

Carlisle Elected Officials

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 City of Carlisle, Iowa

August 12, 2020

To the Citizens of Carlisle,

With the storm that came through Central Iowa on Monday, we wanted to give an update to the community with several items of interest.

1. Cleanup Efforts

- a. City public works, electric, and parks crews have been focusing efforts on ensuring utilities remain working and addressing debris in public spaces. This includes damage done to one city building.
- b. If you are at the park, we ask you to be cautious and avoid any downed limbs.
- c. Public safety departments are asking that paths be cleared to the main access to residences to ensure access to the structure in case of emergencies.
- d. Hours of the yard waste facility have been extended. Official hours will be from sunrise to sunset until further notice.
- e. When taking debris to the facility, it should be taken to the far end of the facility and placed as close to the pile as possible. This helps our crews keep the pile under control and pushed back.
- f. As always, we ask that only debris from within the city be brought into the facility.
- g. Due to the scope of the damage, equipment at hand, and the changing nature of the recovery efforts, city crews *will not* be picking up debris placed at the curb by residents.

2. Power Distribution

- a. Carlisle Municipal Electric Department: We experienced some minor outages due to tree damage. As of the time of this letter, only a few customers remain out of power due to isolated circumstances at those houses. If CMEU customers are experiencing issues, they should call City Hall at 515-989-3224 or the Electric Department at 515-989-0849.
- b. MidAmerican Customers: The following information was provided to the city through regular updates to communities within their service territory. MidAmerican is working to rebuild transmission lines, poles, substations, and distribution lines throughout their entire system. They “anticipate restoring most of our customers today and tomorrow though, unfortunately, due to the extent of the damage it may be as late as Saturday for some.” They ask customers to assume that any downed lines are energized. Please stay away from them and do not touch downed lines. They also encourage customers who are experiencing an outage to report them to us as quickly as possible so we can pinpoint areas of greatest need. Outages can be reported on their [website](#), via private message on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#), or by phone at 888-427-5632. For gas leak emergencies, call 800-595-5325.

- c. Carlisle Municipal Electric will be attempting to make some switches to help supply power to areas of Carlisle within MidAmerican territory that are experiencing outages. We cannot make any guarantees that this will restore electric service to all those affected but hope it will help restore service to some.
 - d. Staff and several council members have been contacted regarding avoidance of service interruptions like the one currently being experienced. As recovery efforts wind down, staff has been instructed to identify possible opportunities for redundancy that can help limit future impacts. These opportunities will then be explored further to help ongoing disaster preparedness efforts.
- 3. Avon Grinder Pumps
 - a. As areas of the Avon community remain without power and rely on generators, public works asks that members of that community be mindful of their water usage. Most sewage grinder pumps are not hooked up to power so ongoing or increased water usage can lead to possible sewer backups. Due to the number of customers served, this is not something that can feasibly be actively monitored and public works must rely on property owners to work with us on response.
 - b. If you are close to or are currently experiencing a backup issue, we encourage you to contact City Hall at 515-989-3224. They will be maintaining a list to provide to public works to address. For after hours emergencies, please call 515-961-1122.
- 4. Garbage & Recycling
 - a. Garbage
 - b. Recycling, and yard waste pickup through Metro Waste Authority has been pushed back one day to Saturday, August 15, 2020
 - c. Yard waste bags are available for purchase at City Hall or Carlisle True Value.
- 5. Obtaining City Information
 - a. The best way to receive most up-to-date information on current information on these and other matters is to utilize our new mass notification system. You can sign up for notices for various departments and tailor those to the information you are interested in. To start utilizing that system, go to carlisle-ia.reggroup.com/signup or follow this QR code on your phone.
 - b. Another good way to get new information is by following our [City of Carlisle, Iowa Facebook page](#).



On Behalf of the City of Carlisle,

Deven Markley, City Administrator