

Village of Jerome
2901 Leonard Street
Jerome, IL 62704

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Spring 2023



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VILLAGE OF JEROME CONTACT INFORMATION

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Municipal Building
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Water Department
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Leigh Irons
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Phil Raftis
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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 to you directly to the SAM Community Notification Enrollment form.

Features & Benefits

Sangamon Alert Messaging (SAM) will allow County officials to be able to more effectively communicate time-sensitive messages using the SAM’s robust dialing infrastructure 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. Additionally, the County will have the ability to better target notifications geographically, only notifying those 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!

DISPOSING OF TVS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Illinois law prohibits the disposal of TVs and other electronic equipment in landfills. They must be recycled. BLH Computers at 1832 Stevenson Drive accepts these items for recycling. Most items can be dropped off for free although there is a fee for TVs. Check out their website at www.blhcomputers.com for a list of what can be recycled. Please do not put these items at the curb.



CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION

ANY AND ALL BUSINESSES working in Jerome on residential or commercial properties need to register with the Village of Jerome 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 546-2203 for more information. A list of registered contractors is available in the Village office.

ENROLL TODAY!

SAM
SANGAMON ALERT MESSAGING

Get COVID-19 Vaccination Alerts sent directly to your phone!
Plus all other Sangamon County notifications.

SIGN UP: co.sangamon.il.us/SAM OR text SAM to 99411

stay safe  **save lives**
Sangamon County Department of Public Health | www.scdph.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE 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 business which located and operate in Jerome as: Pizza Hut, All About Wine , Oh-Icee, Moreleon Tropical Restaurant, and Valvoline Instant Oil Change. Just to name a few. These businesses generate local jobs and revenue for the Village. We encourage you to patronize these fine businesses. A proud tradition, dating back to the mid1990s, 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 very interested in your constructive input to make our Village the very best it can be. Moving forward collectively we will continue our path to success.

Michael Lopez, Jerome Village President

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 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.

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@comcast.net 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.



UNDERSTANDING YOUR WATER BILL

DUE DATE VS. PENALTY DATE - Please read your water bill carefully. There are two dates shown. Payment must be received by the due date. **A penalty will be applied if payment is received on or after the penalty date.** If you have any questions about your bill, call the Water Department at 217-546-2203.

YARD WASTE

The Village of Jerome **does not pick up** yard waste. Leaves, grass clippings, twigs, weeds, and other yard waste are picked up by your waste hauler. Yard waste bags must have a sticker on them, purchased from your waste hauler or most local hardware stores, before being put out by the road for pickup. Not all waste haulers pick up yard waste year- round, so please check with your waste hauler regarding the time of year when they provide this service.

GRASS CLIPPINGS

Did you know that it is **ILLEGAL** to leave your grass clippings on the roadway? Not to mention it is very dangerous for any motorcycle riders, it is like driving on black ice for them. Please remove your grass from the roadway. If not, you could receive a fine!

VILLAGE BUSINESSES

The Village of Jerome is very fortunate to have a diverse number of locally owned and operated businesses. These businesses generate jobs and revenues into local economy specifically Village of Jerome.

Encourage all residents to patronize our local businesses. Here are a few highlighted businesses: In upcoming bulletins, we will mention other businesses!

Spartan Valley Olive Oil	Pizza Hut	Little Saigon
Antonio’s Pizza on Wabash	Subway	Moreleon Tropical Restaurant
Osaka Restaurant	Ugly Nails	Barrel Head
All About Wine	Oh-Icee	Backyard Leisure
Penny Lane Gift Store	Lauterbach Tire & Auto	Car Quest Auto Parts

Thanks for these businesses and their owners for operating in Jerome!!



VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE SALE

The 2023 Village Wide Garage Sales will be held on Friday, June 2nd from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday, June 3rd from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. The Village of Jerome will advertise the event. The Village does 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. Due to changes in their policies the Salvation Army **WILL NOT** have a truck available after the event for donations.

JEROME MEMORIAL PARK AND PLAYGROUND PARK ENTRY HOURS

8:00 am to dusk

The Jerome Memorial Park has some repairs that need to be completed prior to opening this year. We anticipate that the Park will be open by April 1st, 2023. Typically, the Park is open for your enjoyment from March 1st through November 30th weather permitting.

VILLAGE LIBRARY

To open the doors, we rely on resident volunteers to staff the 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. It’s all open for discussion if you are interested. We are looking for evening hours also 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@gmail.com or 217-415-1132 and leave a message. Keep an eye out for updated information on the village websites, our outdoor library sign and on Jerome IL Neighbors on Facebook.



CIVIC CENTER

The Civic Center will be 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.

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 motorist 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 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 directly.



VILLAGE WEBSITE

To stay updated on news and events in the Village please visit our website at www.villageofjerome.com or check out the bulletin board in front of the Municipal Center.

VILLAGE OFFICE HOURS

The Village Water Department is open from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Friday, closed most holidays.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Please welcome our newest employees:

Jessica Thornton
Village Secretary

Kathleen Waide
Water Clerk

HELP BEAUTIFY OUR VILLAGE

As you walk or drive through the Village, you'll 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 clean.

DITCH

Some call it the ditch, for some it's 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.



FLY DUMPING

We also should not be leaving items for someone to possibly 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!

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 subject to a fine for each day of violation.

DO YOU HAVE A NON-WORKING VEHICLE

Suggestions from residents over the past year or so include calling a junk yard to have it towed; donate the vehicle to a charitable organization like the Salvation Army or post it on Facebook Marketplace. This is not an endorsement from the Village and there are no guarantees that any of these will work for you.

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 PITS

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.



FRONT YARDS, BACKYARDS AND IN-BETWEEN

It is each resident (owner’s) responsibility to maintain the front, side, and backyard and its landscape. Many complaints were received last year on the health and safety condition of backyards and side yards especially from overgrown areas, piles of vegetation, trash bags, shrubs, trees, vines, and weeds that are growing out of control and into neighbors’ fences and yards. We ask you to PLEASE....

Front yards

- Maintain the front yard right up to the street pavement
- Mow grass regularly not letting it grow over 6 inches
- Keep all areas clear of litter, trash, furniture, and other items
- Don’t blow grass clippings into the street
- Remove leaves, tall weeds, and branches from the ditch area

Backyards and side yards

- Mow grass regularly not letting it grow over 6 inches
- Keep the areas clear of litter, trash both bagged and not bagged, furniture and other items that can attract rodents, snakes, raccoons, opossums, and bugs
- Keep all vegetation on your side of the fence or lot line. Trim or cut it so it does not encroach through or over fences to your neighbor’s yard.

APRIL 4TH
CONSOLIDATED ELECTIONS
REMEMBER TO VOTE!

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 2023

Easter Egg Hunt on April 2, 2023 | July 4th parade on July 4, 2023

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

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.



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.

LIMB PICKUP

Limb pickup will take place the week of April 3-7, 2023, July 3-7, 2023, and October 2-6, 2023, as the tentative dates depending on budget constraints. All limb piles must be placed along the street edge BEFORE 7:00am the morning of March 27th. Any piles placed after 7:00am on the April 3rd **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.

LARGE ITEM DROP OFF

Will be held October 13, 2023, from 8 am to Noon, due to success of this event in November 2022. The Village of Jerome will again hold this event. Residents will be responsible for showing proof of residency and will be required to unload their items themselves. Items prohibited are yard waste, paint, appliances, and tires. Please check the website for additional information

WALKERS

The Village has received numerous complaints on people walking with the traffic. This is very dangerous; we recommend walking on Village streets against the traffic.



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

Effective April 18, 2022, the Village of 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 are able to 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 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 the hours of 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.

PETS

Let’s 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 walking your pet in the Village Park it is imperative that you have control of your animal. There are people that walk in our parks and roadways that are afraid of animals. Please be respectful and courteous to others. DO NOT let your dog out unattended to relieve themselves in your neighbors’ yard. Pick up your dog’s droppings. This is your responsibility!! If not picked up, you could be faced with a fine by our Village of Jerome Police Department.



BARKING DOG COMPLAINTS

The Village has received numerous complaints of barking dogs, the Village Ordinance 407.1-5 prohibits owners from allowing an animal to bark or howl for a continuous period of 15 minutes or more that disturbs the peace. No animal shall be outside from 10 pm to 7 am without being chaperoned. Please make every effort you can to ensure that your animal is not causing issues to your neighbors. Violation of this Ordinance may result in the owners being fined.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Village of Jerome will be closed the following days in 2023

Monday, May 30, 2023	Memorial Day	Thursday, Nov. 23, 2023	Thanksgiving Day
Monday, June 19, 2023	Juneteenth Observed	Friday, Nov. 24, 2023	Day after Thanksgiving
Tuesday, July 4, 2023	Independence Day	Friday, Dec. 22, 2023	Christmas Eve Observed
Monday, Sept. 4, 2023	Labor Day	Monday, Dec. 25, 2023	Christmas Day Observed
Monday, Oct. 9, 2023	Columbus Day	Friday, Dec. 29, 2023	New Year’s Eve Observed
Friday, Nov. 10, 2023	Veteran’s Day	Monday Jan. 1, 2024	New Year’s Day Observed