



FEBRUARY 2026

Community Connection

CITY OF WATERLOO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

LOOKING AHEAD

- Feb 21:** Trivia Night
7pm at Waterloo Sportsmans Club
- Mar 7:** Explore Waterloo: It's Your Lucky Day!
Participating Merchants & Restaurants
- Mar 14:** "The Lewis & Clark Trail in Monroe Co."
1:30pm at Monroe Co. History Museum
- Mar 14:** WCP's St. Paddy's Day 5k Walk/Run
8am at Courthouse Square
- Mar 19:** Waterloo Chamber of Commerce
America 250 Stars & Stripes Social
6pm at Annbriar Golf Course
- Mar 21:** Taste of the Region
6pm at Gibault Catholic High School
- Mar 22:** Ham Shoot & Meat Raffle
Noon at Waterloo Sportsmans Club

For more details, visit the city's website or scan the QR code:
www.waterloo.il.us/our-community/community-calendar



Large Item Pickup Reminder

March 2nd and 5th are the next large item pickup days. Please refer to the map on our website to find out the date for your area.

2026 Event Calendar

Find out where all the fun will be this year with our annual calendar of events! You can download it from our website at waterloo.il.us/community-calendar or you can pick up a copy at City Hall. You can also view our online community calendar anytime for more details and the most up-to-date information. There's always new events being added!



HOMETOWN HERO BANNER PROGRAM



The time has come to renew the banners for the Hometown Hero Banner Program.

For the 2026-2027 Hometown Hero Banner Program, banners can be purchased by veterans or their families and will feature the service member's name, rank, photo and branch of service. The applicant or the service member must be a Waterloo resident, or an active member of the local VFW or American Legion. Banners will be displayed for 2 years, after which they will be returned to the applicant.

For more information, including cost of the program and how to apply, visit www.waterloo.il.us/hometownheroes or stop by City Hall. As we only have 190 spaces available, these will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. The deadline for the 2026-2027 program is March 20, 2026.

Participants of the 2024-2025 Program will be notified by email when your banners are ready for pickup at City Hall (shortly after new banners are hung).

2026 IMUA SCHOLARSHIP



The City of Waterloo, in partnership with the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association (IMUA), is again offering a scholarship competition program for eligible high school seniors. Each eligible applicant is asked to submit an application and an essay of 500 words or less addressing their choice of one of three utility-related questions. Four finalists will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Applicants must be high school seniors whose parents or legal guardians are residential customers of the City of Waterloo municipal utility. The deadline for submitting applications and essays is **Friday, March 13, 2026**. Applications are available online at <https://www.waterloo.il.us/2026-imua-scholarship/> or contact IMUA's DeeDee Bunch at dbunch@imea.org for more information.

CELEBRATE AMERICA 250 IN WATERLOO

Save the Date & Call for Parade Entries

The City of Waterloo has begun planning for Celebrate America 250, a community celebration on **July 4, 2026**, honoring the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. While plans are still in the early stages, the event will feature a patriotic morning parade and community festivities designed to bring neighbors together in celebration of our nation's history and future.

Community organizations, businesses, schools, and civic groups are invited to participate in the parade, and parade entries are now being accepted. To register, scan the QR code or visit www.waterloo.il.us/calendar/celebrate-america-250-parade-and-festival/

Additional event details will be announced as planning continues!



STAY CONNECTED.



www.waterloo.il.us



Contact Mayor Darter:
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