



### Join Our Team This Summer!



The City of Gering is hiring seasonal staff for Parks, Golf, and Pool! Help keep our community beautiful, safe, and fun while gaining valuable experience. If you're dependable and enjoy working outdoors, Apply now! <https://www.gering.org/careers>

City of Gering Mayor  
Kent Ewing

#### Gering City Council Members by Ward

- Rebecca Shields - Ward I
- Susan Wiedeman - Ward I
- Michael Gillen - Ward II
- Pam O'Neal - Ward II
- Julie Morrison - Ward III
- Dylan Cecil - Ward III
- B.J. Kinsey - Ward IV
- James Jackson - Ward IV

More information about elected officials can be found on the City's website, [gering.org](http://gering.org), under Government.

### WIPES CLOG PIPES!

Place these items in the **TRASH**, **NOT** the toilet

- Disinfecting wipes
- Paper towels
- Diapers
- Baby wipes
- Towelettes
- Mop refills
- Facial tissues



## PLEASE HELP THE CITY PREVENT SANITARY SEWER BACKUPS

### What is a Sanitary Sewer?

A sanitary sewer is a pipe located in the City right-of-way or easements that is designed solely to transport wastewater from sanitary fixtures and floor drains inside homes and businesses to the City's wastewater treatment plant. Sanitary sewer mains in the City of Gering are owned, operated, and maintained by the City. The City has approximately 70 miles of sanitary sewer mains.

### What is the purpose of manhole covers?

Manholes have a circular metal lid and are usually located in an alley, street or in yards and are used for access to the sanitary sewer main. Only authorized City personnel can remove manhole covers and enter the manhole.

Please ensure the manhole cover(s) on your property are clearly visible and easily accessible at all times. Please do not bury them or disguise them. Your assistance in keeping these areas clear will save valuable time when crews are repairing, maintaining or flushing the lines. Please report any missing, damaged, or noisy manhole covers (loose fitting) to the City of Gering at 436-6800.



### What causes a sanitary sewer to backup?

Most sewer backups occur because the line is plugged with grease, tree roots, or a combination of grease and tree roots. Backups are also caused by paper or small articles of clothing, a sag (or belly) in the line or a sewer lateral. **Never place anything in the system other than bathroom toilet tissue.** Products like baby wipes, rags and other products labeled "flushable" frequently cause backups because they do not break down like bathroom toilet tissue.

### Problems caused by fats, oils and grease (FOG)

When fats, oils, and grease are introduced into the sewer, they are usually warm and free flowing. However, shortly thereafter, they cool, harden and adhere to the pipe wall. A FOG build-up will eventually cause a backup and cause stoppages.

Building codes require restaurants to have grease traps to intercept, separate and contain their FOG discharges. For the homeowner, there are relatively easy ways to avoid this potential problem. There are simple steps that can eliminate many time-consuming and costly sewer line repairs or blockages in your private lines:

- Fats, oils and grease should **NEVER** be poured down a sink. Sink drains and garbage disposals are not designed to properly handle these materials.

- Before washing, scrape and dry-wipe pots, pans and dishes with paper towels and dispose of materials in the trash.

- Avoid relying on the garbage disposal to get rid of food scraps. The garbage disposal chops up food into small pieces, which can still cause a blockage in the pipe. Use sink strainers to catch food items, and then empty the strainer into the trash.

### Unused or expired OTC or prescription medicines

These items should never be introduced to the sanitary sewer system. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove over the counter or prescription medicines during the treatment process and eventually are discharged to the North Platte River. These items are harmful to the environment, downstream water supplies and wildlife.

**WALKING TOUR AT  
THE CHARLIE  
FENSTER  
ARBORETUM**

**Saturday, April 18  
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

Meet at the east end of Northfield Park for a tree pruning and planting demonstration by the Gering Park, Cemetery and Tree Board.

*you are*  
**INVITED**

The City of Gering, along with members of the Gering Park, Cemetery and Tree Board, and Northfield 4th graders, will be conducting an Arbor Day celebration on Friday, April 24th, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at Northfield Park. Mayor Ewing will read the Arbor Day proclamation and trees will be planted. We invite the public to join us for this celebration of trees in our community!



*Friendly* **REMINDERS**



As temperatures rise in the spring and summer, so does our outdoor water use, mostly on lawns and landscapes. As much as 50% of the water we use outdoors is wasted from inefficient watering methods and systems. Watering wisely outside the home promotes healthier lawns and landscapes. Shown right are simple tips to help curb water waste.

**01** **WATER EARLY**  
Watering your lawn in the early morning to 11 a.m. minimizes evaporation and waste.

**02** **AUTOMATIC TIMERS**  
Use a time clock for your irrigation system and adjust it seasonally based on temperature and precipitation.

**03** **TUNE UP YOUR SYSTEM**  
Inspect irrigation systems; fix leaks, identify and adjust broken/clogged sprinkler heads.

**04** **FREQUENCY**  
Water turf less frequently but for longer periods. Our soils take longer to hydrate but hold water. Water up to three times per week.

**05** **HARVEST RAINWATER**  
Use a rain barrel to harvest rainwater from gutters to use for gardens and landscapes

**06** **LEAVE GRASS LONG**  
Raising your lawn mower blade to its highest setting encourages grass roots to grow deeper and grass blades to hold more moisture.

**SLOW THE FLOW**  
SAVE H<sub>2</sub>O

For more information, contact the UNL Panhandle Extension Center at (308) 632-1230.

**City of Gering** 200531 West U Street, (308) 436-7568  
**Environmental Services**



Keep Scottsbluff Gering Beautiful is planning their annual Earth Day Celebration and Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event for Saturday, April 18, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the North Platte Natural Resources District.

This community event will include household hazardous waste collection, document shredding services, and additional Earth Day activities. Event details - including accepted materials and participation guidelines - will be announced closer to the event date.  
[www.keeptscottsbuffgeringbeautiful.weebly.com](http://www.keeptscottsbuffgeringbeautiful.weebly.com)

**FREE LANDFILL DAY, APRIL 18, 8 A.M. TO NOON**  
Bring a copy of your utility bill and a matching driver's license

**No more than four tires and two appliances, please.**

**6:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday**

**BLUE RECYCLING CONTAINERS**  
Single Stream Recycling continues...  
- Residential carts are available.

**REMEMINDER:** A free dump pass is provided with each City of Gering utility bill. Just bring your utility bill to the landfill when you come.

**LANDFILL**  
No hazardous or liquid wastes accepted.

**YARD WASTE COLLECTION**

**Yard waste collection begins March 30. Grass and leaves only, no tree limbs, please!**