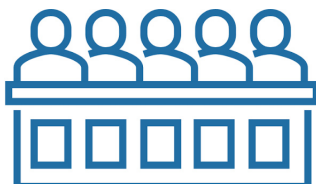




**Gering City Council
Budget Work Session**
August 19, 2026
beginning at 8:15 a.m.
 (Previously scheduled for August 5)



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



Gering City Council Members by Ward

Rebecca Shields - Ward I
 Susan Wiedeman - Ward I

Michael Gillen - Ward II
 Pam O'Neal - Ward II

Dylan Cecil - Ward III
 Julie Morrison - Ward III

James Jackson - Ward IV
 B.J. Kinsey - Ward IV

Kent Ewing - **MAYOR**

**Contact information for
City of Gering elected
officials is available
on the City's website:**
www.gering.org

Students will soon be back in school.
PLEASE slow down near schools, watch
for children walking to and from school,
and use extra caution behind the wheel.



HAILSTORM RECOVERY TIPS FOR HIRING A CONTRACTOR

As residents are working to get properties repaired following a recent hailstorm, the City of Gering would like to remind residents and property owners to keep the following in mind:

- Always make sure that the contractor you are working with is licensed with the City of Gering. In order to be licensed, a contractor must be bonded and insured. This helps protect property owners in the event that something goes wrong.
- Before selecting a contractor, get a quote from more than one company; this is standard practice. Most contractors will provide you with a quote free



of charge, with no obligation to move forward with the project.

- When in doubt, take your time and don't rush into anything. If necessary, let the contractor know that you need to think about it and talk it over with someone you trust. There should be no reason that you have to make an immediate decision.
- Make sure that your contractor pulls a permit with the City. This will allow staff to conduct inspections and ensure that all work is being done to meet applicable building codes.

If you have any questions about code requirements or whether or not a contractor is licensed, you can call the City at 436-5096.

GERING LIBRARY

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Nebraska will be hosting two educational presentations at the Gering Library on August 10 and 11 at 6:30 p.m. - both are free. The first is called VOTE4MENTALHEALTH. This event is non-partisan and is about encouraging people to vote for mental health initiatives and representatives who will support those issues. It highlights mental health deficiencies in Nebraska's Panhandle and encourages people to contact their representatives about these deficiencies. The second is "ENDING THE SILENCE". The focus of this presentation is connecting with young people about how they can end the stigma surrounding mental health, and recognize the signs that indicate people are struggling with mental health.

On August 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Gering Civic Center, Rick Myers will present a retrospective of his photography through the years. Myers started his photography career with the Gering Courier in 1973. He spent decades working as a photo journalist for the Courier and the Scottsbluff Star-Herald. During that time, he documented many community and regional events. He was fortunate to photograph two



presidents, NFL football players, and many athletic and school performances. He most enjoyed photographing spot news and weather. His hope was to contribute to the scrapbooks and refrigerator magnets in Western Nebraska. He continues to photograph daily and share on social media and with family and friends.

BACK TO SCHOOL

extended walk-in
VACCINATION hours

8am-6pm JULY 22 WEDNESDAY **AUGUST 4 8am-6pm TUESDAY**

More Info: **308-633-2866** **FAST** convenient **18 W 16TH ST.** Scottsbluff, NE

- protects YOUR child from life threatening diseases
- prevents the spread of disease to vulnerable individuals
- supports strong development physically and educationally WITHOUT interruptions
- saves \$\$\$ on medical expenses

PPHD.NE.GOV

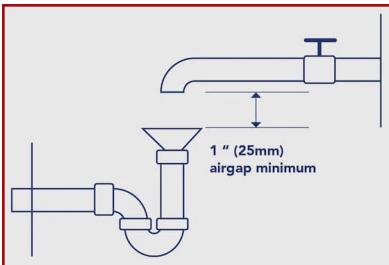
ASK ABOUT OUR Vaccine For Children (VFC) PROGRAM

PROTECTING OUR WATER IS A JOB FOR EVERYONE



HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM CROSS CONNECTIONS

1. Check your water softener or other in-home treatment device to ensure that any drain lines have a proper air gap prior to entering the sewer line. The floor drain is considered a sewer line and there should be an air gap if the drain line runs into the floor drain.
2. Check all faucets where a hose might be connected and install a hose bib vacuum breaker to protect these connections.
3. Install a Pressure Vacuum Breaker on your underground sprinklers and have it tested annually when the sprinklers are turned on for the season.
4. If you have a boiler for home heating, make sure the fill line is protected with an approved backflow prevention assembly.
5. If you have old-style sinks or bathtubs, be sure to never fill them so the water level is higher than the fill spout.



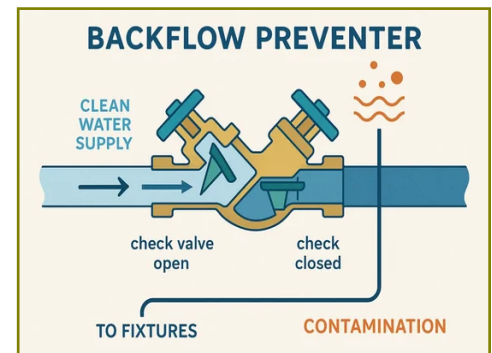
BACKFLOW PREVENTION

**Measures you can take to
prevent cross connections and keep
your drinking water safe**

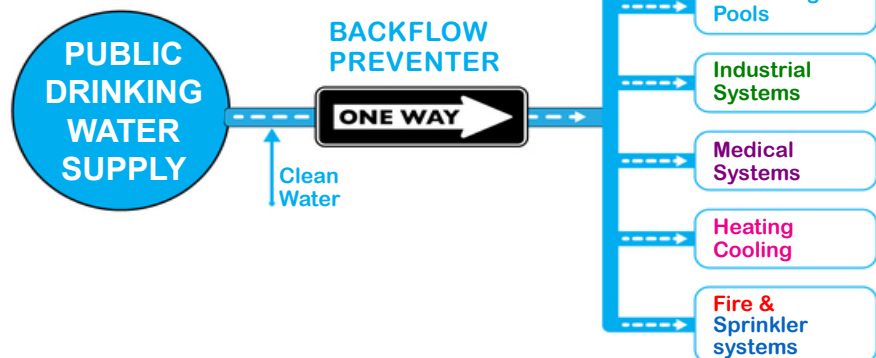
1. Check your faucets to be sure that all faucet endpoints are above the flood level of the sink, tub, basin, or other apparatus they supply.
2. Protect faucet extensions by installing proper backflow prevention devices (i.e. hose bib vacuum breakers) on all faucets capable of having a hose or other extension attached.
3. Check drain lines (refrigerator drink dispensers, water softeners, heat exchangers, etc.) to be sure there is an adequate air gap between the drain line and the floor drain or sewer line into which they discharge.
4. Never use unprotected faucets to fill non-drinking water containers (water beds, wading pools, stock tanks, hot tubs, etc.). Following these guidelines and using common sense will help to eliminate the possibility of contaminating your drinking water, your neighbor's drinking water and your community's drinking water. This not only affects the residents of your community, but their visitors and those people who are passing through.

SURVEY YOUR RESIDENCE

Homeowners should inspect their plumbing to determine if they have any of these devices or assemblies installed. If you do not have hose bibs with built-in protection or hose bib vacuum breakers installed, you can purchase them from your local hardware store or plumber and install them yourself. If you find one of the testable backflow preventers on your property, you should check with your water provider to determine if you need to have it tested on a routine basis, or if there is any regular maintenance that needs to be performed. Preventing backflow is the responsibility of all customers of the water system; the safe water that results from installing proper protection benefits everyone.



**Backflow preventers keep
contaminants from flowing back
into the drinking water supply.**



HOW TO PREVENT ENTRY CONTAMINATION

When the hazard of contamination exists, effective steps should be taken to correct the condition. If the condition cannot be corrected, then an appropriate backflow prevention device must be installed on the internal plumbing system. This is generally the responsibility of the water user.

Everyone should want to eliminate possible cross connections. Those who drink water on your premises will likely be the first to be injured if water becomes contaminated in your system. An awareness of how contamination can enter a system is important. We must work together to keep everyone's water safe.

The people who are in charge of your public water supply system are aware of the dangers of cross connections. Your public water system supplier has adopted a policy on cross connection control to comply with Nebraska regulations. One of the most effective and the most inexpensive controls is to always keep an air gap between any potential contaminant and the water system. Don't allow garden hoses or other hoses connected to the water system to drop into sources of contamination. Hydrants drain back even when shut off and contaminants can be siphoned into the hose or hydrant. If you need further information or need assistance in determining what devices are appropriate, contact your public water supply system. **City of Gering - (308) 436-6800 (Utility Office)**

Environmental Services



GERING LANDFILL

200531 West U Street, (308) 436-7568

Hours of Operation:

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



IMPORTANT NOTICE

GREEN CONTAINERS ARE STRICTLY FOR YARD WASTE - PLEASE DO NOT PUT ITEMS OTHER THAN GRASS CLIPPINGS AND YARD WASTE (such as leaves, twigs, and small branches less than an inch in diameter) IN THESE CONTAINERS.

WHAT DO I DO WITH WEEDS, PINE NEEDLES, AND BIGGER BRANCHES?

You may put weeds, pine needles, and bigger branches (no more than three inches in diameter in less than five-foot lengths) in the **BROWN** dumpsters.

WHAT DO I DO WITH LARGER TREE BRANCHES AND LARGER SECTIONS OF TREES?

You may bring them to the tree dump at the Gering Landfill during regular business hours. You have one free disposal per month with your utility bill. Check in with the landfill office at the scale when you arrive and bring your utility bill.

WHAT IF THE BROWN OR GREEN DUMPSTER IS FULL BEFORE THE SCHEDULED PICK UP DAY?

If the brown or green dumpster near your property becomes full before the scheduled pickup, you may call the landfill for an extra pickup free of charge at (308) 436-7568.



The City of Gering Sanitation Department requests that all residents strictly adhere to the City's requirement that **NO** yard waste (grass clippings) 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!



SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING

You may take single stream recyclables to City containers at Overland Trail Road/J Street, Northfield Church, and a third option is at the landfill by the baler building during regular business hours. Starting August 3, construction will begin on the addition of the transfer station. "Things may be chaotic, however we will still be open and operational through the whole process."

- Steve Mount, Director of Environmental Services

REMINDER

PLEASE do **NOT** put plastic bags and glass in single stream recycling containers.

Thank you!



Disposing of Paint and Paint Thinner

1. For a small amount of paint:

- Remove lid and let paint can sit in a well-ventilated area until liquid is dry to a solid state.

2. When dealing with larger quantities of paint, or to speed up the drying process:

- Stir in an absorbent material such as kitty litter or paper.
- Let the can sit in a well ventilated area until liquid is in a solid or almost solid state.
- Place the can in sealed bag; dispose of in garbage dumpster for collection.

Another Option: For large quantities of paint take an old piece of carpet, lay it out, and pour the paint on the carpet. Allow the paint to completely dry, roll up the carpet and dispose of it at the landfill.

Paint Thinner

- If there is less than 1/8 amount left in can, leave the can open in a well-ventilated area to allow vapors to disappear. Dispose of can in a bag for collection.
- For more than 1/8 amount in a can, pour remaining paint thinner into a glass bowl; place it away from children and pets. Allow the liquid to evaporate entirely. Wrap the crystal remnants in paper and place in the trash.



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.



HAPPENINGS AT THE GERING CIVIC PLAZA THIS AUGUST!

GERING
SUMMER MOVIES

Free family movies at dusk in the Gering Plaza

Bring a blanket or chairs, and popcorn!

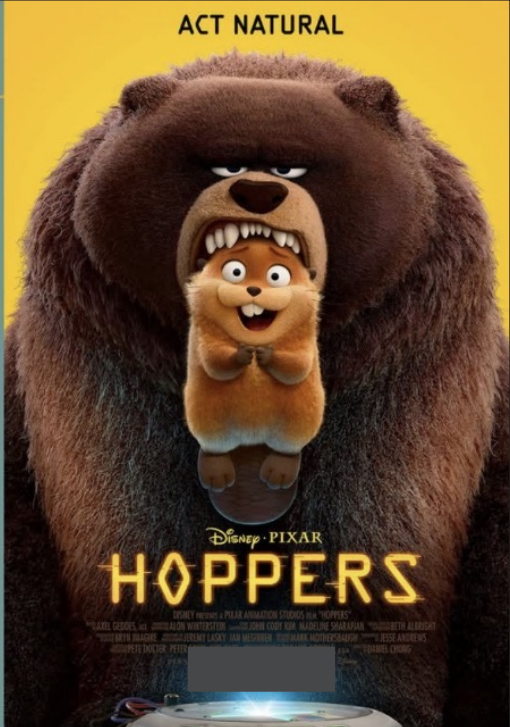
HOPPERS
Friday, August 7
Gering Civic Plaza

We hope to see you there!

 **GERING**
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

VISIT
GERING
NEBRASKA

ACT NATURAL



Disney • PIXAR
HOPPERS

**PILOT
WELCOME
PARTY**

Join us for a free family-friendly evening on
Sunday, August 9 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.
at Gering Civic Plaza

- Tethered hot air balloon rides (*weather permitting*)
- Live music and entertainment
- Food trucks and local food vendors
- Beer gardens featuring Scott Free Brewing Co. and Flyover Brewing Co.
- Meet balloon pilots from around the country

VISIT
GERING
NEBRASKA

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND CELEBRATE BALLOON FEST WEEK!



Old West
**BALLOON
FEST**

SEYDIE BLUM COUNTY NEBRASKA

theoldwestballoonfest.com