



**September 2024**



**Monthly Report on  
Department Activity**

# Department of Administration

The City Administrator's office is responsible for the overall management and administrative coordination of the activities of the City of Muscatine. The Office focuses on providing transparent and efficient city services that meet or exceed community expectations.

## City Administrator

### September Highlights

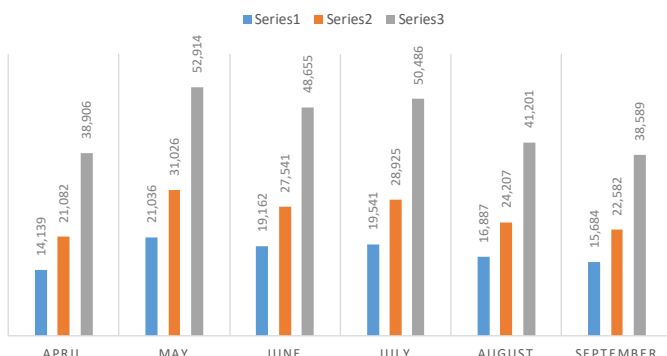
- Presented 37 agenda items for consideration by the Muscatine City Council during their regular meetings.
- Assisted presentations in in-depth meeting on Construction Management at Risk project, museum planning at Muscatine Art Center, and Ignite Vitality: Mulberry Neighborhood Project.
- Participated in two special Council meetings to consider candidates for vacant City Administrator position.
- Responded to numerous citizen and City Council requests and concerns.

## Human Resources Division

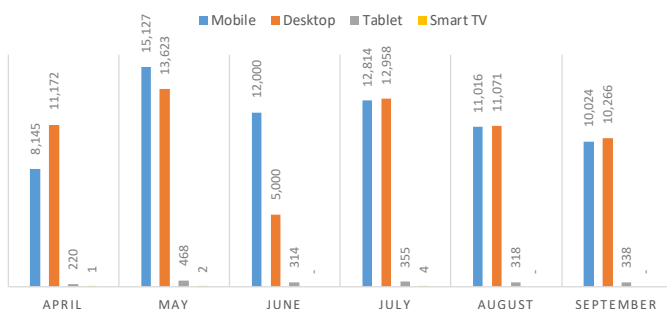
### September Highlights

- One hundred twenty two applications were received during September. The City welcomed two new full time and 2 new part time employees in various divisions of Public Works during September.
- The HR Department continued work with City Council on the process for hiring a new City Administrator. Initial interviews were held and the finalists will visit Muscatine on October 29. There will be a public meet and greet from 5:00-6:30 pm at the Muscatine Art Center.
- There are a number of other human resource related activities underway including job description updates, preparing for open enrollment, upcoming leadership training, and various policy updates.

CITY OF MUSCATINE WEB SITE TRAFFIC



ACCESSING THE MUSCATINE WEB SITE



## Communications Division

### September Highlights

- Produced and distributed 35 press releases to media and Notify Me subscribers.
- Created and published 173 posts across the City managed social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn).
- Ended the month of July with 11,932 (+88 from end of August) followers on Facebook, 1,687 (+22) on Instagram, 1,556 (+1) on Twitter, 478 on LinkedIn (+13), and 668 (+10) on YouTube.
- Continued monitoring use of Civic Clerk, Muscatine Connect (powered by SeeClickFix), Municode, and PetData.
- Continued to review and update department web pages with help from individual department staff.



# Department of Administration

## Finance/Parking Division

Summary of Activities	July 2024	August 2024	Sept. 2024	Oct 2024	Nov. 2024	Dec. 2024	Jan. 2025	Feb. 2025	March 2025	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025	Fiscal Year
Accounts Payable Checks & ACH Payments	569	577	563										1,132
Payroll Checks and Direct Deposits	868	1271*	777										1,645
Accounts Receivable Invoices Sent	189	166	197										385
Finance Cash Register Transactions	477	400	442										919
Housing Receipt Transactions	123	132	127										250
Purchase Orders Processed	324	311	271										595

### September Highlights

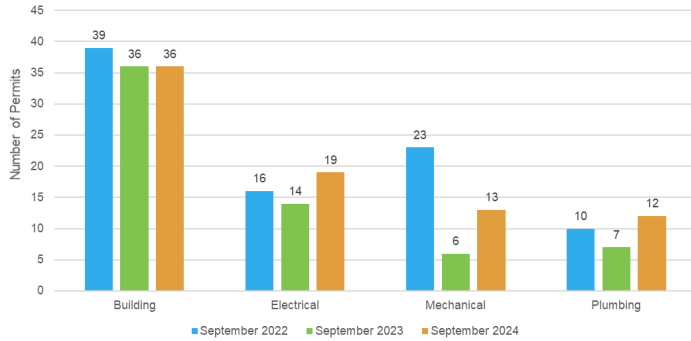
- Continued preparing City audit working papers.
- Auditors on-site September 3rd- 5th and 18th - 20th, 2024; provided all information requested by the auditors
- Prepared final annual financial statements for auditor review.
- Continued preparing Hershey Manor audit working papers and financial report. Worked with auditors remotely for sample selections and submitted all documentation electronically for audit.
- Continued the transition of the Hershey Manor management services to Seldin Property Management Company. Transferred remaining funds and security deposit balances to Seldin and provided them with ledger trial balances.



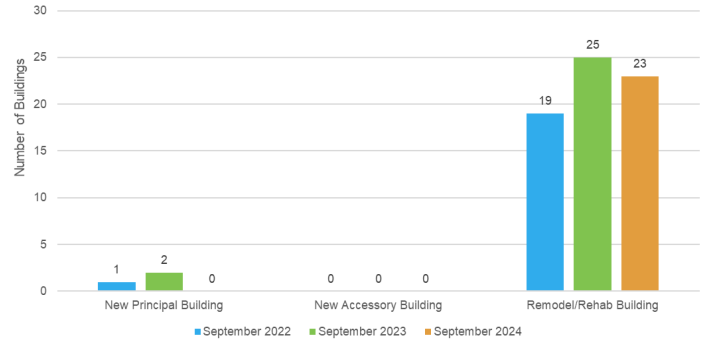
The City Administrator's Monthly Report is intended to provide a brief summary of City activities, with links to additional information where possible. Due to the variety and complexity of City functions, however, the report is not all-encompassing. Please always feel free to contact the City of Muscatine for more information or with questions or concerns. View past and upcoming events on the City's calendar. Any feedback can be provided to the City Administrator's office by sending an email to [feedback@muscatineiowa.gov](mailto:feedback@muscatineiowa.gov).

# Department of Community Development

Permits Issued Monthly

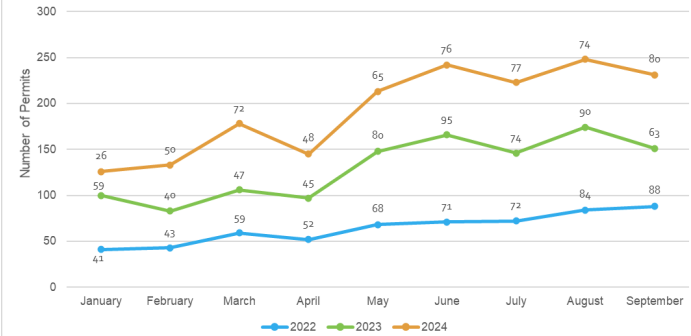


Monthly Commercial Building Construction Projects

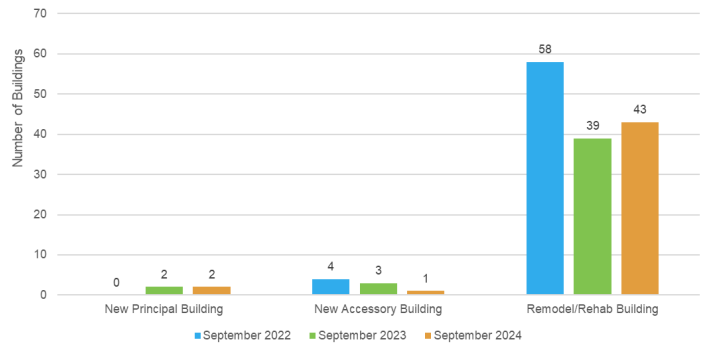


- Principal Building defined as the construction of new building on a previously vacant lot/parcel.
- Accessory Building defined as buildings constructed in addition to the principal building such as garages, storage buildings, shelters, etc.
- Remodel/Rehab defined as buildings undergoing any alterations whether it be for a remodel or repair.

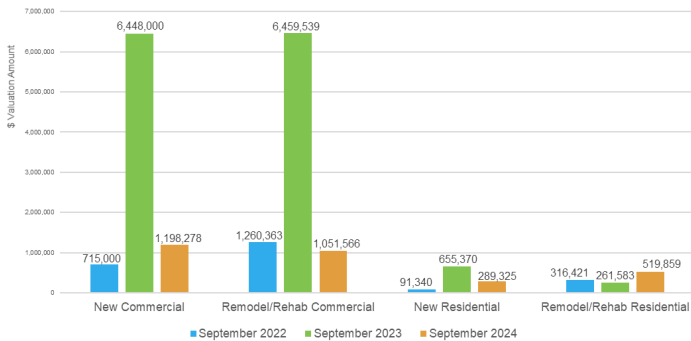
Permits Issued Per Month YTD



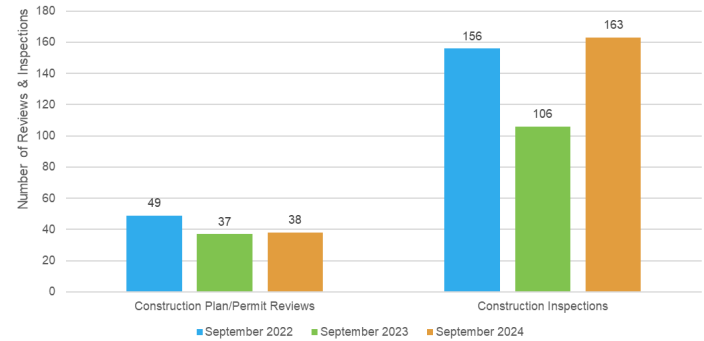
Monthly Residential Building Construction Projects



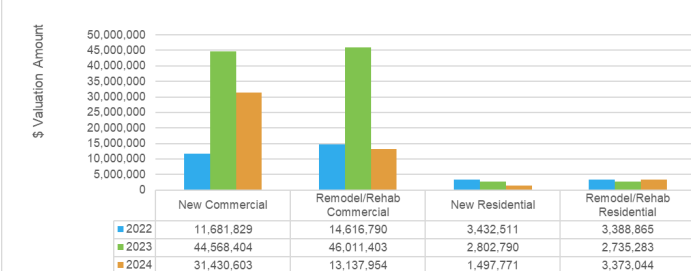
Monthly Construction Project Valuations



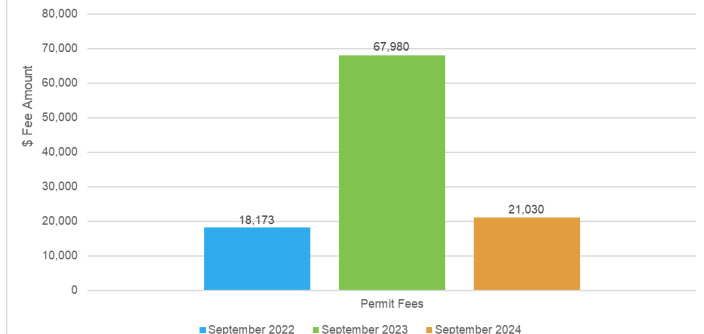
Monthly Construction Plan/Permit Reviews and Inspections



YTD Construction Project Valuations



Monthly Permit Fees Collected

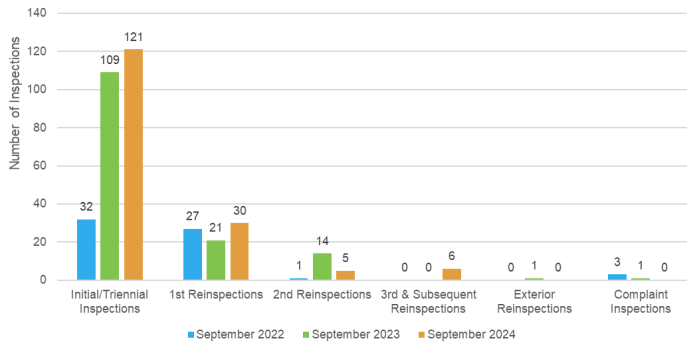




# Department of Community Development

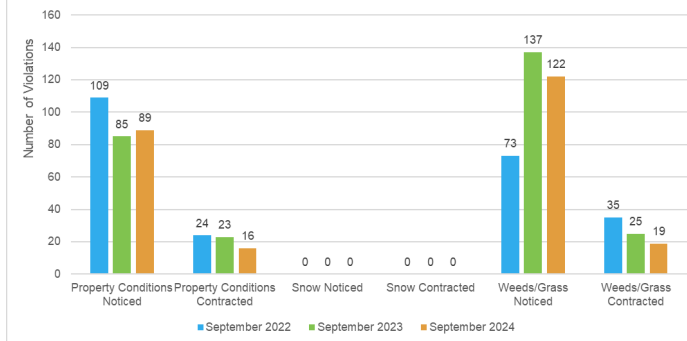
## September 2024 Highlights

Monthly Rental Housing Inspections



Property Conditions defined as Nuisance Abatements and other Code Violations including but not limited to dangerous tree trimming/removal, zoning regulation violations, etc.

Monthly Code Enforcement Violations



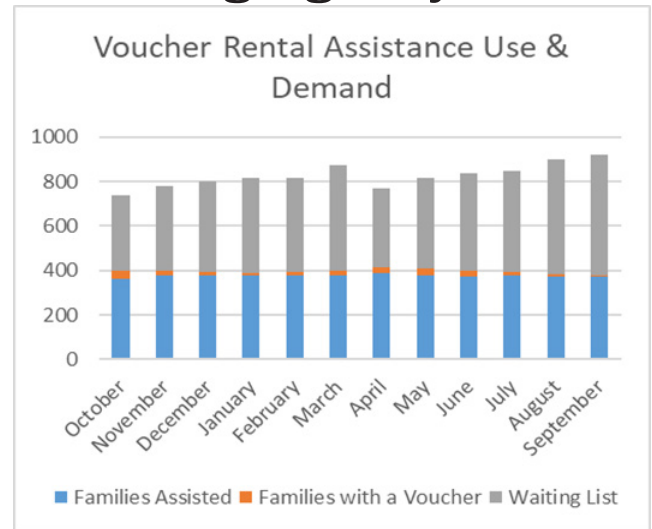
- Demolition of 417 Mulberry Avenue was completed and interior work on the replacement is ahead of schedule. This will allow Flickinger Learning Center to safely resume normal operations.
- The public input process for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan – Make It Muscatine - kicked off with a series of focus groups and a meeting of the Steering Committee. RDG also launched the project website (<https://rdgusa.mysocialpinpoint.com/planmuscatine/plan-muscatine-page-1/>), which includes an interactive map to collect ideas for future projects/identify areas of need.
- Over the past 24 months 36 property maintenance notices have been sent, resulting in the repair or sale of 24 properties, with active permits for additional 12 homes.
- Applications for funding through the Paul Bruhn Grant are being scored by the review committee and will be presented to the Historic Preservation Commission in October to proceed with design work with selected architect.
- Spark Consulting hosted a public meeting to educate residents and recruit volunteers for the intensive survey for the Underground Railroad nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- RFPs were released for the demolition of 3 derelict properties in the Ignite Vitality: Mulberry neighborhood; this will prepare the sites for construction 2 single family homes for first-time homebuyers and a 21-unit Permanent Support Housing Complex.
- The Mulberry project team also selected the vendor for development of the pocket part at 6th and Orange streets.
- Lead Program staff began accepting applications for assistance with lead remediation in qualified homes and issued the request for proposals for lead inspections and construction management services.
- Lead Safe Worker and Contract training was provided to 14 workers contractors from 5 companies to support implementation of the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant



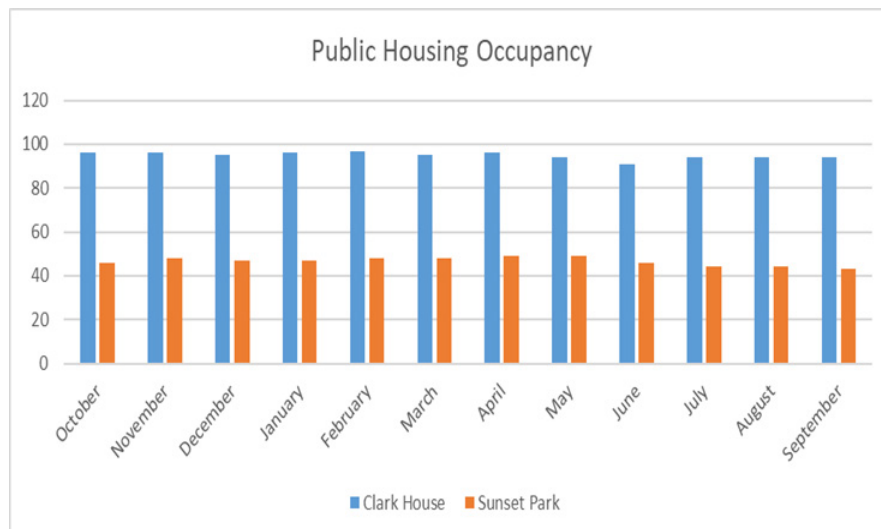
# Muscatine Municipal Housing Agency

## September 2024 Highlights

- HUD notified staff that we will be able to begin issuing vouchers again in December to facilitate leasing in January when we are released from shortfall conditions
- 1 family graduated from the Family Self-Sufficiency Program and received a \$17,761 check from the escrow they built up while participating in the program
- 3 units at Sunset Park were taken off-line to allow for foundation repairs
- 1 client with project-based voucher began receiving rental assistance for the first time
- 1 family completed in the Spanish first-time homebuyer course and is now looking for their new home
- Housing Counseling staff partnered with WeLead to offer a budgeting workshop attended by 9 families
- 2 families received \$2,500 in down payment assistance to purchase their first home! 2 families are in the process of purchasing their first home with our new program providing up to \$20,000 in down payment assistance.
- 2 staff participated in training for working with individuals in crisis: How to Manage Problematic Behaviors (Compassionately)



- The Housing Counselor completed every step of the 9/11 stair climb!
- Occupancy was 93%
- Turned 2 units for new occupants
- Completed 53 workers in an average of 1 day
- Paid \$173,472 for housing and utility assistance on behalf of 371 families
- \$9,810 was deposited into escrow accounts for families working toward improved self-sufficiency, with 1 graduation in September
- Earned \$26,401 in administrative fees





## September 2024 REPORT OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY





# Department of Parks and Recreation

## Park Administration Division

The main office is open to the public with regular office hours Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. There continues to be many requests to hold special events on public property. The complete special event listing can be found at our [website](#). If you wish to hold a special event within the parks system, please contact our office at 563-263-0241 or by email at [parksoffice@muscatineiowa.gov](mailto:parksoffice@muscatineiowa.gov). Please enjoy the many services provided through the Parks and Recreation Department and contact us to let us know about your experiences as we love to hear from you!

Subject	September Results
Pearl City Station	20 Reservations
Riverview Center	8 Reservations
Shelters	35 Reservations

## Park Maintenance Division

The month of September brought many special events to our park sites including: Live to Love Service, A Muskie Cross Country Run, Muscatine Farmers Market, Keep Muscatine Beautiful Almost Friday Fest, Walk to End Alzheimer's, American Cruise Line FestivALL, Viva Muscatine and 5K running events. Staff has also been working hard in closing down and winterizing the Muscatine Aquatic Center. Riverfront buildings and shelters throughout our parks were very well utilized during the great weather in September. Staff began working on cleaning out the landscape beds throughout the parks in preparation for the upcoming winter season.

Subject	Results
Special Events	24 Scheduled in September

## Aquatics Division

The Aquatic Center closed for the season on September 2nd (Labor Day). Pool Party reservations are available to be made by contacting the Parks and Recreation Department office at (563) 263-0241. Swim Lesson programming began on May 31st with 362 individual enrollments and finished for the year on August 2. The Aquatic Center is scheduled to be repainted this fall.

## Cemetery Division

Greenwood Cemetery remains open to the public for walkers, bicyclists and the Community's cemetery needs. The Cemetery Steps are also open for public use. Staff continues to work on leveling gravesites, edging the roadways, and repairing foundations throughout the Cemetery. Staff have been working hard on some Chapel improvements: the landscape beds have been expanded and a fresh coat of paint has been added. Staff also worked hard on preparing the grounds for the Cemetery Walk that took place on Sunday, September 22. Staff will be preparing for the Fall Cleanup week which will take place in October.

Subject	September Results
Cremains	5 Cremains Burial
Full Casket	3 Full Casket Burials
County Assisted	0 County Assisted Burial
Grave Spaces	3 Grave Spaces Sold
Niche Spaces	1 Niche Space Sold

## Boat Harbor/Marina Divisions

The Boat Harbor had a successful year of operations in 2024 with the help of river levels throughout the season. The Marina Operations continued to provide fuel, oil, and pump out services to boaters throughout the month of September. The Marina Operations weekend hours continued through Labor Day weekend, and services were continued during the week through the end of September.

Subject	Result
Long Dock Slips (48 Available)	25 Rented   23 Available
Houseboat Dock Slips (8 Available)	3 Rented   2 Available

## Wellness Division

The Wellness Committee is scheduled for monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The City Employee Wellness Center program relaunch began September to expand the offerings to the employees, including wellness challenges and new activities, such as yoga. The Fitness Reimbursement program continues throughout the year.



# Department of Parks and Recreation

## Recreation Division

Youth and adult recreation programs and special events continue to be offered. Recreational programming including the Youth Sport Shorts program and the Walking Club continued during August. Seasonal Recreation staff continue to be hired and are to be trained for recreation programming. The Fall/Winter Activity Brochure was revealed in late August and registration for Fall Recreation programs including Flag Football, Youth Gymnastics, Sports Starters, Youth sport clinics, Basketball, Adult Coed Volleyball and more began on August 27th. The 2024 Cemetery Walk occurred on September 22 with 72 participants and 5 volunteers. Upcoming events for the Parks and Recreation include the Fall Festival at the Pearl City Vintage Market and the Trunk or Treat event.

## Soccer Complex Division

We hosted two different weekends' soccer tournaments this month. The first group was Muscatine Soccer Club (MSC) hosting their fall classic. MSC utilized 13 different fields hosting 90 teams and 147 matches. Second event was hosted by Pearl City Soccer Club and brought Quad City Men's All-Star teams here for an 8-team tournament with an Exhibition match between Honduras versus Mexico after their championship game. This event brought 700-800 people in for the event. Throughout the month we continue to have groups playing games. Groups include Community YMCA, Muscatine Soccer Club-youth, and adult league, Pearl City Soccer Club- youth and adult league, ILLOWA and ISA. Post tournament field work included over seed entire fields, rolling, and slicing. We have been continuing to make improvements to the park, filling in low areas, repairing divots, and staff continues to repair sprinkler heads for better playability, and edging valve box lids for easier access when servicing the sprinklers. We have installed new LED scoreboards on fields 3 and 4. Also the lights have been moved from Soccer West field 11 (where the Indoor Sports Complex is being built) to field 1 in the main complex. Muscatine Indoor Sports Complex Project has started the dirt work and site preparations. We have not been able to fill some of the open positions, as we have offered positions, but they were no shows or work one day and never came back.

## Kent Stein Division

Kent Stein Park hosted two one day softball tournaments. These tournaments were sponsored from one of our local softball groups- The Monsters softball organization. The Saturday tournament hosted 33 teams and used 8 fields. These games were in the 8U- up to high school divisions. The Sunday tournament hosted 28 teams and hosted 12U to High School aged utilizing 6 fields. Staff has been maintaining field for daily use. During the regular week Kent Stein Park host our local MYB (Muscatine Youth Baseball) fall season, Monster's softball, MGSA softball, MSC and Adult softball (2 divisions- Women's and Co-ed). Staff has started to change out light bulbs in both restrooms to LED bulbs. Staff has been replenishing Ag lime on skinned areas for normal wear patterns. Kent Stein was also to take part in Muscatine High School Cross country meet this year. We have filled some of the personnel to back fill positions as students went back to school, but still could use more.

## Golf Divisions

The golf course hosted three outings in September. All of the leagues except one wrapped up in September. The last one will wrap up the first week of October. Staff continues to do trainings on Cash Handling Expectations and Customer Service Skills. Staff has begun to look forward to 2025 on how to improve certain areas and continue to grow as a staff while hanging on until the end of the 2024 Season. Through September we are 1,751 rounds ahead of 2023.

Golf Maintenance aerified and sanded all greens to relieve compaction and get air to the roots. Staff seeded and fertilized all tees, including the driving range. Staff plans on opening the driving range and par 3 tees up again soon. Aerifying of fairways, collars and approaches have been started with the goal of being completed by early October.

Subject	Result
Outings	26 Outings Scheduled for 2024
Leagues	6 Leagues Scheduled for 2024
Season Passes	242 Season Passes Sold in 2024
Rounds Played	3,669 rounds played in September

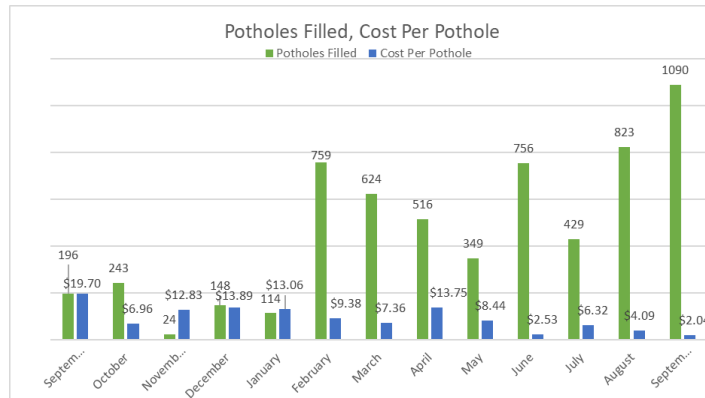
# Department of Public Works

## September 2024 Highlights

The Public Works Department is composed of eight divisions which include: Administration, Building & Grounds Maintenance, Collection & Drainage, Engineering, Roadway Maintenance, Solid Waste, Transit (Muscabus), and Vehicle Maintenance. For budgeting purposes several of these divisions are broken down into subdivisions. For the purpose of the monthly report there will be several divisions that will be reporting consistently, while others may only be reporting on special events or accomplishments.

### Roadway Maintenance Division

Roadway Maintenance includes activities related to street repairs, snow removal, traffic control, and street cleaning. They are responsible for over 254 lane miles of streets within the city limits.

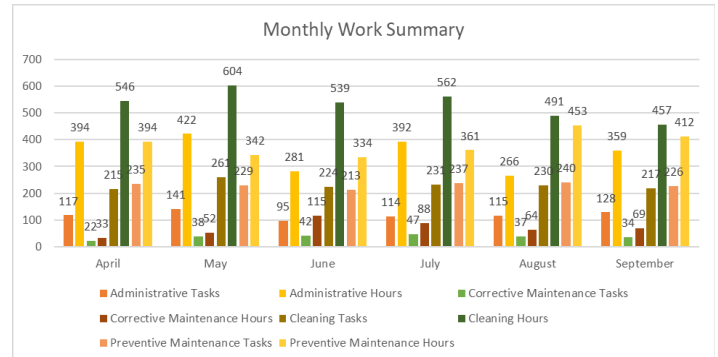


This measure indicates the number of potholes filled, and the approximate cost to fill each pothole. Beginning January 20, 2021, a "standard" pothole is defined as being the size of large pizza box. Potholes will be divided no smaller than one half of a pizza box. Beginning in April of 2022, we began tracking pavement repairs separately from potholes. This has lowered the pothole numbers as many of them were previously counted in larger pavement patches.

In addition to their normal duties, the Roadway Maintenance and Collection & Drainage Divisions of Public Works began flood fighting operations at the end of June. They closed flood gates 1 and 2 in according to our flood plan and set up multiple detours for road closures and July 4th events that were relocated from the riverfront onto Mississippi Drive.

### Building and Grounds Activities:

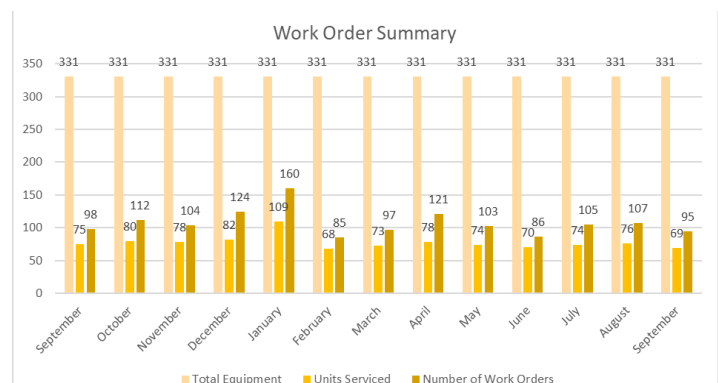
The Buildings and Grounds Division of the Public Works Department is responsible for the upkeep and repair of city facilities, grounds, and equipment. The division is responsible for maintaining the following facilities and grounds: Art Center, City Hall, Library, Public Safety Building, Public Works, South Fire Station, and certain maintenance functions at the Airport.



This chart indicates the number of work activities and the hours committed to them per month. Administrative tasks include ordering equipment and materials, requesting and receiving bids and quotes for work or supplies, project oversight, delivery of building supplies, training and paid time off. Corrective maintenance tasks are unscheduled repairs or work done on as-needed or emergency basis. Preventive maintenance tasks include routine, scheduled maintenance items. Cleaning includes building cleaning and janitorial services. This chart is being capped at six month intervals so that the numbers are legible.

### Vehicle Maintenance Division:

The Vehicle Maintenance Division services and repairs approximately 331 pieces of equipment and vehicles from all city departments with the exception of the fire trucks and ambulances.

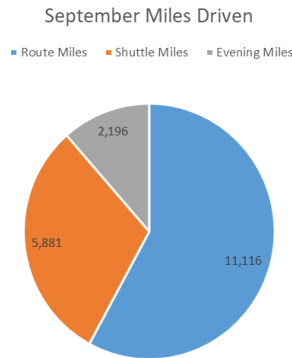




# Department of Public Works

## Transit Summary of Operations:

MuscaBus is the city's transit service. It operates four fixed routes, shuttle service, and evening service.

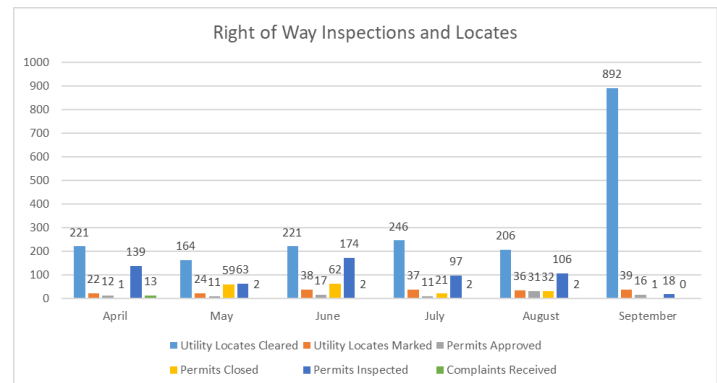
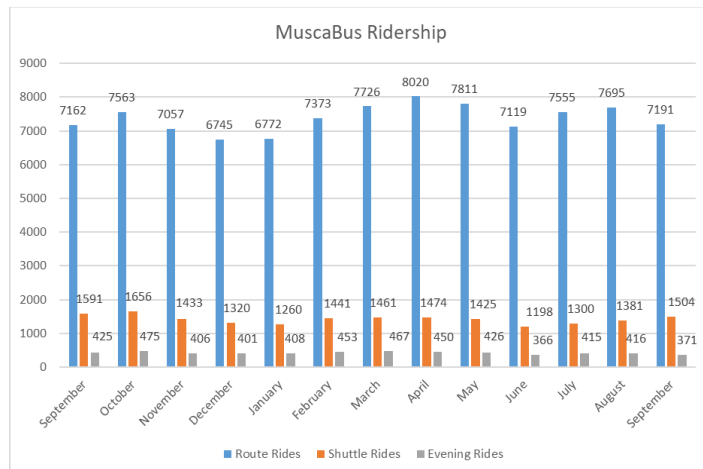


## Engineering Division:

The following table describes current and proposed construction projects and their status:

Project Name	Project Start	Percent Complete	Project Notes
West Hill Sewer Separation Phase 6 A&B	July 2023	64%	Sanitary Sewer and water line Installation on Sycamore & Cedar
West Hill Sewer Separation Phase 6 C	May 2024	29%	Sanitary Sewer installation on 11th Street & Iowa
Fulliam Ave Phase 2	June 2024	100%	Project Complete

The following chart describes the monthly activities of the Right of Way Inspector:



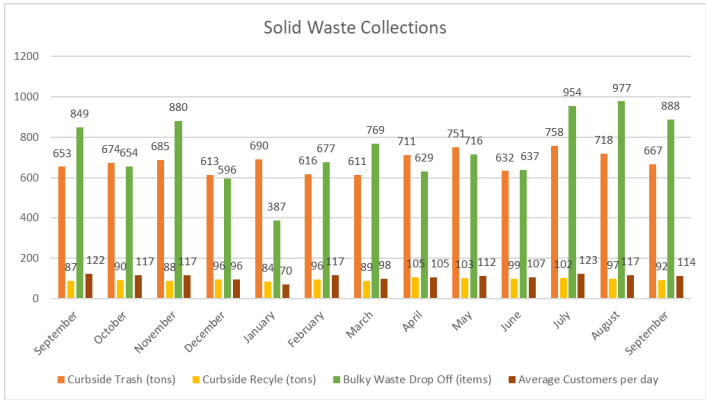
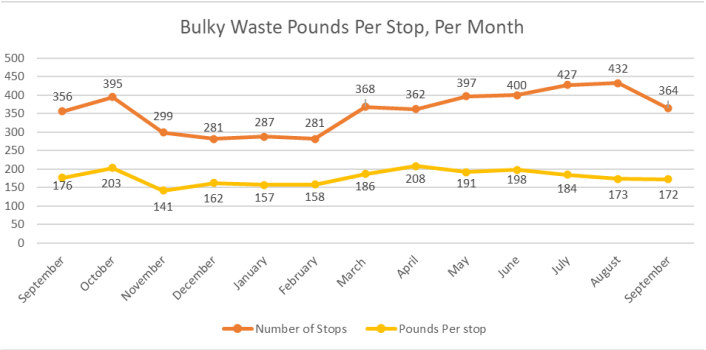
This chart is being capped at six month intervals so that the numbers are legible.

- "Utility Locates Cleared" indicates the areas that have no utilities to be marked
- "Utility Locates Marked" are instances where the inspector marked utilities in the field
- "Permits Approved" are Right of Way Permits that were reviewed, approved, and issued
- "Permits Closed" are Right of Way Permits where the work has been completed
- "Permits Inspected" are Right of Way Permits where inspections have been made and recorded
- "Complaints Received" are complaints from residents or businesses that have been inspected

# Department of Public Works

## Solid Waste Division Report:

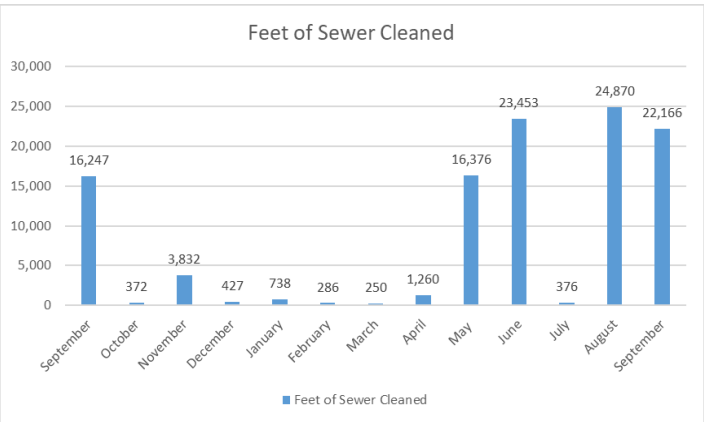
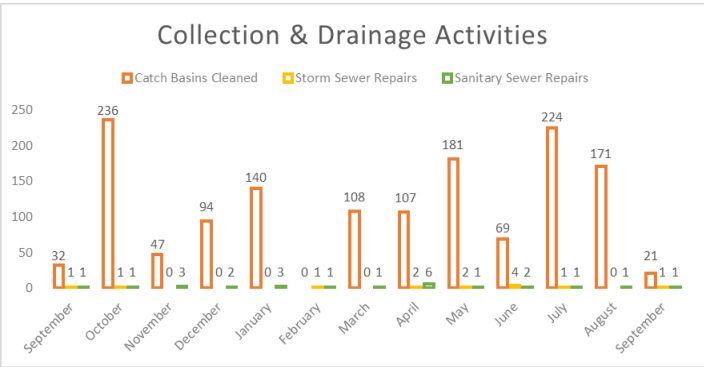
The Solid Waste Division consists of activities related to refuse collection, transfer station, compost site, and landfill, as well as overseeing the contracted recycling collection.



This chart shows the amount of solid waste collected curbside (in tons) as well as the amount of material dropped off at the Transfer Station (per item). Dropped off items include: electronics, appliances, tires, household hazardous waste and recyclables. Also included is the average number of customers per day at the Transfer Station.

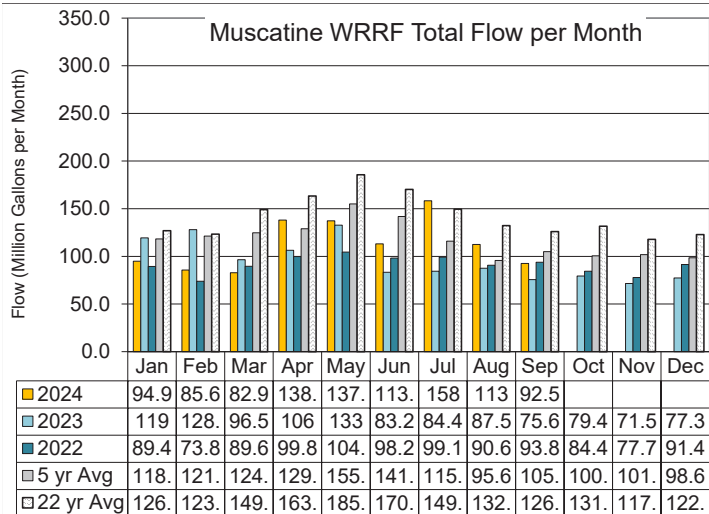
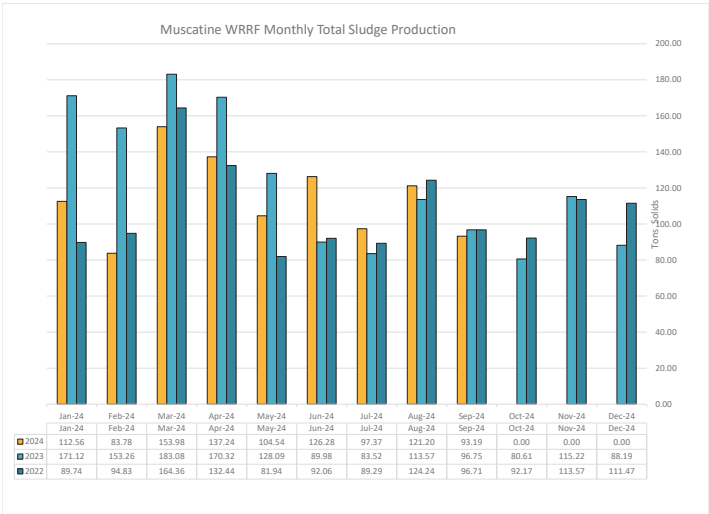
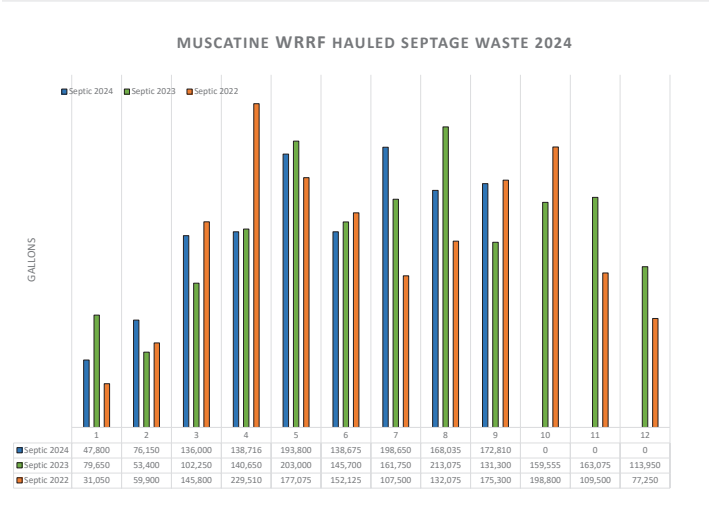
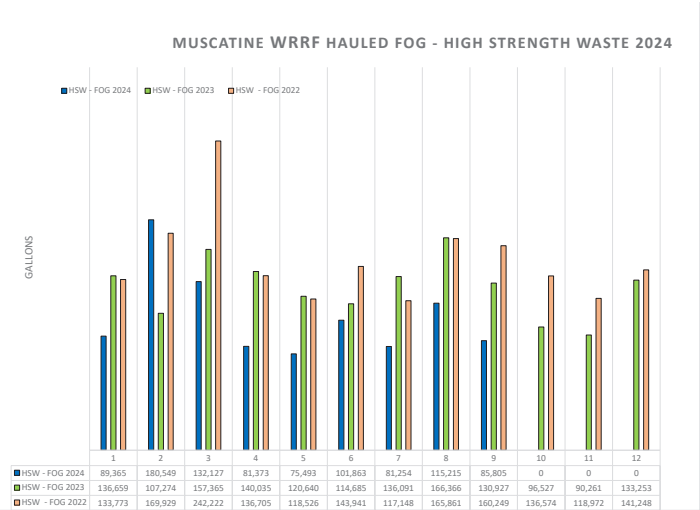
## Collection & Drainage Division:

The Collection & Drainage Division is responsible for inspecting and maintaining the city's sanitary, storm, and combined sewer systems. This includes 993 storm water manholes, 2,407 sanitary sewer manholes, 151 combined sewer manholes, 2,840 stormwater catch basins, 112 miles of sanitary sewer and 68 miles of storm sewer pipe.





Water Pollution Control Plant



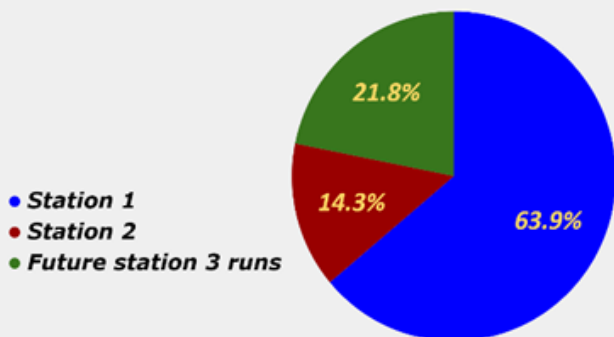
# Public Safety / Muscatine Fire Department

## September 2024 Highlights

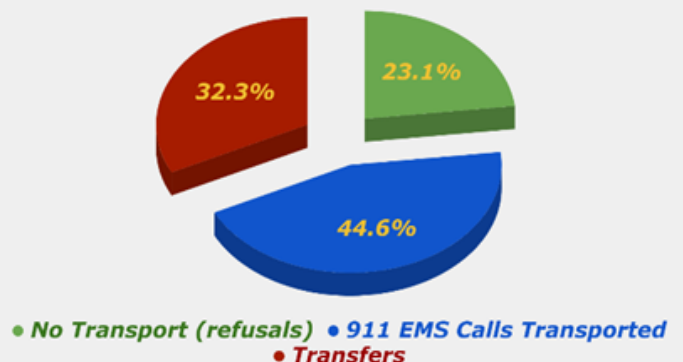
- Moment of Silence for 9/11 was held on September 11th at the PSB memorial site.
- The Public Safety 911 stair climb was held at the high school on September 11th.
- Moment of Silence ceremony was held on September 14th at the PSB memorial site for observing the Line of Duty Death (LODD) of Firefighter Mike Kruse.
- 1st Annual Muscatine Fire Explorers Pancake Breakfast was held at the Walnut Park Baptist Church.
- MDA Boot Drive (Fill the Boot) was held the week of September 16th.
- Conducted a large live burn for the recruit academy firefighters on September 27th.
- Recruit Academy graduation on September 27th.



**Calls per Coverage Area - September 2024**



**EMS Call Types - September 2024**



# Public Safety / Muscatine Fire Department

## Demand for Services / Response Activity

	Avg. Per Day	September 2024	Year To Date
<b>Fire Responses</b>	<b>2.37</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>575</b>
<b>911 EMS Responses</b>	<b>8.70</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>2,557</b>
<b>Out of Town Transfers</b>	<b>3.37</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>877</b>
<b>Local Transfers</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>14.83</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>4,137</b>
		September 2024	Year To Date
Urban Response Time - Goal - 90% within 9 min or less		<b>92.4%</b>	<b>91.6%</b>
Rural Response Time - Goal - 90% within 15 min or less		<b>94.7%</b>	<b>96.2%</b>

## Staff Training

Type	September 2024	Year To Date
Facilities Training/use (ISO T-1)	242	736
Company Training (ISO T-2)	59	1,337
Officer Training (ISO T-3)	1	487
New Driving Training (T-4)	5	393
Existing Driver Op (T-5)	14	137
HazMat Training (ISO T-6)	0	86
Recruit /Probationary	1,224	2,369
Building Tours (ISO T-8)	37	266
EMS / Medical Related	69	1,412
Paramedic Program	256	1,646
Investigator Training	34	184
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,940</b>	<b>9,052</b>

## Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance

	September 2024	Year To Date
Fire Vehicle Miles Driven	4,758	26,484
Ambulance Miles Driven	10,278	93,276
<b>Total Miles Driven</b>	<b>15,036</b>	<b>119,760</b>
Gallons of Diesel	445	4,010
Gallons of Gasoline	1,606	13,090
<b>Total Gallons of Fuel</b>	<b>2,051</b>	<b>17,100</b>
Work Orders Completed	44	393

## Prevention, Education and Outreach

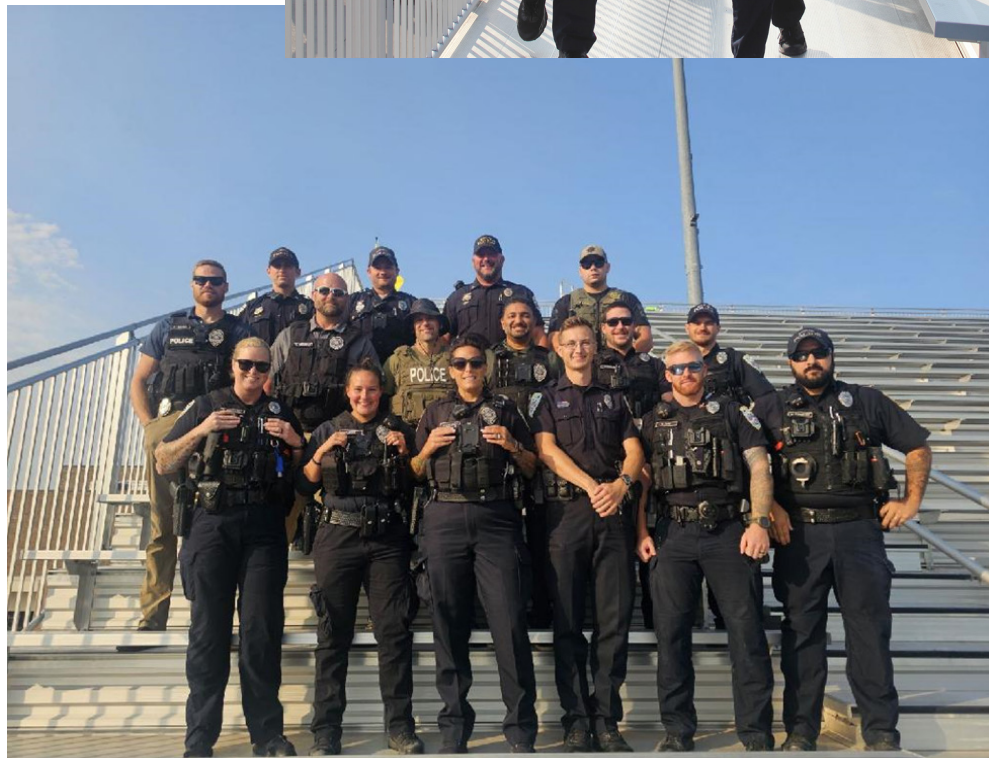
	September 2024	YTD		September 2024	YTD
<b>Fire Inspections</b>	15	180	<b>Plan Reviews/Site Visits</b>	18	201
<b>Fire Reinspections</b>	7	97	<b>Fire Investigations</b>	3	33
<b>Educational Events</b>	4	42	<b>Permits Issued</b>	43	877



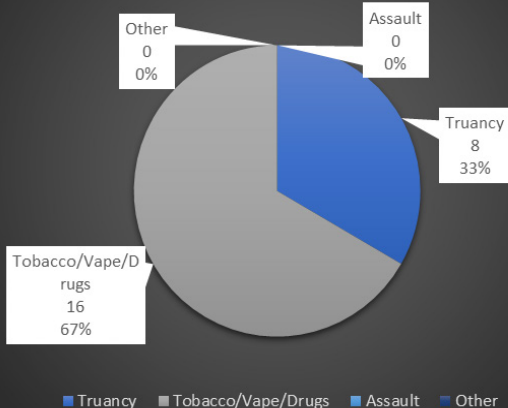
# Public Safety / Muscatine Police Department

## September 2024 Updates

- Chief Kies recited the oath of office as the Interim City Administrator.
- The Department completed Emergency Vehicle Operation Course training.
- Members of the Muscatine Police Department joined our brothers and sisters of the Muscatine Fire Department to honor lives lost in the 9/11 attacks by participating in a memorial stair climb.
- Lt. O'Connor and SRO Pena joined forces with Muscatine Fire and Muscatine Sheriff's Department to play in the annual First Responders vs. Special Olympics Softball game at Tom Bruner Field.
- Sgt. Bryant and Officer Staley represented the department at the First Responder Career Expo at the
- The department finished up annual CALEA accreditation.
- Animal Control Officer Courtney Patel with assistance from the Patrol Division was able to rescue 20 dogs from an unhealthy home environment.



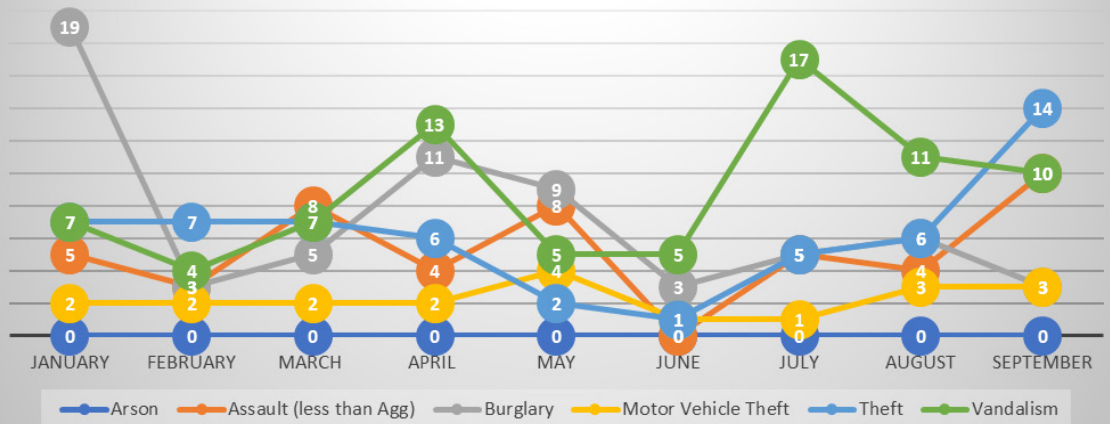
School Resource Officers  
September Offences



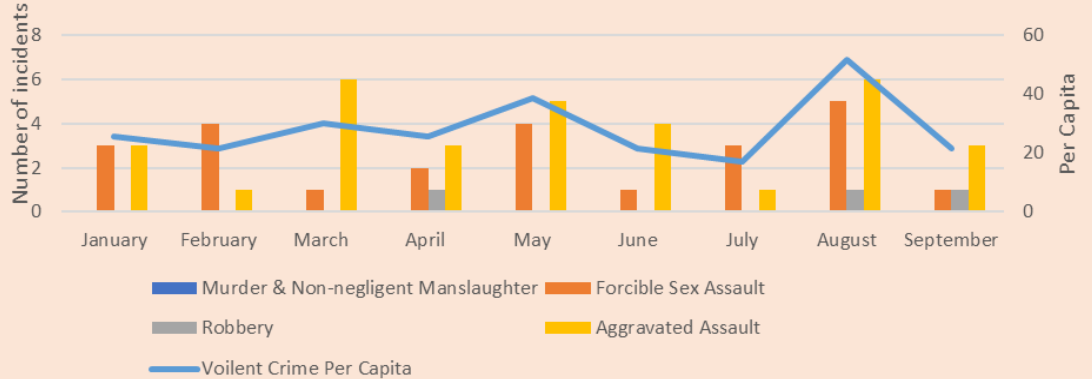
# Public Safety / Muscatine Police Department



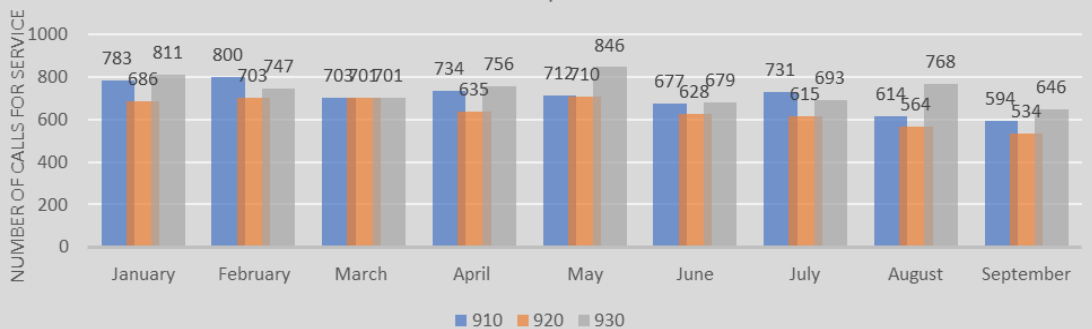
## Street Crimes 2024



## Violent Crime 2024

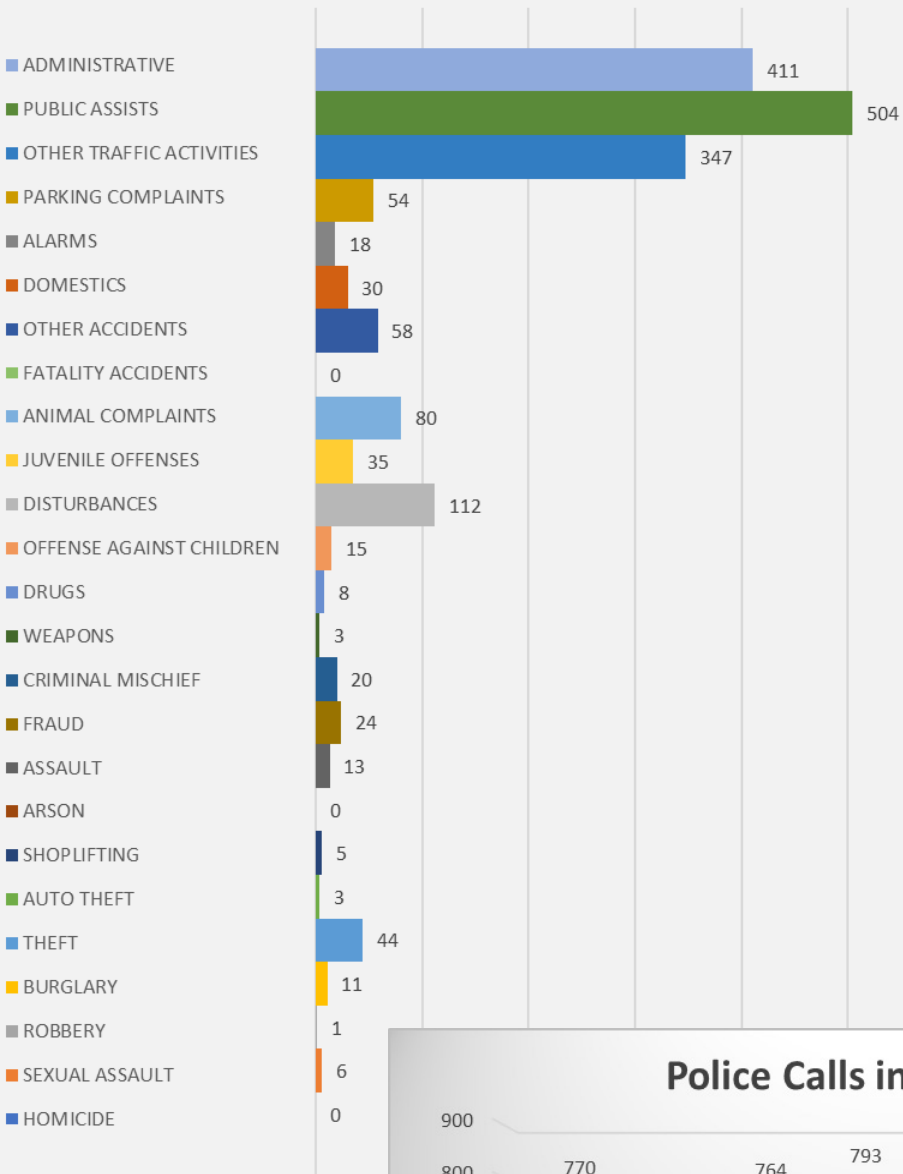


## Police Services per Beat 2024

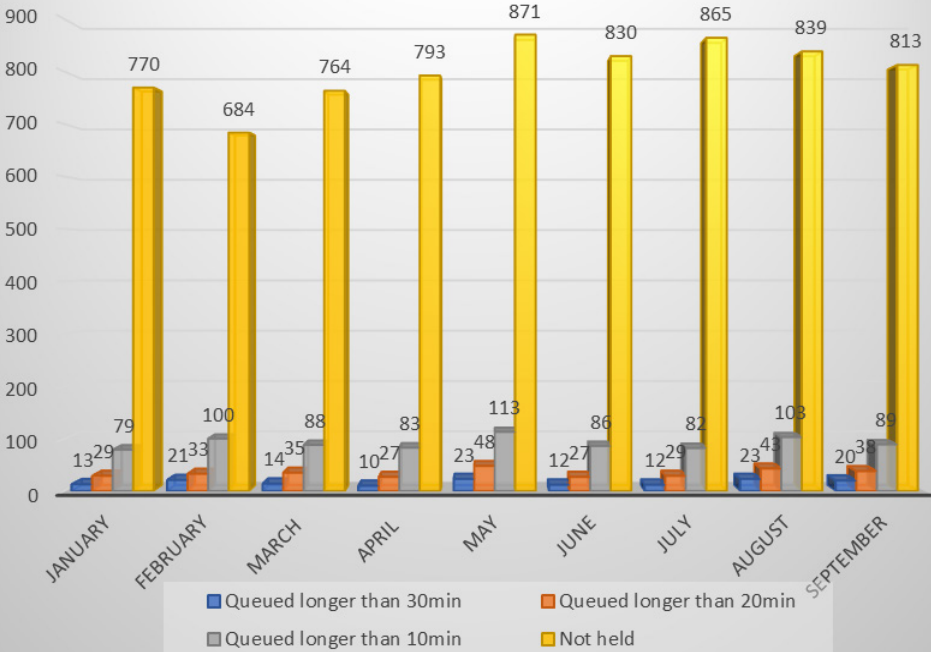


September 2024 REPORT OF DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

Muscatine PD Calls for Service-September 2024



Police Calls in Queue 2024







# Musser Public Library

## THE STORY OF SEPTEMBER 2024

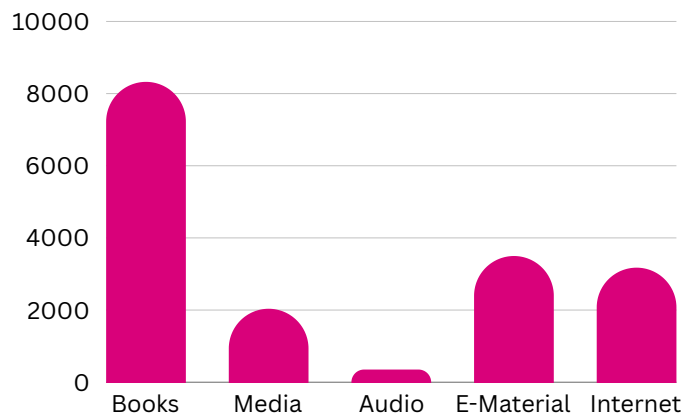
PEOPLE LOVE WHAT WE DO AND WE LOVE SHARING THAT WITH YOU!

Our Reference Team does so much. We work on everything from history to technology. We do our best to come up with the correct information for every question that comes our way.

We also have specialty things that we do. Everyone on the team is a notary, so when the library is open, you can have something notarized for free. We also do some programming, including our popular trivia series and the Voices of the Past!

- Reference Staff

We had so many items checked out this month. What's your favorite thing at the Library?



PEOPLE ASKED US A LOT OF QUESTIONS.



WE ANSWERED 330 QUESTIONS THIS MONTH.

WE HAVE A TOTAL OF 19,331 PATRONS THAT WE SERVE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

WE GREETED 9,904 PEOPLE THIS MONTH.

763 OF THEM USED OUR MEETING ROOMS AS GATHERING SPACES.



x 867

PEOPLE CAME TO OUR PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES. WE HAD 28 PROGRAMS THIS MONTH!

AND WATCHED US ON TV.

53 new shows debuted  
451 different shows aired  
694 total programs  
470 hours of programming  
average program length: 40 minutes



PEOPLE VISITED US ONLINE, TOO.

OUR DATABASES WERE USED 8,642 TIMES.

WE HAD 7,406 VISITS TO OUR WEBSITE.

Have trouble making it in to the Library?

We offer a home delivery service for patrons that are physically unable to visit the Library. This year, we have made 49 visits to patrons and delivered 465 materials.

Call us to find out more about this service!

PHONE: (563) 263-3065  
WWW.MUSSERPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG

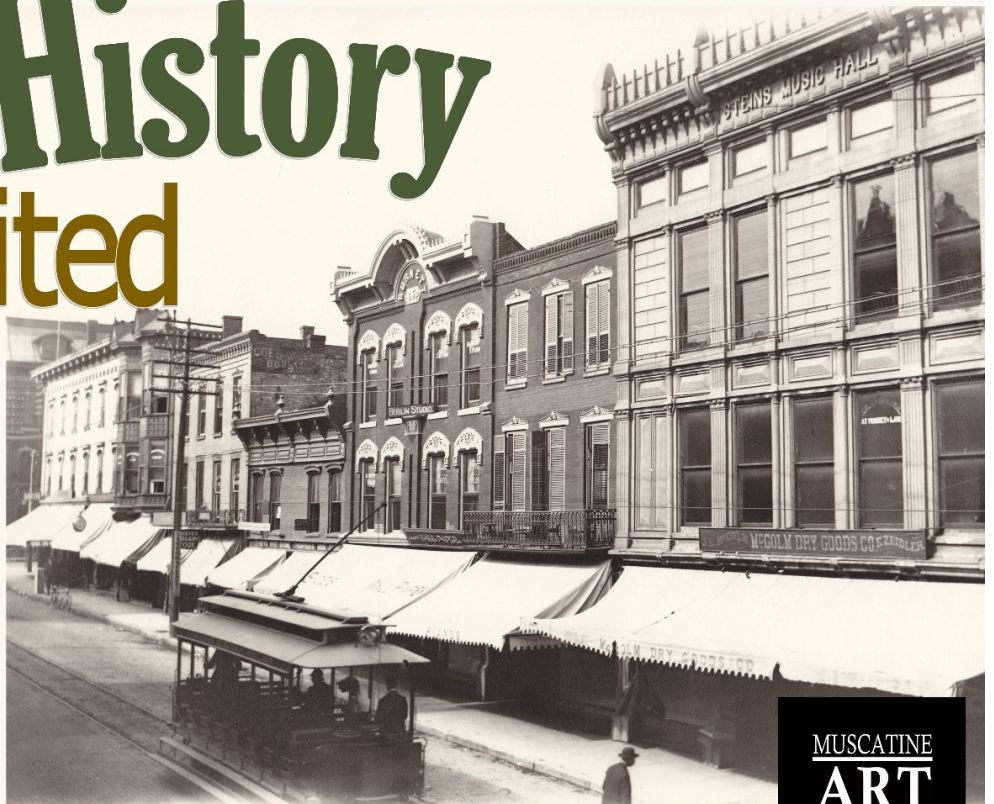
## **From the Muscatine Art Center**

For a complete list of exhibitions, classes, programs, and projects at the Muscatine Art Center, request a copy of the quarterly newsletter or subscribe to the monthly e-newsletter by contacting [art@muscatineiowa.gov](mailto:art@muscatineiowa.gov).

### **EXHIBITION**

# Muscatine History Revisited

Featuring the permanent collection  
of the Muscatine Art Center



MUSCATINE  
**ART**  
CENTER

On View October 19, 2024 - August 24, 2025



## Ida Block's Fashion Paintings & Drawings and the Block Sister's Fashion Accessories

Muscatine artist Ida Block created many images of women in the style of the 'Gibson Girl' - a look inspired by the illustrations of Charles Dana Gibson.

*through October 27, 2024*

# Faith, FLORA & Flair



*exploring a painter's sojourn*

**Paintings by Jim Elias**

**Sept 19 – Dec 29, 2024**  
Muscatine Art Center

**ARTIST'S RECEPTION**  
**SUNDAY, SEPT 22**  
**1:30-3PM**





## UPCOMING CLASSES and ACTIVITIES

### *Free For Kids*

Introduce your children (ages 2 to 7) to the world of art with free art classes. Each class consists of a story and two art projects! Classes meet most **Wednesdays from 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. and Thursdays from 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.** Classes are **FREE!** Call 563-263-8282 to register. The theme for October is "Fall into Autumn", and the theme for November is "It's a Process!"

**ARTIST WORKSHOP FOR KIDS with Miss Julie**  
(Ages 7-14)



Faith Ringgold was an American painter, author, mixed media sculptor, performance artist, and activist, perhaps best known for her narrative quilts. She was the author of 17 children's books, including 'Tar Beach' based on her quilt story by the same name.

**Celebrate Faith's artistic legacy by creating a story project of your own.**

**Saturday, October 19, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.**  
**FREE**  
**Register by October 18**

Muscatine Art Center 1314 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA 52761 [muscatineartcenter.org](http://muscatineartcenter.org)  
563-263-8282



**CLAY GNOMES WITH MISS HEATHER**  
Ages 9+  
Free

**REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 1**

**Learn how to create silly gnomes using a variety of clay techniques!**  
**No experience necessary.**



**Two-part class:**  
**Create:**  
**November 2, 1:30-3:00 p.m.**  
**Paint:**  
**November 16, 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

MUSCATINE ART CENTER  
1314 MULBERRY AVENUE  
MUSCATINE, IA 52761  
[MUSCATINEARTCENTER.ORG](http://MUSCATINEARTCENTER.ORG)  
563-263-8282



A vibrant purple poster for a 'Day of the Dead Family Celebration'. The central graphic features a white sugar skull with colorful floral patterns, surrounded by a wreath of pink, yellow, and purple flowers. The text 'Day of the Dead' is arched above the skull, and 'Family Celebration' is arched below it. To the left, 'Saturday, October 26' is written in red, and to the right, 'Free Admission' is written in blue. Below the central graphic, the time '1:30 - 3:30 p.m.' is displayed in yellow. A paragraph of white text describes the event, followed by 'No registration required.' in bold white text. The Muscatine Art Center logo is in the bottom left, and contact information is at the bottom right. The poster is decorated with colorful floral and skull motifs in the corners.

**Day of the Dead**

**Saturday, October 26**

**Free Admission**

**Family Celebration**

**1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**

Spend the afternoon at the Muscatine Art Center to commemorate Dia de los Muertos or, Day of the Dead, the Mexican holiday where families come together to honor their loved ones who have passed. Drop in between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. for Dia de los Muertos crafts and activities to celebrate the holiday.

**No registration required.**

**MUSCATINE ART CENTER**

Muscatine Art Center 1314 Mulberry Avenue Muscatine, IA 52761  
[muscatineartcenter.org](http://muscatineartcenter.org) 563-263-8282



# TRICK OR TREAT!

at The Muscatine Art Center

OCTOBER 31, 4:30 – 6:00 P.M.

Celebrate the end of spooky season by stopping by the Muscatine Art Center on your trick-or-treating route on Halloween night. Miss Katy will be on the front porch of the historic Musser-McColm mansion and will have Halloween Take & Makes (while supplies last), some treats, and maybe some tricks!

**Registration not required.**

MUSCATINE  
**ART**  
CENTER

Muscatine Art Center  
1314 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA 52761  
[muscatineartcenter.org](http://muscatineartcenter.org)  
563-263-8282



Happy  
Halloween



## *For Adults*

# ADULT STUDIO CLASS Weaving Workshop WITH HEATHER SEIBEL

Dive into the fun world of weaving while creating unique wall hangings in this four part studio class. We will cover weaving basics such as warping a loom, and graduate to more advance techniques.

Beginner and experienced weavers welcome!

**Thursdays, 5:15 – 6:45 p.m.**

Session 1: October 17

Session 2: October 24

Session 3: November 14

Session 4: November 21

Register  
by  
October 16

MUSCATINE  
**ART**  
CENTER

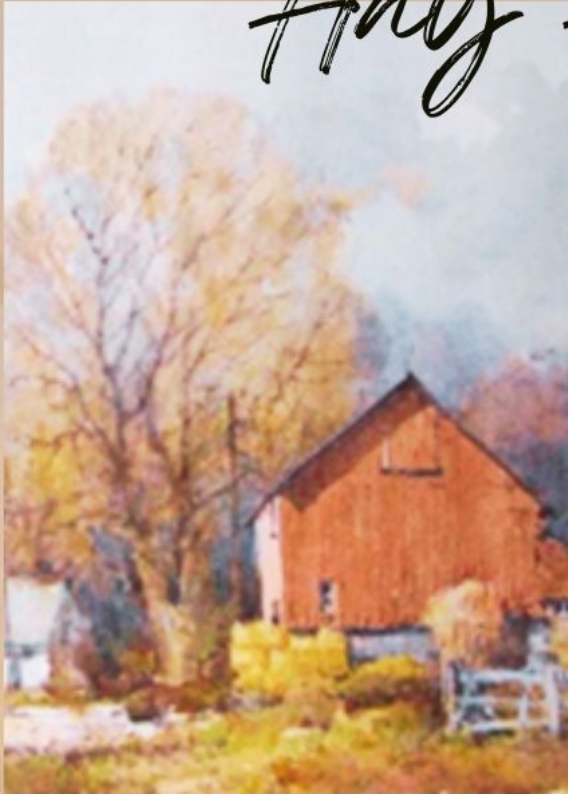
Muscatine Art Center  
1314 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA 52761  
[muscatineartcenter.org](http://muscatineartcenter.org)  
563-263-8282

\$50  
total

# RED BARN STUDIO

## *Hay Harvest*

MUSCATINE  
**ART**  
CENTER



Artist Vada Baker leads this class where participants use watercolors to create a scenic barn as the season changes. All supplies included. No experience necessary.

**Sunday, October 20**

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

\$15/\$13.50 for

Friends members

Register by October 18

Muscatine Art Center  
1314 Mulberry Avenue  
Muscatine, IA 52761  
[muscatineartcenter.org](http://muscatineartcenter.org)  
563-263-8282



SAVE THE DATE



NOVEMBER 15  
THE MERRILL HOTEL  
BALLROOM  
11:30AM - 1:00PM



Lunch Buffet  
& Dessert

Silent  
Auction

Live Music

Proceeds  
benefit the  
Muscatine  
Cultural  
Alliance  
and its  
member  
organizations.

# Cultural Alliance Celebration

## Volunteer Recognition & Fundraiser

Opening Remarks by **Mayor Brad Bark**

Keynote Address by **Chuck Swanson**, former Director of Hancher Auditorium

with **Keith Porter**, President of the Stanley Center for Peace & Security, as **Master of Ceremonies**

Presentation of the 2024 **Shirley Jean Drake Great Initiative Award**

A **Celebration** of the 2023-24 accomplishments of the Muscatine area cultural organizations  
and a preview of the **2025 projects, events, and milestones**



Gather with your friends and neighbors to support the important work of organizations that make up the Muscatine Cultural Alliance.

*Friends of Fairport Fish Hatchery, Friends of Musser Public Library, Friends of the Old Barn, Friends of the Old Stone Church, Friends of the Pine Creek Grist Mill, Jackson Concert Series, Muscatine Art Center & Friends of the Muscatine Art Center, Muscatine Civic Chorale, Muscatine County Arts Council, Muscatine County Conservation, Muscatine Public Art Advisory Commission, Muscatine History & Industry Center/National Pearl Button Museum, Muscatine Symphony Orchestra, Pearl City Players.*



# Jim Burr

## Muscatine History Collection



on view 2nd floor historic house