

Village of Jerome  
2901 Leonard Street  
Jerome, IL 62704

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Spring 2024

# VILLAGE OF JEROME

ESTABLISHED 1939

Spring 2024

## VILLAGE OF JEROME CONTACT INFORMATION

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*Village Clerk*  
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Municipal Building  
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Water Department  
217-546-2203  
waterclerk@villageofjerome.com

Police Department  
Emergency 911  
Non-Emergency 217-753-6666  
Administrative 217-546-5954  
pdchief@villageofjerome.com

Public Works Department  
217-546-9647  
publicworks@villageofjerome.com

Website: [www.villageofjerome.com](http://www.villageofjerome.com)

### EASTER EGG HUNT

The annual Easter Egg Hunt event will be held a little earlier this year on Sunday, March 24, 2024, from 1-3 PM in the Village Park. The egg hunt is open for ages up to 12 years old and will include snacks, candy, and activities in the park. Bring your baskets and let's hope March goes out like a lamb! Donations of candy, novelties and candy bags or baskets are needed and can be dropped off at the Municipal Building during business hours. We want to once again thank Village residents, local businesses and members of Jerome Methodist Church for their generous donations and their time to make the event a success for the past two years.



### VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALE

The 2024 Village Wide Garage Sales will be held on Friday, June 7th from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday, June 8th from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. The Village of Jerome will advertise the event. The Village will not pick up any of the leftovers from the garage sales and residents



will need to move them after the sales hours and dispose of them. There will not be a village supported garage and yard sale this Fall 2024. Residents may hold their own garage sale at any time.



### LIBRARY

We are looking for volunteers that can staff the library for 2 hours a week or a couple times a month. This will help so we can set our days and hours of operation and start scheduling activities. We are also looking for evening hours during late spring and summer from 6-8 PM when families and kids are out after dinner in the summer. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Trustee Kathy DeHart at [trusteedehart@villageofjerome.com](mailto:trusteedehart@villageofjerome.com) or 217-415-1132 and leave a message. Hours of Operation will be posted on the village website and on Jerome IL Neighbors on Facebook.

### SANGAMON ALERT MESSAGING SYSTEM (SAM)

Sangamon Alert Messaging System or SAM sends alerts to your mobile device or your landline via text message, phone call, or email if an emergency is happening in your neighborhood. Sign up to receive emergency alerts from your local Office of Emergency Management. Texting; SAM to 99411, will take you directly to the SAM Community Notification Enrollment form. Features & Benefits Sangamon Alert Messaging (SAM) will allow County officials to be able to communicate time-sensitive messages using the SAM's robust dialing infrastructure more effectively that is entirely managed by its parent company, OnSolve. This access will allow calls to be delivered seconds after public safety officials launch a message. Also, the County can better target notifications geographically, only notifying community members impacted by an alert. Personal Contact Information Contact information accessed through Sangamon Alert Messaging (SAM) will only be used by Public Safety Officials for emergency notification purposes your information will not be shared or sold. If you do not have a cell phone or a computer and would like notices called directly to your home phone, call the Village of Jerome Office at 217-546-2203 and we will be happy to sign you up through the internet for you!



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Village of Jerome is a great community in which to live, work, and raise a family. Our top priority is ensuring an open, efficient, and responsive staff to serve our residents and guests. "Our residents are our number one customer." We are pro-business and place a great deal of emphasis on being a business-friendly partner. During the last year the Village HAS a number of businesses which located and operate in Jerome as: All About Wine, Oh-Icee, Moroleon Tropical Restaurant, and Valvoline Instant Oil Change, Sonics, Penny Lane and The Gryos Stop just to name a few. These businesses generate local jobs and revenue for the Village. We encourage you to patronize these fine businesses. During the past few months, the former Shop-N-Save Location has been purchased by Neimann Foods. Neimann Foods indicated any development on this site is on hold now.

A proud tradition, dating back to the mid 1990's, is the Village of Jerome Parade in celebration of Independence Day each year. This parade is a family tradition that has been attended by many generations of families. In addition, Civic Events occur during the year including an Easter Egg Hunt in the spring, Halloween Party, Trick or Treat with the Police, a Toys For Tots Toy Collection Program held in December. As Village President I am extremely interested in your constructive input to make our Village the absolute best it can be. Moving forward collectively we will continue our path to success.

Michael Lopez, *Jerome Village President*

## JEROME MEMORIAL PARK & PLAYGROUND PARK ENTRY HOURS

8:00 am to dusk

The Village PARK AND PLAYGROUND remained open for the first time this past winter and will continue to be open daily from 8:00 a.m. to dusk weather permitting and subject to temporary closures for occasional maintenance and repairs.

## CIVIC CENTER

The Civic Center is available for rent. Please contact the Village Secretary at 217-546-2203 to see the facility, pick up a rental application with rules and regulations and pay fees.

## DO YOU HAVE A NON-WORKING VEHICLE

There have been complaints from residents about vehicles that are non-working or ones that have not moved in years including some with no current state license plate or valid registration stickers. Residents will be contacted about these vehicles that are in violation of village ordinances and how to remedy the situation.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Village of Jerome would like to welcome Dillon Branham and Corey Hillen as full time Jerome Police Officers. Dillon and Corey are both in the full time Academy and are scheduled to graduate in the next few months. We look forward to seeing them out protecting the Village residents.

## ILES AVE

The Village of Jerome has been working with Benton & Associates, Inc. to create a design plan for road improvements to Iles Avenue. These improvements will be in multiple phases as funding is secured. The first phase is funded through grant funds provided by the legislature totaling \$1,000,000. The first phase improvements will include the full removal and replacement of approximately 730 linear feet of road surface, beginning east of the existing box culvert and intersection of Iles Avenue and Chatham Road and continuing east past the intersection of Iles Avenue and South Welch Street. The existing road surface will be completely removed, and a new rock base and hot-mix asphalt pavement will be constructed in its place. Additional improvements will include storm sewer, inlets, concrete valley curb and gutter, partial driveway removal and replacement, and other necessary work along this section of Iles Avenue. These improvements will serve to make Iles Avenue more accessible, functional, and a pleasant driving experience for the residents and visitors of Jerome. Additional phases are being teed up for future grant applications and funding scenarios.

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Village of Jerome will be closed the following days in 2024:

May 27, 2024	October 14, 2024	November 29, 2024
June 19, 2024	November 5, 2024	December 24, 2024
July 4, 2024	November 11, 2024	December 31, 2024
September 2, 2024	November 28, 2024	

The Village of Jerome will also be closed on January 1, 2025.



## Community Services Block Grant

# RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Have you experienced a hardship or crisis that has threatened your once-stable household budget? We can help! Rental assistance is available up to \$800 for those who qualify.

### Requirements:

- ✓ Working 30+ hours per week or receiving Social Security income
- ✓ Proof of unavoidable hardship due to no fault of your own
- ✓ Rent is less than 50% of income
- ✓ Not more than one month delinquent in rent or proof of established repayment plan with landlord

\*Additional eligibility requirements. Approved applicants are required to participate in a Financial Literacy class.

### Our Mission:

The Sangamon County Department of Community Resources strives to improve the quality of life for people in-need in Sangamon County through department programs, services and referrals that promote economic stability and/or self-motivation.

### Contact Us:

- ☎ (217) 535-3120
- ✉ [csbg@sangamonil.gov](mailto:csbg@sangamonil.gov)
- 📍 2833 S. Grand Ave. East  
Suite C100  
Springfield, Illinois 62703



COMMUNITY  
RESOURCES



Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity



### NO PARKING IN YARDS

No parking is allowed in front yards or side yards except on a driveway. Trailers cannot be parked or stored in front of your house or on the street. No person shall keep, store, or park any boat, camping trailer, motor home, recreational vehicle, travel trailer, truck camper, or yard tractor

in the area between the front load-bearing wall of a residence and the front lot line of the property. These regulations are in Section 803.3-7 of the Village Code of Ordinances, which is posted on the Village website. Violation of this section of the ordinances is fined for each day of violation.

### GARBAGE CANS

There is a village ordinance that prohibits garbage cans being left in front of your residence. When trash is collected, the empty cans must be moved back to the house until the next pick-up day.



### RECREATIONAL FIRE PIT'S

Fire pit permit applications are available at the Village Office. Outdoor recreational fires are allowed between April 1st through November 30th with a proper permit. Prohibited: No household trash is to be burned in the fire pit and outdoor fires are not permitted to be started on the ground or in the driveway. Please call the Village office if you would like a permit for this year at 217-546-2203. No burning of yard waste. No leaves, no plants, no grass; only logs.

### VILLAGE WEBSITE

To keep up on what is happening in the Village please visit our website [villageofjerome.com](http://villageofjerome.com). Here you will find information about events, news, services, Board meeting agendas and minutes, and the Village Code of Ordinances.



### ADDRESS

The Chief of Police would like to remind you to have your house number visible from the street. There are quite a few of our residences that do not have any house number. Displaying your number is VITAL in an emergency situation. Please make every effort to ensure your house number is visible from the street.

### NEW JEROME TRUSTEE

Katrina Christofilakos was appointed to the Jerome Village Board in February of 2024. Katrina's family has been residents of the Village for many years, and she is a welcome addition to the Board. Katrina will be working with Trustee DeHart as the Public Health and Safety Trustee. Please welcome Trustee Christofilakos!

### VOLUNTEERS

If you have time to volunteer at special events or have suggestions for new activities, guest speakers, subjects of interest, please contact the Village office at 217-546-2203 and Trustee Kathy DeHart will contact you and maintain the information for future use.

### COMMERCIAL CONTRACTOR PERMITS

ALL BUSINESSES working in Jerome on residential or commercial properties need to register with the Village to obtain a contractor's permit. Before hiring anyone to work on your property be sure they have a contractor's permit. Contact the Jerome office at 217-546-2203 for more information. A list of registered contractors is available in the Village office.

### OBSTRUCTIONS

With warmer weather approaching it should be reminded that any basketball goals, hoops, or backboards cannot encroach within 15 feet of any street line. If you have a basketball hoop near the street it must be moved away from the street. The Village Ordinance restricts the use of these items within 15 feet of any street line, please ensure your entertainment uses are being used in accordance with the Ordinance.

### YARD CARE... MOW

Please remember it is a violation of the Village ordinances to allow your grass or weeds over six inches. Property that allows their weeds and grass to be overgrown will be subject to a fine. Please mow front, back and side yards weekly to help beautify the Village of Jerome.



### SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 2024

Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday March 24th, 2024 @ Village of Jerome Park | July 4th parade will be held on Thursday July 4, 2024 @ 9:00am. Event updates will be posted on the Village website, Jerome IL Neighbors Facebook, in the Village Board meeting minutes, water bills and on our portable sign board at the corner of Leonard and Reed. If you have suggestions for activities, guest speakers, subjects of interest, events and or have time to volunteer, please contact the Village office at 217-546-2203 and Trustee Kathy DeHart will maintain the information for future use. Donations needed of Easter candy, novelties, and Easter egg bags or baskets.

### LIMB PICKUP

Limb pickup will take place the week of May 6th, 2024, August 12, 2024, and November 4, 2024, as the tentative dates depending on budget constraints. All limb piles must be placed along the street edge BEFORE 7:00am the morning of those above dates. Any piles placed after 7:00am on the above dates WILL NOT be picked up. Piles must not be placed out any earlier than 1 WEEK prior to pick up dates. (per Ordinance) Size of pile restrictions are

still in place per Ordinance. Any piles larger than 6ft wide x 4ft tall x 8ft long are considered oversize and will require a \$75.00 fee to be paid before pickup will occur. Residents who either have "Oversized" piles, or were late setting piles out will be notified via a letter stating why their pile was not removed, and any fees owed, and where to pay fees. Any questions can be directed to Public Works Supervisor David Wilken directly at 217-546-9647.

### VILLAGE OF JEROME WATER CUSTOMERS HAVE NEW WAYS TO PAY WATER BILL

Jerome Water Customers will be able to pay their water bills through three different methods, and for the first time, use a credit/debit card to do so. The first method is through a new website, where payments are on-line and allow the payment by credit card or e-check (customer's checking account) To pay your water bill on-line, a Water Customer will access the payment website through the following link: <https://magic.collectorsolutions.com/magic-ui/en-US/Login/village-of-jerome>.



Water Customers can set up their own account to pay their bill or use the one-time payment option. The second method is for a Water Customer, who does not have an account number with a letter in it, to pay their bill through the phone. Water customers can call (217) 319-2199 to access the phone payment system. Again, if your account number has a letter in it, you will not be able to access and pay by phone. Third is the current method of mailing payment or dropping payment off at the Village office. However, if you come into the office during business hours, you can pay your Water bill using a credit/debit card. For any one of these processes, if the Water Customer uses a credit/debit card, there will be a fee of 2.25% of your bill or minimum fee of \$1.00, whichever is greater. On a bill of \$100.00 for example the fee will be \$2.25. If the resident chooses to pay their bill by e-check (using your bank account information), the cost will be \$.50 per transaction. In addition, we will be collecting the e-mail addresses of our Water Customers so that we can begin to send your monthly bill via e-mail rather than regular mail. If you would like to get your bill by e-mail, please complete the form that is on the Village of Jerome website. A copy of the form is also being sent to Water Customers via mail with this information attached. We hope this will assist all residents in paying their Water bills through these new resources. If you have any questions, please contact the Water Department at 217-546-2203 between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm.



### PETS

Let us remember there is a Village Ordinance that requires you to put your pets on a leash when walking your pets off your premises. Whether you are walking down the street or playing in your front yard with your pet, it is imperative that you have control of your animal. There are people that walk on our roadway that are afraid of animals. All animals must be contained. Please be respectful and courteous to others. DO NOT let your cats or dogs run loose. This is your responsibility! Violations of the ordinance could result in a fine by our Village of Jerome Police Department.



**DO NOT let your dog out unattended to relieve themselves in your neighbors' yard. Pick up your dog's droppings. If not picked up, you could be faced with a fine by our Village of Jerome Police Department.**

## LARGE ITEM PICK UPS

Sangamon County has announced the start of the Large Item Pick-up Program, catering exclusively to residents living outside the City of Springfield Corporate Limits. Beginning October 2nd, the new program allows eligible residents to schedule pick-up or drop-off of large items not typically accommodated by regular waste management services. The Sangamon County Board unanimously approved the partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County at its September Board meeting.



All eligible residents qualify for free scheduled residential curbside pick-up of up to six items per calendar year. Pick-ups can be divided into two transactions.

Eligible items include furniture, appliances, mattresses, and other bulky household objects. Restricted items include hazardous materials, tires, TVs, and other electronic goods. A complete list of eligible and restricted items can be found at [SangamonIL.Gov/Habitat](http://SangamonIL.Gov/Habitat).

Upon scheduling a pick-up, residents will receive detailed instructions and guidelines for preparing their items for collection. The program prioritizes environmentally friendly disposal methods, including recycling, re-purposing, or appropriate disposal at designated facilities, in alignment with Sangamon County's commitment to sustainable waste management practices.

Residents must schedule pick-ups and drop-offs in advance by contacting Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County at 217-523-2710, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. or by scheduling service online at [habitatsangamon.vonigo.com/external/](http://habitatsangamon.vonigo.com/external/).



## COPS CORNER

The Jerome Police Department would like to remind residents with the change in daylight savings time, as a motorist please be aware of pedestrians. The weather is changing and there will be more pedestrians walking in the Village and motorists should take extra precautions. Personal Safety Tips While anyone of any age can be victimized, children, women, seniors and persons with disabilities are usually more targeted. These guidelines will help you to protect yourself and your family in reducing crime and maintaining a more secure and safer environment.

- If you live alone, use only first initials with surname on mail boxes, directories etc.
- Never open your door to a stranger who does not show proper identification.
- Arrange a system so that someone has a key to your home and is aware of your whereabouts at all times especially if you live alone.
- Don't display large amounts of money in public nor keep it in the home.
- Don't leave keys hidden in obvious places.
- Walk on well lit streets near the curb and away from alleys, particularly, if you must walk alone at night.
- When in public, always beware of your surroundings. Be mindful of persons loitering or acting suspiciously.
- If you suspect you are being followed, go to the nearest well lit place or populated area, and yell if necessary to attract attention.
- Don't hitch-hike or pick up hitch-hikers. Once trapped inside the vehicle, it is difficult to escape. Pedestrians Street Precautions
- Be alert to your surroundings and the people around you - especially if you are alone or it is dark.
- Whenever possible, travel with a friend.
- Stay in well-lighted areas as much as possible.
- Walk close to the curb.
- Walk confidently at a steady pace.
- Make eye contact with people when walking.

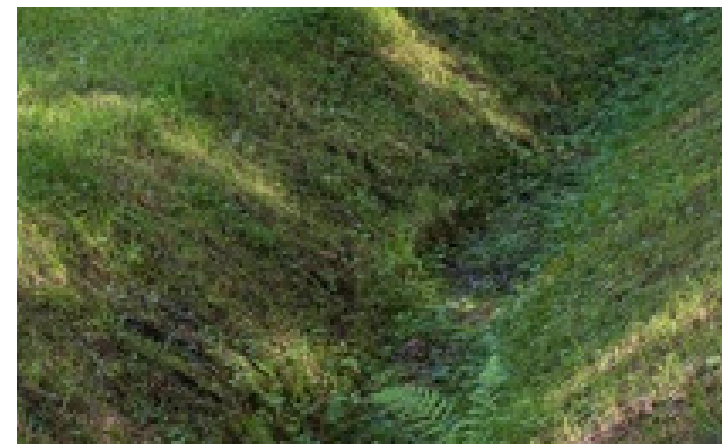
The Village of Jerome has police coverage every day and it could be from Jerome officers, Sangamon County or other Law Enforcement Agencies. If you have an emergency, please dial 911 if it is not an emergency please call the non-emergency number at 217-753-6666. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Jerome Police Department or Trustee Leigh Irons.

## DOGS RUNNING LOOSE!

It is your responsibility as a pet owner not to allow your dogs to run free. If you have animals that can "escape" their own yard, then please make the effort to ensure they cannot get out. The Village is asking that dogs be contained at all times, per the Village Ordinances.

## RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMITS

Do You Need Them? Fences? To replace a fence or to install a new fence, a building permit is required. Are you building or remodeling? Before hiring anyone to work on your property be sure they have a contractor's permit. **BUILDING PERMITS REQUIRED** Any resident wishing to alter, in any way, the use of land or buildings in the Village, must comply with Building Codes. An application for permit is required if any construction and/or alteration on land or structures in the Village. These permits must be obtained before the work starts. A Building Permit Application form can be obtained at the Village office or online at [www.villageofjerome.com](http://www.villageofjerome.com) and should be submitted with a plan drawing. The cost of the permit is moderate. If you have any questions, please call the Jerome office at 217-546-2203 or call Dale Lael at 217-787-8388. A list of registered contractors is available in the Village office.



## DITCH

Some call it the ditch, for some it is the flat grassy area, others have a parking space and most residents put trash cans, yard waste bags and limbs for pick-up there.

**Question:** Whichever way you refer to it, have you wondered who should maintain it or if you should keep up the area between the street and your front yard?

**Answer:** It is each resident's (owner's) responsibility to maintain the space between the front yard and the street.

Maintaining it includes mowing just as you do for your front and back yards and raking leaves for disposal. It also includes keeping the area clear of trash, furniture, and other miscellaneous items except during the Village's scheduled limb pickup and the annual wide clean up or arrangements you have made with your waste hauler for disposing of those items.

## VILLAGE OF JEROME BOARD MEETING

The Village of Jerome holds regular board meetings on the first and third Thursday of each month. Meetings start at 6:30 pm. Should you have any questions or comments please feel free to attend the meetings.

If you are unable to attend residents may send an email to [jeromeclerk@villageofjerome.com](mailto:jeromeclerk@villageofjerome.com) or drop a note in the water payment slot at the Village Hall by 6:00 pm the day of the meeting to have your comment or question addressed to the board of trustees.

## HELP BEAUTIFY OUR VILLAGE

As you walk or drive through the Village, you will see trash, debris and litter that appears to be thrown from cars, blown around on windy days, trash bags that are not in trash cans or trash that blows out of the trash truck when emptied. This trash sometimes ends up in that area near the street in front of your house. It appears to be more common on our busier streets like Iles Avenue and Chatham Road. It is difficult to catch people fly dumping. We are asking residents to please pick up the improperly disposed trash from in front of your home and dispose of it. It's not always possible for some residents to do that, so perhaps we can look out for our neighbors and clean up their area for them. Thank you to resident volunteers that have picked up litter and trash and know that we appreciate your time and dedication to keeping the Village of Jerome clean.



## FLY DUMPING

We also should not be leaving items for someone to pick up for "free" in the space between the front yard and the street for an endless period or at a stop sign in hopes it will be taken. If you have items to dispose of, contact your waste hauler to make

sure they can pick up what you wish to dispose of before hauling it out. If you have any suggestions for a neighbor block clean-up or something similar, please contact the Village Office. Let us all work together to keep our village clean and safe and show it in the best light possible. As the saying goes, "it takes a village". Thank you for your continued cooperation!