

THE BEAT

The Beat is a biannual publication designed for Beatrice residents and stakeholders, offering valuable insights into City government operations.

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400 Ella Street

Mayor's Message

Time flies. This will be my last note as mayor, as in December there will be a new mayor for the City of Beatrice.

I would like to take a few moments to look back over the past four years. During that time, we saw success with a \$21 million grant to redevelop our downtown, securing fresh water for years to come, and establishing a new landfill, all packed into four years.

I want to thank the City Council for all the support they provided on these projects and for helping set the big-picture vision. That said, none of this would have happened without our City Administrator, Tobias Tempelmeyer, and the dedicated team of department heads.

One thing you learn as mayor of the City of Beatrice is just how high-quality and hard-working our administration and city employees are. I have seen every department go above and beyond during my time in office to make Beatrice a better place.

That commitment will not change with a new mayor because these individuals truly care about Beatrice and the people who live here.

As I prepare to close this chapter as mayor, I want to say thank you to all our dedicated employees, from top to bottom. Thank you for all you do now and for all you will continue to do in the future.



Mayor
Bob Morgan



Comprehensive Plan Update

The City of Beatrice is partnering with Confluence to update our Comprehensive Plan.

As we move through the process, there will be opportunities for public input. This is an exciting opportunity to play a key role in guiding the growth and vision of our community for decades to come. Stay tuned for updates and ways to participate.



New Residential Lots Ready for Building



We're excited to introduce two new residential developments at former elementary school sites, creating fresh opportunities for families and future residents to build in our community.

The new Heritage Heights Addition at 19th & Lincoln Street offers 20 single-family lots along with a neighborhood playground designed to create a welcoming space for families and neighbors to connect.

At Corral Crossing Addition at 14th & Park Street, you'll find 16 single-family lots and 12 townhome lots, providing a variety of housing options for different lifestyles and stages of life.

Both additions give buyers the flexibility to choose their own builder and create a home that fits their vision.

Additional information and lot pricing are available on the City's website. Residents with questions are encouraged to contact City Hall.

New Play Opportunities Coming Soon

The **Lincoln Legacy Playground**, located at the former Lincoln Elementary site, features a patriotic red, white, and blue play structure complete with slides, climbers, swings, an inclusive see-saw, and more.

At the former Stoddard Elementary site, the new **A.J. Stoddard Playground** will feature a nature-inspired theme with climbing walls, ropes, and slides that encourage active exploration and adventure. The playground will also introduce something entirely new to the area – the Crickets Playground Game.

These new playgrounds are part of the community's continued investment in parks, recreation, and family-friendly spaces. **Completion announcements and opening updates will be shared on the City's website and social media channels.**



Summer Reading Program at Beatrice Public Library



Get ready to dig into a summer full of adventure with Beatrice Public Library's Summer Reading Program, "Unearth a Story!" This year, experience world of dinosaurs coming to life with activities and events for all ages.

There will be activities for kids, families, and teens! Whether you're discovering new stories or uncovering prehistoric fun, there's something for everyone this summer at the library!

Scan the QR code to see the scheudle of activities!



Keep Grass Clippings Out of the Street - Protect Beatrice's Waterways



Mowing season is in full swing. While it may seem harmless to blow grass clippings into the street or gutter, those clippings can have a serious impact on Beatrice's lakes, rivers, and stormwater system.

Grass clippings that wash into storm drains eventually make their way into local waterways. Because clippings contain high levels of phosphorous, they contribute to harmful algae blooms that reduce oxygen in the water, damage aquatic habitats, and harm fish and wildlife.

Residents are also reminded that mowing or blowing grass clippings into the street is a violation of City of Beatrice

ordinances. Fortunately, there are several easy ways to help protect our environment while maintaining a healthy lawn:

- Direct mower discharge away from streets and sidewalks.
- Leave clippings on your lawn to naturally return nutrients to the soil.
- Avoid cutting grass too short, especially during summer heat.
- Use mulching mowers to help clippings decompose quickly.
- Reuse clippings as garden mulch or compost material.

Grass clippings are about 85% water and contain valuable nitrogen that can provide up to 30% of your lawn's fertilizer needs. Leaving them on the lawn can reduce fertilizer use, save time, and cut down on yard waste.

By taking a few extra moments to keep grass clippings out of the street, we can all help keep Beatrice's waterways clean, healthy, and beautiful.

Celebrate Safely: Fireworks Rules



Beatrice's City Ordinance allows fireworks to be sold and discharged **only from June 29th to July 4th of each year.**

Discharge of fireworks is permitted between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on June 29th - July 2nd, and between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. on July 3rd and 4th.

Be a good neighbor! After the fireworks are complete, make sure to clean up your area and the area surrounding your residence. Let debris cool completely before placing it into your waste cart. You can allow it to cool in place or put it in a metal container to cool. If debris doesn't cool completely, waste carts can be damaged.

HOW THE CITY OF BEATRICE COMMUNICATES

The City of Beatrice uses a variety of communication tools to reach its many stakeholders. The City relies on our stakeholders to **seek out the tools that they prefer to use** to get details on news, events, programs, and more. Please find the communication tools available to you below.



DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

Website - www.beatrice.ne.gov: The City's website updated with information for all departments and services.

Blogs: Bi-monthly website blogs featuring rotating updates and insights from department heads.

Resident Alert System: Text, phone, and email alerts and announcements are shared with subscribers based on their preferred topics.



PRINT

The Beat Community Newsletter: You're reading it now! Bi-annual newsletter distributed with BPW utility bills.

Postcards and letters: Direct mail pieces sent to select residents/businesses as needed.



Utility Bill Inserts: Mailed to BPW customers or emailed to paperless customers.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook:

- City of Beatrice, Nebraska - Municipal Government
- Beatrice Big Blue Water Park
- Beatrice Fire & Rescue
- Beatrice Police Department
- Beatrice Public Library



LinkedIn:

- City of Beatrice, Nebraska

Nextdoor:

- Beatrice Police Department

YouTube:

- City of Beatrice, Nebraska

Instagram:

- Beatrice Big Blue Water Park
- Beatrice Public Library

BROADCAST

Channel 181: Watch on Spectrum Cable or **livestream from any internet-connected device**. View a mix of slides and videos, meetings, and more.

