



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

**Gering Library After-School Programs have started!
 Every Wednesday afternoon starting at 3 p.m.**



Every second Wednesday is Art Club for 3rd-8th grade students.

Lego Club for all ages will be every third Wednesday (under 7 requires adult presence).

There are Wednesdays set aside for Teen Programs like DND, Anime Afternoon, and a Pizza Party.

All ages are invited for Pumpkin Painting on October 30 at 3:00 p.m.

The Gering Public Library's After-School Programs for elementary students and teens begin in September and continue through the school year.



Adult Programs

Join us in the Community Room to learn Mah Jongg starting October 10 at 10:00 a.m. for three weeks. This game is similar to a very complicated game of Gin Rummy, and it's a lot of fun.

October 21 at 6:30 p.m. Dr Emily Stine from University of Nebraska Extension will be discussing composting. This is a great way to repurpose food scraps, garden waste, and improve the fertility of your garden soil.

Stop in the library to learn about our Genealogy series as well as our upcoming Local Author Showcase and a variety of other interesting programs the library holds for adults.



Prepare for the unexpected with these tips from Black Hills Energy

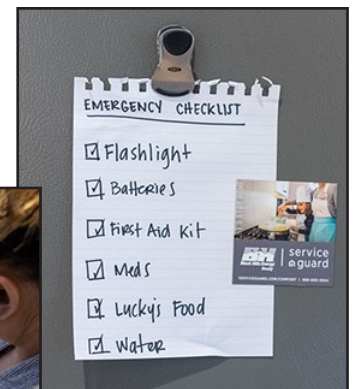
September was National Preparedness Month, and as seen this summer, extreme weather can lead to flooding, tornadoes, or even wildfires – unexpected emergency situations that can catch families off guard. Black Hills Energy wants to help families be prepared.

Three tips to prepare at home:

1. Make an evacuation plan for your family and loved ones. Identify multiple escape routes out of the neighborhood should you need to leave with little advance warning. Plan a safe meeting location where you can meet if you get separated.
2. Gather important supplies in an emergency supply kit and keep it handy. Your

kit should have enough food, water and supplies for people and pets to last three days. Include important papers and documents, emergency contact numbers, prescription medicines, eyeglasses, computers, phones, chargers and hard drives, credit cards and cash, and pictures.

3. Stay safe at home by making sure your smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers are up to date and working well. Replace batteries and equipment if needed.

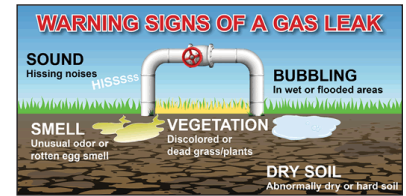


To learn more about creating an emergency preparedness plan, visit [//blackhillsenergy.com/be-prepared](http://blackhillsenergy.com/be-prepared)

More from Black Hills Energy...

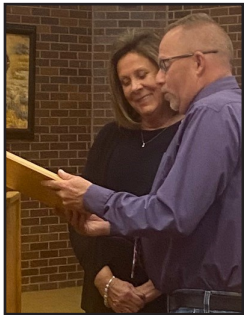
Natural gas safety reminders

If you smell natural gas (inside your home or outside), with its telltale rotten egg odor, leave the area immediately and call 911 from a safe location. Avoid using electrical devices, phones or light switches in the immediate area as they can create a spark and ignite a fire. Make sure everyone in your household knows how to recognize the signs of a gas leak so they know how to stay safe.



Spotlight on Damage Prevention

Black Hills Energy works hard to educate customers and communities about the importance of calling or clicking 811 before digging. This applies to everyone, from contractors running excavation equipment, to families planting a new garden. Calling 811 at least 48 hours before breaking ground is the best way to prevent damage to underground utilities, which in turn prevents service interruptions, injuries and fatalities. Learn more at [//blackhillsenergy.com/811](http://blackhillsenergy.com/811)



City of Gering Director of Tourism recognized for extraordinary service to Gering

The Gering City Council recognized Karla Niedan-Streeks at their regular meeting on September 23 for her many years of service to Gering. Karla

started working for Rick and Judy Keller as their Director of Sales and Marketing in August of 1999; then took on a dual role and began tenure as Director of the Gering Visitors Bureau in February of 2001. In 2016, she became the Director of Tourism for the City of Gering. Karla will retire on September 30.



Incentive to Upgrade to High Efficiency Heat Pump

The City of Gering, in partnership with its wholesale electric power supplier, provides financial incentives to upgrade to a high efficiency heat pump. With the fall and winter months approaching, now is a good time to consider upgrading your home heating and cooling unit.

The High Efficiency Heat Pump Program, provided through MEAN (the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska), provides cash incentives ranging from \$400 to \$3,000 to residential homeowners, depending on the type

of new heat pump installed.

The program is among a suite of five energy efficiency programs offered. Each program provides cash incentives for homeowners to make energy efficiency upgrades. The other programs include:

- Attic Insulation Program which provides cash incentives of \$.015/square foot with a maximum incentive of \$300 per existing residential dwelling.
- Smart Thermostat Program which provides a cash incentive of up to \$100 paid directly to residential customers to help cover the cost of installing a qualifying smart thermostat.
- Cooling System

Tune-Up Program which provides a \$30 cash incentive to residential homeowners who have their cooling system tuned up by a HVAC contractor, regardless of what type or age of cooling system (air conditioner and air or water source heat pump).

- Commercial LED Lighting Program which provides cash incentives paid directly to commercial customers to help cover the cost of lighting upgrades and replacements.

For more information on each program, go to www.nmppen-ergy.org/mean to download program guidelines and application forms.

INSPECTOR'S CORNER

By City Building Inspector, Jeff Vance

CODE 150.040 INSPECTIONS REQUIRED.

All construction or work for which a permit is required shall be subject to inspection by the Building Inspector.

BUILDING PERMITS: To include:

residential, industrial or commercial, (ramps, decks, carports, awning or canopy, additions, storage sheds, garages, porches, hot tub enclosures, cell towers, roof top antennas, remodels, grain bins, retaining walls, multi-family homes, new homes,

new buildings, new townhomes, apartments, sunrooms, concrete slab, foundations, playhouses, greenhouses, churches, schools, pergola, elevator, solar, dog platforms, woodstove, fireplace, etc.).

Plumbing, mechanical, roofing, fences, signs, moving a building, certificate of occupancy or temporary occupancy, curb & sidewalk, demolition, heavy equipment moving, septic tanks, well installation, egress windows, etc.



Working

SMOKE ALARMS

SAVE LIVES