are?

- 🌳 City Park: by the water tower
- 🏟️ Baseball Diamonds: Memorial Ball Field
- 📖 Free Library: in front of City Hall
- 🍲 Blessing Box: in front of Elkhart Christian Church
- 🗑️ Electronics Drop-off: inside City Hall

🏃 RUN, WALK,
AND READ FOR A
GREAT CAUSE!
JOIN THE DOLLY
PARTON'S RACE
FOR READING 5K &
WALK ON AUGUST
29 AND HELP
PROVIDE BOOKS
TO LOCAL
CHILDREN.



Dolly Parton's Race for Reading
5K RUN & WALK
Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, IA

August 29 @ 9 AM

Registration begins at 8 AM
Kids' 100M Race (\$10) @ 10 AM
Kids' Fun Zone (FREE) 9:30-11 AM

\$40 Registration Fee Includes:

- \$31.20 to sponsor 12 books for one child enrolled in DPIL
- Race T-Shirt
- Timed Race Bib
- Post-race refreshments
- Awards given to top 5K finishers & best dressed Dollys!

Q's? Contact Jill at questions@rrith.org
*This event will be held at DMACC location; however, the event is not sponsored by DMACC and DMACC does not have any additional responsibilities associated with this event.

Raising Readers in the Heartland Polk County
Dolly Parton's IMAGINATION LIBRARY

QR Code

Dress like Dolly to win prizes!



SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION ON MONDAY,
AUGUST 24TH! 🚌 🖍️ 📚



BACK TO SCHOOL

SAFETY REMINDER

School is back in session on **MONDAY, AUGUST 24TH!**

As students return to classrooms, please remember to:



SLOW DOWN
in school zones.



WATCH for children walking
and riding bicycles.



STOP for school buses
when required.



PUT YOUR PHONE AWAY
and stay alert while driving.





UPCOMING CITY & COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION (CITY HALL)**
MON. AUGUST 10TH – 6:00PM
- **PARKS & REC BOARD (CITY HALL)**
TUES. AUGUST 11TH – 6:00PM
- **CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS (COMMUNITY CENTER)**
MON. AUGUST 17TH – 6:30PM



CITY HALL CONTACT INFORMATION



ADDRESS: 260 NW MAIN ST.



PHONE: 515-367-4735



WEBSITE: <https://www.elkhartiowa.com/>



HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM