

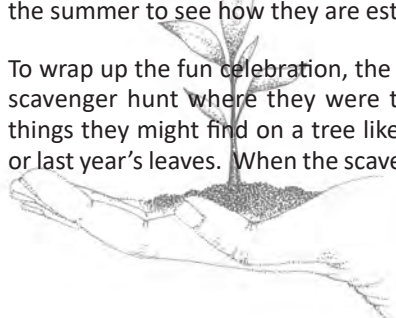


## ARBOR DAY CELEBRATED WITH FOURTH GRADE STUDENTS AT NORTHFIELD PARK AND ARBORETUM

GERING – Laughter and lots of tree planting took place on Friday, May 3, 2024 in Northfield Park as the City of Gering Park, Cemetery and Tree Board held the City of Gering Annual Arbor Day Celebration. Fourth Graders from Northfield Elementary were treated with an Arbor Day Proclamation read by City of Gering Mayor, Kent Ewing, and an Arbor Day story told By Vickie Schmitt, a community volunteer. After a time of listening about the value of trees, the Fourth Graders were invited to the west end of the Northfield Park canyon to plant an assortment of trees. Students broke into groups and recruited an adult volunteer to hike up the hillside to plant Colorado Spruce, Ponderosa Pine, American Elm and Black Walnut trees. Students learned the proper way to dig a planting hole, how to determine the proper planting depth for bareroot trees and then they made sure the trees were watered in and mulched. The students were encouraged to check on the trees throughout the summer to see how they are establishing in the park.



To wrap up the fun celebration, the students were sent on a tree scavenger hunt where they were tasked with finding different things they might find on a tree like “eyes”, insects, a bird’s nest or last year’s leaves. When the scavenger hunt was complete, the



students were treated to snow cones from the Snowy Bus. Special thanks to the City of Gering Parks Department staff for preparing everything for the tree planting, Gering Park, Cemetery and Tree Board Members Philip Schmitt, Chris Kautz, Tim Maxcy, Vicky Nemnich and Dr. Don Gentry for helping with the program and planting. Finally, a huge thank you to Mayor Ewing for helping the students plant trees and treating them to snow cones. The students went away with the knowledge that they planted trees under which they many never enjoy their shade, but they did it to celebrate the future and they hope that Fourth Graders in years to come may someday enjoy the shade of all the trees they planted.



- Amy Seiler, Director of Parks and Recreation



**Gering City Council  
 Budget Work Session  
 August 14, 2024  
 beginning at 8:15 a.m.**



**The Budget Work Session  
 will take place  
 at Gering City Hall,  
 1025 P Street, Gering, NE**



Shown left to right: Councilmembers Troy Cowan, Julie Morrison, Pam O’Neal, Susan Wiedeman, City Clerk Kathy Welfl, Mayor Kent Ewing, City Administrator Pat Heath, Councilmembers Cody Bohl, Ben Backus, Michael Gillen and Rebecca Shields.

Courtesy photo



**PLEASE MAINTAIN GROWTH OF WEEDS, GRASSES & WORTHLESS VEGETATION**

The City of Gering would like to remind residents about City ordinance pertaining to weeds, grasses or worthless vegetation. Per Municipal Code: *The owner*

*or occupant of any lot or piece of ground within the municipality shall keep the lot or piece of ground and the adjoining streets and alleys free of any growth of eight inches or more in height of weeds, grasses or worthless vegetation.*

It is also a public nuisance to permit inoperative vehicles, junk, stagnant water, litter, nox-

ious weeds or unlicensed vehicles within the corporate or jurisdictional limits of the city.

City officials are requesting cooperation from Gering residents in controlling these issues and mitigating public health and safety concerns.

**YOUR COOPERATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!**



**Environmental Services**

**PLEASE RECYCLE**

The Environmental Services Department would like to encourage residents to participate with recycling in the City of Gering. The City has gained landfill space because of people who are currently recycling. City Officials applaud their efforts and participation! If interested, please call 436-7568 for information on recycling carts.

**REMINDER!**

PLEASE do NOT put plastic bags and glass in the single stream recycle containers at Northfield Church and the south side of Fresh Foods locations. Thank you!

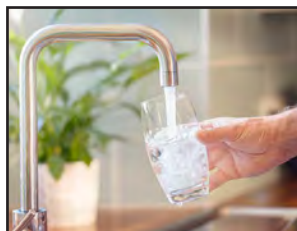


**GERING LANDFILL**

200531 West U Street,  
(308) 436-7568

**Hours of Operation:**

Mon. - Fri., 6:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
No hazardous or liquid wastes accepted.



**CITY OF GERING  
2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT**

The City of Gering included the 2023 Annual Water Quality Report in this utility billing. It's also posted at City Hall, 1025 P Street, Gering. You can also call (308) 436-5096 to request a copy or visit the City's website to view it at [www.gering.org](http://www.gering.org)

**New Sculptures at the Gering Civic Plaza**

There are new additions to the Gering Civic Plaza! Stop in and take a

**LOOK**



Ferguson Bird Bowl bronze sculpture



Left: Hanson Arcs 56 aluminum sculpture

Below: Kaneko ceramic sculpture



Funded in part by City of Gering Keno Funds



The City of Gering Sanitation Department requests that all residents strictly adhere to the City's requirement that NO yard waste (grass clippings, etc.) be placed in regular garbage dumpsters during the spring/summer/fall seasons.

**If yard waste is found in regular dumpsters, the City of Gering will NOT pick up the contents of the dumpster until the yard waste has been removed.** Likewise, please **do not** place garbage in yard waste containers.

**Thank you for your cooperation!**

# Protecting the Quality of our Water

by Cassidy Baum  
Keep Scottsbluff/Gering Beautiful

Many things can impact the quality of our water. The EPA has identified stormwater runoff as the nation's main cause for surface water quality problems. Stormwater runoff consists of precipitation from rain and snowmelt. Stormwater that enters the storm drains and bodies of water is untreated. It is contaminated by debris, chemicals, dirt, pet waste, and other pollutants that are left on impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets. These contaminants can harm fish and wildlife, kill native vegetation, make recreation areas unsafe and unpleasant and lower the quality of our drinking water.



It only takes one gallon of oil to contaminate one million gallons of drinking water, according to the EPA. Please protect

our water quality and dispose of these pollutants at a designated collection location. Keep each fluid separate and in a dedicated, sealed container until it can be disposed of. You can properly dispose of used oil at the City of Gering Landfill during normal business hours (6:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. M-F).

Pharmaceuticals are another major contaminate of our water supply. For many years it was suggested that people flush unused medications. We now know that this is an unsafe practice. Many wastewater treatment plants are not able to remove pharmaceutical compounds. Please hold on to your unused and expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications and vitamins until you are able to properly dispose of them at a KSGB collection event.



For more information contact Cassidy Baum with Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful at 308-632-4649.

[www.keepsctotsbluffgeringbeautiful.weebly.com](http://www.keepsctotsbluffgeringbeautiful.weebly.com)

[www.facebook.com/keepsctotsbluffgeringbeautiful](http://www.facebook.com/keepsctotsbluffgeringbeautiful)

Protecting our water  
is EVERYONE'S responsibility!

## Power Line Safety

CITY OF GERING

### City of Gering Electric Department

Spring is upon us and that means it's time to start working on and maintaining the outside of your property. There are many projects to do



before summer gets here. Projects like trimming and planting trees and plants, painting your house and getting your garden ready just to name a few. But while you're out doing all of your projects, take a second to look around and check for power lines. There are power lines in the air and in the ground that need to be given a second thought before performing your work.

Let's start with tree trimming or planting. If you are going to be pruning your trees this spring, you need to look the tree over

before you ever touch it. Take a look and make sure there are no power lines running through it or touching it. If the tree is in contact with the power line the tree could have hazardous voltage running through it and may present a risk to your safety. If you see this, you need to contact a professional tree pruning service or your local utility and they will assess the situation and take the appropriate action. If you are planting new trees, you need to call **Nebraska811** (800-331-5666) first so all utilities can mark their lines so you don't dig into a line (such as electric, water, gas, and communications). Anytime you are going to dig, whether it is to plant trees or install a fence, you need to call **Nebraska811** first.

For other projects, such as painting or installing new siding, take a look at where your electrical service attaches to your home. If your service is overhead, make sure you keep a safe distance from it to prevent electrical shock. Also, make sure if you are using a ladder that you keep it away from the service - especially if your lad-

der is made of metal. Even if your ladder is fiberglass, keep it away from the electrical service for your safety. If you need to get close to the electrical service, contact your local utility and they can shut it off if need be.



The last topic to be discussed is spring and summer storms. During these storms, damaging winds and hail may occur and can break power poles or knock down lines. If you should ever see a downed power line or a broken pole, stay away from it as it could still have power running through it. Contact your local utility or emergency services immediately if you see a broken pole or a line on the ground. Serious injury can occur if you come in contact with a power line.



After reading this article, we hope as a utility that we have given you some things to look for while you're out working around your home. Please check for these things and stay safe this summer. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the City Utility Office at **(308) 436-6800**.



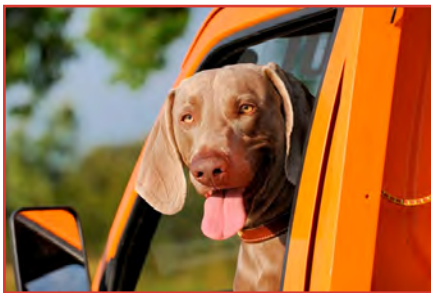
## Pets in Vehicles

In warmer conditions, the temperature inside your vehicle can rise almost 20° F in just 10 minutes. In 20 minutes, it can rise almost 30°. And the longer you wait, the higher it goes. At 60 minutes, the temperature in your vehicle can be more than 40 degrees higher than the outside temperature. Even on a 70° day, that's 110° *inside* your vehicle.

Your vehicle can quickly reach a temperature that puts people or pets at risk of serious illness and even death, even on a day that doesn't seem hot to you. **And cracking the windows makes virtually no difference.**

**PLEASE** think twice before leaving your pet in a parked vehicle - even for just a few minutes!

Source: American Veterinary Medical Association



Please keep your pet's Rabies and other vaccinations current. Protect pets from harsh weather conditions. Make sure they have plenty of clean drinking water at all times. Obtain a license annually and don't allow pets to run at large. Keep dogs on a leash at all times when walking them on a sidewalk, in a park or public space.

City Code §96.03 and §96.04

**Thank you!**



### OVERHANGING TREES

Please keep tree limbs a minimum of eight feet above a sidewalk for pedestrians to walk safely under them.



July 4th is just around the corner. Please remember that it is unlawful for fireworks to be ignited or discharged before 8 a.m. or after 10:30 p.m., June 25 - July 3. On July 4, they may be ignited between 8:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. Please clean up streets and sidewalks after discharging fireworks. Thank you.

### HYDRANTS

If you have a hydrant on your lot, remove any plants or tall grasses that may grow up around it in the event that the Fire Department needs to find it quickly and easily.



## PLEASE HELP KEEP ALLEYS FREE OF OVERGROWTH & DEBRIS

§ 53.35 ALLEYS; USE OF

*Alleys are public thoroughfares and are to be kept clear of obstructions at all times. It shall be the duty of the property owner adjacent to the alley to keep the alley clear of weeds, and to prevent obstruction of the alley by overhanging shrubs and trees.*



Damage is occurring to Sanitation trucks, and other City equipment, while attempting to maneuver through alleys.