

Village of Jerome
2901 Leonard Street
Jerome, IL 62704

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PERMIT #800

Fall 2025



Fall 2025

ILES AVE. PHASE 1 HAS BEEN COMPLETED!

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. Iles Ave up to Owens Lane, will also be resurfaced as part of this project. Additional phases are being teed up for future grant applications and funding scenarios. Efforts to secure funding for a full reconstruction is underway.

JEROME MEMORIAL PARK AND PLAYGROUND

The Village PARK & PLAYGROUND 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.

VILLAGE OF JEROME CONTACT INFORMATION

Michael P. Lopez
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217-303-6592
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Dale E Lael
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Kathy DeHart
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Katrina Christofilakos
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Leigh Irons
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Courtney Wick
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Ralph Irons
Water Department Trustee
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Lisa Cave
Village Clerk
217-546-2203
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Municipal Building
217-546-2203
secretary@villageofjerome.com

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



RECREATIONAL FIRE PITs

Fire pit permit applications are available at the Village Office. Outdoor recreational fires (NOT BONFIRES) 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. No burning of yard waste, leaves, plants, or grass; only logs. Please call the Village office if you would like a permit for the remainder of this year @ 217-546-2203.

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 or arrangements you have made with your waste hauler for disposing of such items.





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.
- 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Hello everyone, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself to the village of Jerome. I'm Mark Houston, the new chief of police for Jerome as of July 1, 2025. I bring with me more than two decades of law enforcement experience. Retired from the Springfield Police Department, I want to bring integrity, leadership, and commitment to community-focused policing. My vision is to keep our neighborhoods safe and strengthen public safety. Together, we can continue building a safe, supportive village-one where families, businesses, and individuals can thrive. I'm asking all Jerome residents to take small but important steps to support public safety. Lock your doors, keep porch lights on at night, report suspicious activity, slow down, and stop at stop signs, please. These simple actions will make a big difference. Safety is a shared responsibility, and we need everyone's help. Jerome is a special place and I'm honored to be your Chief of Police.

Chief Mark Houston

Jerome Police Department

PETS

Please DO NOT let your cats or dogs run loose in the village and a reminder that all animals MUST be contained within the owner's property. YES, we mean cats too! 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, it is imperative that you have control of your animal. There are people that walk on our roadway that are fearful of animals and don't want to have dogs approaching them and jumping up on them as they walk by. No one wants to see someone's pet injured or killed by a vehicle on the street.

All animals must be contained in the house, outdoor structures or fenced in yard that does not allow for them to escape when not on a leash (yes, cats too). You are responsible for keeping your pets under control and contained at all times.

Mishaps can happen with open gates and doors, etc. and it is becoming a common occurrence and an issue in the village. This is each pet owner and resident's responsibility! Violations of ordinances could result in a fine by our Village of Jerome Police Department and could involve costs by Animal Control as required.

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. WE NEED EVERYONE TO COOPERATE!



BARKING DOG COMPLAINTS

The Village has received many complaints of barking dogs, and Ordinance 407.1-5 prohibits owners from allowing an animal to bark or howl for 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.



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!

VILLAGE OF JEROME

2025 Festival of Trees "A Classic Christmas"

**NOVEMBER 29TH-30TH, 2PM-6PM
INSIDE JEROME CIVIC CENTER
2901 LEONARD STREET, JEROME, IL, 62704**

- DECORATED TREES AVAILABLE FOR SILENT AUCTION
- SANTA & FRIENDS
- HOT COCOA STATION
- DECORATE A HOLIDAY COOKIE
- KIDS CRAFTS
- ...AND MORE!

If interested in being a tree designer or volunteer for the 2025 Village of Jerome Festival of Trees, please contact Courtney by Sept. 30th at TrusteeWick@VillageOfJerome.com

***Space is limited**



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 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.



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!

PARADE

A proud tradition, dating back to the mid 1990s, is the Village of Jerome Parade in celebration of Independence Day each year weather permitting. 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, and the Toys For Tots Toy Collection Program held in December. I encourage all to keep informed by checking on village of Jerome website at www.villageofjerome.com.

VILLAGE WEBSITE

To keep up on what is happening in the Village please visit our website villageofjerome.com. Here you will find information about events, news, services, Board meeting agendas and minutes, and the Village Code of Ordinances. The Village has updated email addresses for the elected officials and staff. The new list of emails is included in this bulletin and has been updated on the Village website. The website’s getting an upgrade on looks and function in hopes it will be easier for residents to gather any information they may need.



FLU CLINIC

Sangamon County Public Health will no longer be holding its annual Flu Clinic at the Jerome Civic Center. Please contact your physician to administer the Flu vaccine.



TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION

Help us help others! The Village will be collecting donations for Toys for Tots November 30 - December 7, 2025. Residents may bring an unwrapped gift to deposit in the Toys for Tots donation box during office hours.

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Jerome Police Department would like to remind all residents to always lock their doors on their residences and on their vehicles. Also do not leave any property of value or key fobs in your vehicles. Please report any crimes or suspicious activities or persons as soon as they are observed to the main radio communications line at (217) 753-6666. Please do not contact a board member or leave a message on the police voicemail or social media when reporting a crime. All emergency calls should be reported to 911.

SNOW

The Village Public Works Department is responsible for clearing the streets and salting them to allow drivers access outside of the Village. A friendly reminder when there is more than 2 inches of snow predicted, we want to remind residents to move their vehicles off the street. It is a hazard for our Public Works Department to clear the street and spread salt on our roadways if there are vehicles they must avoid. If there are 2 inches or more that has fallen and there is a vehicle on the street, it will be towed, and you will be responsible for the tow fee. Please be courteous.



HALLOWEEN

The Annual Village of Jerome Halloween Event will be held in conjunction with Jerome Methodist Church Trunk or Treat event on Halloween night, Friday, October 31st, 2025, 4:00pm to 8:00pm. The Village of Jerome will be handing out candy outside of Jerome civic center from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. While supplies last. The Village of Jerome is asking for can food donations to be brought up to village hall on Halloween night! The Village will be donating what is collected to the less fortunate in our community! Questions, please contact Village Jerome Office @ 217-546-2203

Remember to turn on your porch light for trick or treaters if you are passing out candy. Remind children of the Rules of Halloween: Do not go to any home that does not have their porch light on, respect personal property, only knock or ring the bell once, don’t forget to use the magic words, please and thank you, and don’t eat any candy until an adult has checked your treats.



LARGE ITEM PICK UPS

Please continue to use the very successful Sangamon County Large Item Pick-up Program, the program allows eligible residents to schedule pick-up or drop-off of large items not typically accommodated by regular waste management services. 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. 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, repurposing, 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/.

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

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 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.

BUSINESS DISTRICT /TIF DISTRICT

Businesses within the Business District boundary will levy an additional 1% sales tax on taxable items and this money will be collected by the State and distributed to the Village. The Village can spend that money on infrastructure improvements, and it can also use that money to reimburse existing and new businesses for eligible projects they complete on their properties. These projects may include things like expanding a facility, renovating a building, or improving nearby public infrastructure. The TIF district is similar to the Business District, but it is based on property taxes and not an additional sales tax. The TIF is not an additional property tax, but if your property value increases due to a new expansion or natural market value growth, the property tax collected on the increased value is collected by the County and distributed to the Village to be spent within the TIF district boundary. The Village can spend the TIF money on infrastructure improvements and it can also use that money to reimburse existing and new businesses for eligible projects they complete on their properties, similar to the Business District. Both of these tools are meant to provide an incentive for businesses to locate in Jerome or help existing businesses expand or renovate their facilities. Ongoing discussions are being held prior to final board vote to be held tentatively in September 2025 for potential board approval of Jerome TIF District. The Village will be working on a program to let businesses know who is eligible for reimbursement and what types of projects are eligible for reimbursement. The goal of these tools are to improve the Wabash commercial corridor and improve infrastructure throughout the Business District and TIF.





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. Garbage cans are prohibited from being in the front of your home. When trash is collected, the empty cans must be moved to the rear of your home within 24 hours of collection and should not be moved to the front until the next scheduled pick-up.



LIMB PICKUP

Limb pickup will take place the week of November 3, 2025, pending 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.

EMPLOYEES

The Village of Jerome is thankful to our staff, with their efforts they are consistently saving the Village money and ensuring everything runs smoothly from answering phones, calculating out water bills, keeping the Village safe, road work, and repairing water main breaks just to name a few. A big thank you for all you do!

Public Works

Dave Wilken
Michael Rhone
Stefan Wade

Summer Staff

Jayden Gerberding
Dominice Brown

Office Staff

Ruth Kopec, Secretary
Amy Dodd, Water Clerk

Police Department

Chief Mark Houston
Officer Dillon Branham
Officer Tajay Small
Officer Jaydon Braner
Officer Dustin Tucker
Officer Joe Kink

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!

We are looking for individuals who would be willing to help the village with different events and activities throughout the year. If you would like to be a part of this, let us know, and we will include you in our volunteer email group. This will detail the event, what we're looking for, and the time allotment that is required. Thank you!

Please email Katrina at trusteechristofilakos@villageofjerome.com.



PET REGISTRY

This is completely voluntary; neighbors helping neighbors. In a perfect world pets wouldn't get out and if they did they would all have collars with their info, however, that's not always the case. Facebook is a great tool in these situations, but unfortunately not everyone

is on Facebook. The hope would be that this registry will help lost pets and their owners reunite quicker. The registry will include a picture of the pet, pets name, address, owner contact info, and any other details you would like to include about your pet. Please register through the Village website. The registry will be available starting September 3rd.

HYDRANT TESTING NOTICE

Hydrant and Valve flushing and testing has started and will continue until complete. Expect slight discoloration in the water during this time. Specific areas and dates will be posted on the Village website and on social media.

CIVIC CENTER

The Civic Center is available for event rentals by residents, private individuals, and non-profit groups. The rental includes the large Civic Center room for up to 150 people, tables and chairs, a piano, kitchen, and restrooms. 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.

VILLAGE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Village of Jerome will be closed the following days in 2025:

October 13, 2025	Columbus Day
November 11, 2025	Veterans Day
November 27, 2025	Thanksgiving Day
November 28, 2025	Day after Thanksgiving
December 24, 2025	Christmas Eve
December 25, 2025	Christmas Day
December 31, 2025	New Years Eve

The Village of Jerome will be closed the following days in 2026:

January 1, 2026	New Years Day
January 19, 2026	Martin Luther King Day
February 12, 2026	Lincoln's Birthday
February 16, 2026	Washington's Birthday (President's Day)
May 25, 2026	Memorial Day

SAVE THE DATES!

Village Night Out

When: August 27th, 2025

Time: 5:30pm- 7:00pm

Where: Parking lot between Civic Center and Police Station

What: Meet and Greet with Jerome Police Officers, Board Members, back to school safety and more!

Fall Festival

When: October 18th, 2025

Time: 11:00am- 4:00pm

Where: Jerome Civic Center and Memorial Park

What: Vendors, Chili Cook Off, Pumpkin Decorating Contest, Games, Crafts and more.

UPCOMING EVENTS & DATES:

Limb Pickup

November 3 – 7, 2025

Large Item Drop Off

October 4, 2025
8:00am – Noon

Halloween Trick or Treat

October 31, 2025
4:00pm - 8:00pm

Toys for Tots Collection

November 30 - December 7, 2025

Easter Egg Hunt

TBA

4th of July Parade

Saturday, July 4th, 2026
9:00 am



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 Katrina Christofilakos at trusteechristofilakos@villageofjerome.com email address or 217-546-2203 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

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.