



Committed to our future.
Inspired by our past.

Photo - Submitted by
Kayla Palmisano (p2)

The Village News



Plates and Perks (p3)



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Mayor's Message



Mayor Jeff Pruyn

Spring always brings a sense that something new is about to begin. Even if the weather has not quite caught up yet, you can sense the shift. Days feel a little longer, calendars start to fill, and spring begins to bud around us. It serves as a reminder that a new season is unfolding, and there is much to look forward to.

As mayor, this is the time of year when I think about where we are headed and how we continue moving the village forward in a way that feels right for our community.

At the start of the year, I set a simple focus for myself: keep putting time and resources into the places that matter most to residents. That focus is guiding the work planned for this year and shaping how we approach both everyday needs and long-term goals.

One exciting piece of news I am happy to share is that Fourth of July fireworks will be returning this year. As our nation marks its 250th anniversary, it felt like the right moment to bring this tradition back and celebrate together. Planning is underway, and more details will be shared soon. I know this is something many families and neighbors missed last year, and I look forward to gathering together again this summer at Hamilton Lakes.

Downtown Itasca continues to evolve, with the Itasca Station development now a prominent part of the area. As work continues throughout the year, I encourage residents to continue visiting and supporting the businesses along Orchard Street. Local businesses such as LaBelle Salon, ViTech PC Services, and All Seasons Travel remain open and continue serving the community. Supporting them during construction helps keep their doors open and strengthens the local business district.

Work is also expected to begin later this year along Orchard Street. Planned improvements include changes to parking, updated pedestrian crossings near the Metra station, new curb and gutter, upgraded water mains, and converting Orchard Street to one-way traffic. These changes are intended to make the area easier to navigate and better support both drivers and pedestrians.

Later this year, work is expected to continue with Phase 3 of the Northside Infrastructure Project. This phase will focus on replacing aging water mains and adding curb and gutter improvements throughout the neighborhood. These upgrades are designed to strengthen the reliability of the water system, improve drainage, and support the overall condition of local

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Mayor's Message Continued...

streets. As this next phase moves forward, the project will build on prior improvements and reflect the Village's ongoing commitment to maintaining dependable infrastructure for residents both now and in the years ahead.

Improvements are also planned for the Springbrook Nature Center outdoor pavilion. With support from State of Illinois grant funding and continued partnership with the Park District, updates will enhance the space for programs, events, and everyday use while preserving the natural setting so many residents value. These updates will allow the pavilion to continue supporting community activities and seasonal programming over time. Additional details will be shared as the project moves forward later this year.

Community programs continue to bring people together as well. The Plates and Perks program is underway and offers residents a fun way to support local restaurants while trying new places to dine. More information about how the program works can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

Looking ahead, Itasca will also be preparing to welcome visitors for The Presidents Cup in September 2026. This event will bring guests from around the world, and the Village will be working closely with local hotels, restaurants, and businesses as the community gets ready to host visitors and share what makes Itasca a great place to visit.

There is a lot happening in Itasca this year, and I am proud of where we are as a community. I look forward to the months to come and to continuing this work together.

Cover Photo & Story

Sometimes the best cover photos are the ones that make you smile.

This edition's cover photo was submitted by Kayla Palmisano and features her dog Sam out on Walnut Street. Sam is the mascot of M&M Lock and Safe, the downtown locksmith that has long been part of the business district and a familiar presence to many residents.



With spring settling in, the photo is a reminder that downtown is not just about errands. It is also about the small moments that make it feel welcoming.

Residents who would like to submit a photo for a future newsletter cover may do so online at itasca.com/newsletter.

Stay Connected

Want to know what is happening in your community? Start at itasca.com for the latest news, project updates, meeting links, and a way to submit questions directly to staff. You can also follow the Village on Facebook and Instagram for updates and watch Village Board meetings live on YouTube.

Administrator's Message

One of the things I enjoy most about living and working in the Itasca is how easy it is to connect with residents. Whether I am at a community event, a school activity, or running errands, conversations happen naturally. That sense of familiarity and openness is part of what makes this Village a special place to call home.



Those conversations often turn to what is happening around town. Residents ask about road construction, new development, businesses opening, and information they may have heard from a neighbor or seen online. I welcome those questions and appreciate how engaged the community is in local government.

Over time, it became clear that many of these questions are shared by others across the Village. In the interest of transparency and accessibility, we have launched a new Ask the Administrator section on the Village website.

This page provides a central place for residents to submit questions and view responses. From time to time, selected questions may also be featured in the Village newsletter or other Village communication channels.

Questions should focus on Village government matters. While I may not always have an immediate answer, I am committed to working with our team to provide clear and accurate information.

Residents can learn more and participate at itasca.com/ask.

ASK THE ADMINISTRATOR



Your questions, answered.

Find it at itasca.com/ask

Question: Why does Usher Park still have fencing up, and when will the park be completely open?

Answer: Usher Park has been open since November, when we welcomed the community for Winter Wonderland, and the walking paths and gazebo remain open for everyone to enjoy.

During construction last spring, an elevation issue was discovered that required additional review and adjustments. Taking the time to address it properly meant pausing work for several weeks. As a result, final site work was completed later in the season, which did not allow enough time for new grass to become established before winter.

The fencing remains in place to protect the newly seeded areas and give the grass the best opportunity to take root this spring. We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation in staying on the sidewalks so the grass can grow more fully.

If weather cooperates, we anticipate removing the fencing in early May.

Explore Itasca One Bite at a Time

Looking for a reason to dine out this winter? Plates & Perks makes it easy to explore local restaurants, try something new, and enjoy seasonal deals along the way.

This winter dining program brings together local eateries and exclusive offers in one simple passbook. It is designed to encourage residents and visitors to dine locally during the colder months while supporting the restaurants that give our community its character.

Through March 31st, participating restaurants are offering special seasonal deals, all listed inside the Winter Dining Passbook.



Get Started Today

- **Pick up a free Winter Dining Passbook** at any participating restaurant, Itasca Village Hall, the Itasca Community Library, or the Itasca Park District Rec Center.
- **Visit the included restaurants** any time before March 31st.
- **Present your passbook when ordering** to receive each location's seasonal offer and collect a stamp.
- **Fill every space in your passbook** as you enjoy the different stops. One booklet per person.
- **Return your completed passbook** to the Village of Itasca, 550 W. Irving Park Road, by April 15th to be entered into the gift card drawing.

Whether you're stopping in Itasca for a cozy weekend getaway, hosting out-of-town guests, or simply looking for an excuse to dine locally, Plates & Perks offers a simple and memorable way to experience what makes Itasca eateries worth the visit.

Participating Locations

- | | |
|---|--|
| 400 Park Bistro
400 Park Blvd. | Fox & Turtle
400 E. Orchard St. |
| BarleyHaus
500 Park Blvd., Ste 177C | Fulla Beans
102 E. Irving Park Rd. |
| Biggby Coffee
1241 N. Rohlwing Rd. | Grandos
925 Irving Park Rd. |
| Buenos Dias Burritos
919 W. Irving Park Rd. | Joe Donut
1221 N. Rohlwing Rd. |
| Buon Johnny
216 N. Walnut St. | Naxos A Greek Island Restaurant
933 W. Irving Park Rd. |
| Burnham's Restaurant
1401 Nordic Rd. | Prairie River Restaurant
1401 Nordic Rd. |
| Church Street Brewery
1480 Industrial Dr., Unit C | Tree Guys Pizza Pub
101 Irving Park Rd. |

Business Spotlight

For many families, activities outside of school become an important part of growing up.

Gym Stars ETC has been part of families' routines, milestones, and memories since 1997, growing alongside the families it serves. The program has helped children build confidence, coordination, and a love of movement, starting with first cartwheels and building from there.

What began as a small mobile gymnastics program has steadily evolved over time. Since moving to its Itasca location in 2015, Gym Stars ETC has continued to expand its offerings and welcome new generations of children through its doors at 905 W. Irving Park Road.

Today, the gym offers gymnastics, tumbling, and ninja classes for children ages 16 months through 18 years. Classes are designed for a wide range of experience levels, from kids who are just getting started to athletes who want to continue developing their skills. The focus remains on learning, encouragement, and keeping things fun.

Families play an active role in the experience. Parents are welcome to watch classes, ask questions, and connect with coaches, helping create an environment that feels comfortable and familiar.

If you are a small business owner in town and would like to be featured in our next edition, please contact dcurelo@itasca.com with your information.



That sense of connection is one reason many families remain involved year after year.

The program's impact has reached beyond the gym as well. At the 2025 Illinois State Meets, Gym Stars ETC's Xcel competitive team received a Certificate of Congratulations for Superior Performance, with 23 athletes earning State Champion titles.

Those interested in learning more can visit gymstarsetc.com or stop by the gym to see classes in action and learn about upcoming programs and events.



The Village of Itasca is proud of its business community and being a premier destination for all types of businesses. Join us in extending a warm welcome to the following companies, who recently received approval for their Zoning Certificates.

Air Power Int'l Express Inc - 1 Pierce Place, Ste. 270C

Air Power Int'l Express is an international freight forwarder and licensed NVOCC providing customized shipping and logistics solutions for businesses. Learn more at airpower-chi.com or call (630) 238-9888.

BIGGBY COFFEE - 1241 N. Rohlwing Rd., Unit A

BIGGBY COFFEE offers handcrafted coffee drinks and espresso favorites. Visit biggby.com for more information.

CPATAX Services Inc - 500 Park Blvd., Ste. 152C

CPATAX Services provides tax preparation, accounting, and business advisory services for individuals and businesses. Learn more at cpataxlaw.com or call (847) 439-0250.

FHC Marketing - 1135 Baker Dr.

FHC Marketing designs and manufactures retail displays, fixtures, and branded environments for in store experiences. More information is available at fhcmarketing.com or by calling (773) 777-6100.

Quarterra Multifamily Communities - 300 Park Blvd., Ste 355

Quarterra Multifamily Communities develops and manages residential communities with a focus on quality and long term value. Visit quarterra.com or call (704) 998-0363.

Vivify - 500 Park Blvd., Ste 1425

Vivify provides color solutions including pigments and dyes across multiple industries, drawing on more than 40 years of experience. Learn more at vivifycompany.com or call (630) 469-3838.

Changes at Alexian Brothers in Elk Grove

Residents who use Ascension Alexian Brothers in Elk Grove may notice a change related to labor and delivery care.

Labor and delivery services that were previously available at the Elk Grove hospital are now provided at Ascension Saint Alexius Women and Children's Hospital in Hoffman Estates. Other obstetric services, such as imaging and laboratory work, continue at the Elk Grove location. The emergency department also remains available for emergency situations.

Anyone with questions about care or next steps is encouraged to speak with their health care provider. Additional information about labor and delivery services is available at healthcare.ascension.org.



Itasca in Motion

Over the past year, Itasca has continued to grow in ways that reflect opportunity and community pride. From new businesses opening their doors to major development projects moving forward, 2025 brought continued momentum that is helping shape the future of the village.

These changes are more than numbers on a page. They represent new places to shop and dine, new jobs, and continued investment across the community.

New Beginnings

In 2025, Itasca welcomed 35 new businesses, adding to a diverse mix that includes dining options, manufacturers, and financial services. The community also saw job growth for the third year in a row, with 27,847 total employees working in town. Services, manufacturing, and transportation and communication remain the largest industry sectors, reinforcing Itasca's role as a strong and stable local economy.

Development in Action

Throughout the year, the Village issued 660 building permits, reflecting ongoing confidence in Itasca as a place to live, work, and invest. These permits represented a total valuation of \$248,738,609.73, including \$119,621,450.00 in new construction. From business expansions to home improvements, this level of activity highlights continued reinvestment across the community.

Downtown Redevelopment

Growth continues into 2026, including visible progress downtown. Construction is underway on the Itasca Station development at Orchard and Maple, a five-story apartment building with first floor commercial space. Groundbreaking took place in October 2024, and work will continue through 2026, adding new housing and activity to the downtown area.

Transit Oriented Planning

In 2025, the Village also began working with the Regional Transportation Authority on updates to its Transit Oriented Development zoning code. This effort focuses on walkable areas, access to transit, and development patterns that support active lifestyles. Community input has played an important role through meetings, interviews, and a resident survey. The project is expected to conclude in Spring 2026.

Together, these efforts reflect continued progress and ongoing planning as Itasca moves forward in ways that support residents, businesses, and the broader community.



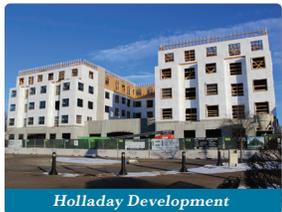
MEI Grand Opening



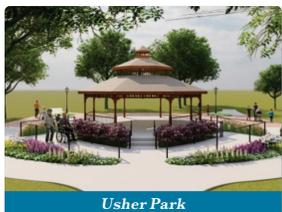
Bigby Coffee Opening Day



New Fire Station Opening Day



Holladay Development



Usher Park

Planning a Spring Project?

Spring is often when home projects move from idea to action. Whether you are updating a kitchen, replacing a roof, or planning work outdoors, it is a good time to pause before getting started and confirm whether a permit is required.

Permits are commonly needed for projects such as kitchen and bathroom remodels, roofing, fences, driveways, decks, patios, sheds, pools, sprinkler systems, and sidewalk repairs. In some cases, even landscaping work may require a permit, especially for properties located in a floodplain. Making sure the proper permit is in place helps confirm the work meets safety standards and local requirements. Taking a few minutes to check first can prevent unexpected setbacks once work is underway.

If you are unsure whether your project needs a permit, the Community Development Department is available to help before work begins. Calling ahead can save time and help avoid issues later. The department can be reached at (630) 773-5568.

Before digging for any project, remember to contact J.U.L.I.E. by dialing 8-1-1 or visiting illinois1call.com to locate underground utility lines.

Permit applications and general guidelines are available on the Village website under the Community Development section at itasca.com. Taking care of these steps early helps projects move forward smoothly and keeps surprises to a minimum.

Spring Property Maintenance Check In

As spring gets underway, it is a good time to take a look around your property and take care of a few seasonal basics. Routine upkeep helps keep neighborhoods looking their best and supports safety for everyone.

Lawn Care

- Grass should be regularly maintained and kept under 12 inches

Garbage Containers

- Containers may be set out after 4:00 p.m. the day before collection
- Containers should be brought back by 10:00 p.m. on collection day
- When not at the curb, containers should be stored away from the front of the home

Weeds and Overgrowth

- Yards should be kept clear of weeds and excessive plant growth over 10 inches
- Noxious weeds are required to be removed

Recreational Vehicles and Boats

- From May through October, one recreational vehicle or one boat is allowed on a hard surface driveway
- Vehicles and boats must remain clear of sidewalks, parkways, and public areas

Taking care of these simple items early in the season helps avoid issues later and keeps the community looking clean and welcoming throughout the spring and summer.

Celebrate Our Community

To register for a library event, please call (630) 773-1699 or visit itascalibrary.org.
To register for a Park District event, please call (630) 773-2257 or visit itascaparkdistrict.com.



Tues., March 10th Blanket Fort Night

Library
6:30 p.m.

Gather the family for storytime and build a cozy blanket fort together. The Library brings the books, flashlights, and snacks, while families bring blankets, sheets, and pillows for a fun reading adventure.



Thurs., March 12th Lucky's Flashlight Hunt

Washington Park
7:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Lucky the Leprechaun has prepared a St. Patrick's Day Flashlight Hunt! Search for green and gold treasures, win prizes, and take home a themed goody bag. Pre-registration is required.



Sat., March 21st Board Game Swap

Library
12:00 p.m.

Join the Library for a fun board game swap event. Trade games, meet fellow players, discover something new, and refresh your collection while connecting with others who love tabletop fun.



Sun., March 22nd Hoppy Visits

Itasca Park District
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Itasca Bunny is hopping through town, stopping by driveways to spread spring cheer and deliver bunny baskets. Advance registration is required to take part in this special visit event.



Tues., March 24th Eggstreme Egg Hunt

Washington Park
8:00 p.m.

Teens and tweens ages 10 to 15 are invited to the Eggstreme egg hunt. Admission is free, with prizes and candy up for grabs.



Wed., March 25th Silly Goose Storytime

Library
10:00 a.m.

In celebration of Petunia the Goose's first birthday at the Library, families are invited to a special goose themed storytime. The program is geared toward children ages 2-6 with a caregiver.



Wed., March 25th Water Egg Hunt

Hamilton Lakes Athletic Club
6:00 - 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Dive into fun at the Water Egg Hunt! Children up to age 14 are invited to collect floating eggs, win prizes, and enjoy family swim time after the hunt. Pre-registration is required.



Sat., March 28th Spring Fling

Springbrook Nature Center
11:00 a.m.

Get ready for Easter at the Egg Hunt. Admission is free, and families can hunt for hidden treats, find prize filled eggs, and visit with the Easter Bunny.



Thurs., April 16th Author Visit

Library
7:00 p.m.

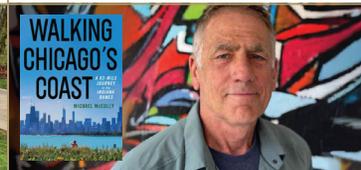
Join bestselling author Cristina Henríquez on Zoom for a conversation about her work and her latest novel, *The Great Divide*, presented through Illinois Libraries Present.



Sat., April 18th DuPage River Sweep

Nature Center
9:00 a.m. - Noon

Make a difference! Help clean up local waterways or join restoration projects at Springbrook Nature Center. Supplies and snacks provided. See page 8 for more details.



Tues., April 21st Author Visit

Library
7:00 p.m.

Join author Michael McColly on Zoom as he discusses his book *A 63 Mile Journey to the Indiana Dunes* and shares stories from his shoreline walk to Indiana Dunes National Park.



Sat., April 25th Arbor Day Celebration

Nature Center
10:00 a.m. - Noon

Celebrate Arbor Day with hands on activities, a tree climbing demo, free seedlings, and a Birds of Prey exhibit by Wings & Talons. More information on page 8.



Sat., May 2nd Green Day Recycling Event

Public Works
8:00 a.m. - Noon

Green Day is a community event focused on recycling and sustainability, offering residents a responsible way to dispose of electronics and reduce waste together. See page 8 for more details.



Mon., May 11th Shape of Itasca

Village Hall
7:00 p.m.

Hear directly from local taxing bodies as they share updates, upcoming plans, and what to expect in the year ahead at this community discussion sponsored by Itasca Bank & Trust Co.



Thurs., May 14th Chat with the Chief

Village Hall
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Residents are invited to join a conversation with local police leadership, ask questions, share concerns, and learn more about public safety and the work happening throughout the community.



Mon., May 25th Memorial Day Parade

Southside of Itasca
9:30 a.m.

Join us for the Annual Memorial Day Parade! Step off is at 9:30 a.m., with a Memorial Service following at Usher Park. Register your organization by April 10th at itascaparkdistrict.com.

Shape of Itasca

Mark your calendars for Shape of Itasca on Monday, May 11th at 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall. This annual event brings together local taxing bodies for an evening focused on community updates and discussion.

Hosted by Itasca Bank and Trust, Shape of Itasca offers residents a chance to hear directly from organizations that serve the community. Presentations will highlight current initiatives, upcoming projects, and longer term priorities that help shape the Village and surrounding area.

Residents are welcome to attend in person at Village Hall, or watch the event live on the Village's YouTube channel. Light refreshments will be available for those attending in person.

Protect Your Home With a Free Safety Check

Did you know smoke alarms do not last forever? During recent Home Safety Visits, the Itasca Fire Protection District found detectors in homes dating back to 1998. If your smoke alarms are more than ten years old, it is time to replace them. Many newer models also include a ten year battery, which reduces the need for regular battery changes.

To help residents take these first steps, the Itasca Fire Protection District offers free Home Safety Visits. Crews check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, look for visible safety concerns, and install battery operated units at no cost.

To schedule a Home Safety Visit, visit itascafd.org or call Joan at (630) 773-1223 x301.

Smoke Detectors for Fire Safety



INSTALL
Install smoke detectors in and outside every bedroom, and on each level (including the basement).

TEST
Test smoke detectors at least once a month by pushing the test button.

REPLACE
Replace all smoke detectors when they are 10 years old or stop responding when tested.

Chat with the Chiefs

Residents are invited to attend Chat with the Chiefs on Thursday, May 14th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Village Hall.

Members of the Police Department will be on hand to speak with residents about policing in the Village and respond to questions or concerns.

"We always appreciate the opportunity to meet with residents and hear what is on their minds," said Police Chief Robert O'Connor. "I encourage anyone who has a question or simply wants to talk to join us."

Now Enrolling: D10 Preschool

Looking for a preschool program where children feel welcomed, supported, and encouraged to grow together? The District 10 Early Childhood Program serves children ages 3–5 in a multi-aged classroom setting that brings together developing learners, children who may be at risk, and children with identified disabilities.

Children learn and play side by side in an inclusive environment led by certified teachers who focus on early learning skills and social-emotional development. Updated classrooms offer daily access to the gym and playground, giving children space to move, explore, and build confidence through play.

On-site specialists, including an occupational therapist, speech-language pathologist, and social worker, support students and classrooms so every child has the opportunity to learn and thrive.

Registration is now open for the 2026–2027 school year. Register early with a \$50 non-refundable deposit to secure your child's spot. Learn more at www.itasca10.org/preschool.



Be Ready. Stay Informed

If you have ever received a call, text, or email from the Village about severe weather, a road closure, or a public safety issue, those updates come through the Village's emergency notification system.

Until recently, the Village used a service called CodeRED. Following a reported security breach by the provider, the Village made the decision to switch notification services.

The Village has now transitioned to a new emergency notification system through CivicPlus. The new system offers improved security and gives residents more flexibility. Community members can choose which types of alerts they receive and how they receive them, whether by phone call, text message, or email.

Signing up is quick and helps ensure you receive important updates that may affect your day. Residents are encouraged to visit itasca.com to register and select the notifications that work best for their household.

Go Green Itasca

Spring is a great time to reconnect with the outdoors and make small changes that add up to a healthier community. From hands on events to simple everyday habits, there are many ways residents can take part in Itasca's ongoing efforts to support sustainability and environmental care.

Get Growing with the Itasca Garden Club

Spring is the perfect time to start planning your summer garden, and the Itasca Garden Club is ready to help you get growing. The club's annual plant sale returns this May with a wide selection of perennials, vegetables, and herbs well suited for local gardens and Midwest growing conditions. Gardening is a simple way to support pollinators, improve soil health, and add more green space to your yard this season.

Preorder forms will be available beginning April 1st at the Itasca Community Library and the Itasca Park District. Orders must be picked up on Saturday, May 16th, so be sure to mark your calendar.

Proceeds from the sale support gardening and nature related programs while helping build a welcoming group of neighbors who share an interest in horticulture. All plant material is sourced from Murphy's giving you the chance to beautify your home while supporting a local business at the same time.

To learn more about the plant sale or joining the Garden Club, call (630) 773-8518.

Free Yard Waste and Brush Collection Returns

Spring cleanup season is here, and the Village is once again offering free yard waste and brush collection to help residents prepare their properties for the season. Properly disposing of yard debris keeps neighborhoods tidy and supports responsible composting and recycling efforts throughout the community. Whether you are clearing leaves, trimming shrubs, or cleaning up storm debris, this service helps keep organic material out of landfills and put to better use.

Free yard waste and brush collection begins the week of April 6th.

Yard Waste

- Place in biodegradable paper bags or clearly labeled containers
- Containers may be up to 34 gallons
- Maximum weight is 50 pounds



Brush

- Bundle with biodegradable twine
- Cut ends must face the street
- Bundles may not exceed 50 pounds
- Maximum branch diameter is 6 inches

- Maximum bundle length is 4 feet

Holiday Schedule Reminder

- Pickup on Monday, May 25th, will be delayed to Tuesday, May 26th due to the Memorial Day holiday.

Join the DuPage County River Sweep

Residents are invited to take part in the annual DuPage County River Sweep on Saturday, April 18th from 9:00 a.m. to noon. This community cleanup event focuses on



River Sweep 2025

removing litter and debris from local waterways helping improve habitats for wildlife and protect natural resources.

The River Sweep is open to all ages and is a great opportunity for families scout groups and students looking for volunteer hours. Volunteers will work along streams ponds and creeks helping make a visible difference in their community.

Springbrook Nature Center will again serve as one of the featured cleanup sites. Supplies including gloves trash bags safety gear and trash pokers will be provided along with guidance snacks and water.

Registration is required and can be completed at theconservationfoundation.org/sweep. Volunteers will receive location details after registering.

Celebrate Arbor Day on Saturday, April 25th

Trees play an important role in the community by providing shade improving air quality and supporting wildlife. Arbor Day is a chance to recognize those benefits and celebrate the lasting impact trees have on daily life.



Arbor Day 2025

On Saturday, April 25th, the Village and Park District will host our annual Arbor Day celebration at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Pruyt will open the event with the Arbor Day proclamation followed by activities for all ages. Residents can take part in planting native wildflowers to support pollinators and local ecosystems and enjoy demonstrations including a tree climbing presentation. Free seedlings will be available for residents to take home and plant.

Residents interested in honoring someone special can also dedicate a tree through the Village website at itasca.com/treededication. Tree dedications offer a meaningful way to celebrate milestones remember loved ones and contribute to the community's green spaces.

Tree Care Tips

In recognition of Arbor Day, the Public Works Forestry Division is sharing a few simple tree care tips to help residents keep trees healthy throughout the year.



What to watch for:

Take a look at trees on your property from the bottom up. Things to keep an eye on include:

- Hollowing in the trunk, which may indicate decay or drying
- Small holes, cracks, or crumbling bark, which can be signs of disease or infestation
- Yellowing leaves, often caused by too much water, not enough water, or soil damage
- Sparse leaves, which may point to stress from insects, drought, or soil compaction

Questions about trees along in the parkway can be directed to Public Works. Submit your request at [itasca.com](https://www.itasca.com) under Service Requests.

Watering

- Most established trees do not need extra watering during the summer unless rainfall is limited or temperatures remain unusually high.
- Trees less than four years old need about 10 gallons of water per week for every inch of trunk diameter during hot or dry periods
- Puddling around the tree after watering may signal drainage issues or overwatering
- Too much water can be just as harmful as too little

Pruning

Pruning helps maintain tree health, appearance, and safety.

- Remove dead branches as needed
- Prune fruit trees in late winter or early spring
- Trees that flower in spring should be pruned after blooming

Mulching

Mulch helps retain moisture, regulate soil temperature, and reduce weeds.



- Create a donut-shaped ring of mulch around the base of the tree, leaving about 6 inches of space from the trunk
- Mulch depth should be about 3 inches and no more than 4 inches
- Keep mulch pulled away from the trunk to prevent damage

Fertilizing

Most trees do not require fertilizer, but it can support healthy growth when used correctly.

- Apply fertilizer prior to the growing season
- Use slow-release products when possible
- Avoid fertilizing trees stressed by drought

Itasca Green Day Recycling Event

Itasca's annual Green Day Recycling Event returns on Saturday, May 2nd from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Public Works Facility located at 411 N. Prospect Avenue. The event is sponsored by Itasca Bank & Trust Co. and provides residents with a convenient way to recycle and dispose of a wide range of items responsibly.



Residents can bring computers, printers, and other small electronics for recycling. One tube television or monitor per vehicle will be accepted, with a maximum screen size of 32 inches. Projection televisions cannot be accepted.

On-site document shredding will be available for Itasca residents, Itasca Bank & Trust Co. customers, associates, and in-home businesses. Shredding is limited to five copy paper sized boxes, which will be returned to participants. Please ensure documents are removed from 3-ring binders. Books, catalogs, magazines, newspapers, and hazardous materials will not be accepted.

Additional recycling opportunities include fabric, bicycles, American flags, eyeglasses, prescription medications, used motor oil, automotive batteries, scrap metal, and more. Cooking oil may be brought in containers or poured out with containers returned.

Participants will also have opportunities to receive giveaways throughout the event. For full details visit [itasca.com/greenday](https://www.itasca.com/greenday) or contact Public Works for additional information.

Turn Rain Into Savings

Looking for an easy way to save water this spring? The Village of Itasca is partnering with the Conservation Foundation to offer discounted rain barrels from March through the end of April. Rain barrels capture water from your roof that would otherwise flow to storm drains.

Just a quarter inch of rainfall can produce more than 200 gallons of reusable water for gardens landscaping and outdoor cleaning. Residents can save up to 60 percent through this spring program.

Order today at [itasca.com/rainbarrel](https://www.itasca.com/rainbarrel). Free pickup is available during the Village Green Day event on May 2nd.

A Greener Way to Pay

Choosing electronic water billing is a simple way to go green. It reduces paper use, printing, and mailing while helping cut down on waste without changing how you manage your bill.



Bills are available online anytime, making it easy to pay when it works for you. Sign up at [itsacil.municipalonlinepayments.com/itsacil](https://www.itsacil.municipalonlinepayments.com/itsacil).

New Hires, Promotions, and Retirements

Two new team members have joined Village staff and are beginning their work in the community.

Andrew Treppa recently joined the Itasca Police Department after graduating from the Illinois State Police Academy. He will spend the next several months completing field training alongside experienced officers before beginning solo patrol. During this time, he will gain hands on experience, learn the community, and build relationships with residents. Outside of work, Andrew enjoys roller skating and spending time with family and friends. “I am very excited to start my law enforcement career in Itasca and look forward to serving the community in any way possible,” he said.



Andrew Treppa

Cody Johnson has joined the Village’s Public Works team. Previously employed by the Itasca Park District, Cody already knows the community well and may be a familiar face to some residents. As a certified arborist with several years of hands on experience, he brings strong knowledge of trees, landscaping, and maintaining the Village’s public spaces. Cody said he looks forward to continuing his work locally. “I am glad to be working for the Village and helping take care of the community I call home,” he shared.



Cody Johnson

Join us in welcoming Andrew and Cody as they take on their new roles with the Village.

New Dare Officer

The Itasca Police Department’s work in the community extends well beyond patrols and traffic stops. One important part of that work takes place in local schools, where officers spend time with students through the DARE program.

DARE gives students a chance to have open conversations about real situations they may face as they grow. Topics include peer pressure, bullying, and making safe choices around drugs and alcohol, with lessons built around discussion rather than lectures. The goal is to give students tools they can actually use, while also helping them feel comfortable talking with police officers in everyday, non-emergency settings.

This year, DARE classes will be taught by Officer Jonathan Oie. Officer Oie completed DARE training in October 2025 and will be working directly with students in Itasca schools, building relationships and guiding classroom discussions throughout the program.



Jonathan Oie

When asked about teaching DARE, Officer Oie shared, “DARE is about connecting, building, growing, and learning life lessons that even adults can use in everyday life. DARE is truly a useful tool that can educate children, and I am proud to be able to instruct this course and connect with Itasca’s future.”

Ride Safe, Ride Smart

As warmer weather arrives, activity around town increases quickly. Kids are back on bikes, neighbors are walking and biking more often, and streets and sidewalks are busier throughout the day. Along with traditional bicycles, e-bikes and e-scooters are becoming a more common part of everyday travel.

As neighbors spend more time outdoors and share the same spaces, paying attention to one another matters more than ever. Part of the Police Department’s role during the spring and summer months includes helping residents understand how e-bikes and e-scooters fit within existing traffic rules so streets and sidewalks remain safe for all users.



E-bikes are required to be ridden on the roadway and must follow the same traffic laws as traditional bicycles. Gas powered unlicensed vehicles and e-bikes over 750 watts are not permitted. E-scooters under 750 watts may be used on sidewalks, except within the Nature Center, where they are not allowed.

Itasca recognizes three classes of e-bikes based on how the motor assists and top speed. Riders are encouraged to wear helmets, remain alert at intersections, walk bikes or scooters in crowded areas, and avoid distractions while riding.

As activity picks up, the smallest decisions often matter most. Slowing down near others, yielding when space is tight, and staying alert can prevent close calls before they happen. A little extra care goes a long way in keeping spring and summer enjoyable for everyone using streets and sidewalks. More information can be found at itasca.com/ebike.

Hiring for Seasonal Jobs

Need a summer job for a teen or young adult?

The Village of Itasca and the Park District are hiring seasonal staff for the summer. These positions offer a chance to earn money, stay busy, and build experience along the way.

From lifeguards to seasonal maintenance workers, there’s something for everyone.

For current openings and application information, visit itasca.com for Village positions or itascaparkdistrict.com for Park District opportunities.

Thank You Outgoing Commissioners

Much of what happens at the Village is shaped by residents who volunteer their time to serve on boards and commissions. Recently, three commissioners completed their terms: Christopher McAllister, who served four years on the Plan Commission; Christian Ketter, who served two years on the Police Commission; and Patsy Anderson, who dedicated seven years to the Historical Commission.

Commission service takes time and commitment. It means reviewing information, attending meetings, and being part of discussions that influence planning, public safety, and local history. This work often happens quietly but plays an important role in how the Village operates.

The Village is grateful for the time Christopher, Christian, and Patsy gave to their commissions and appreciates their willingness to step up and be involved.

Itasca Impact Award Nominations are Open

Nominations are now open for the Itasca Impact Awards.

This program recognizes individuals, businesses, and organizations whose actions make a meaningful difference in our community. From quiet acts of service to leadership that brings people together, these awards highlight the positive impact happening throughout Itasca.

Residents are encouraged to take part by submitting a nomination. Whether it is a neighbor, a local business, or a community organization, nominations help ensure that these efforts are recognized and celebrated.

Award recipients will be honored at a community ceremony on Sunday, September 13th, at Washington Park. The event provides an opportunity to come together and recognize those who help strengthen our community.

To learn more or submit a nomination, scan the QR code or visit [itasca.com/impactawards](https://www.itasca.com/impactawards). Help us commend those who truly make an impact!



Welcoming New Commission Members

Village commissions are part of how Itasca approaches planning, preservation, and public safety. Made up of volunteer residents, these boards review proposals, discuss community priorities, and provide recommendations before matters move forward to the Village Board. This January, four residents were appointed to serve on Village commissions.

Dianna Barthel is stepping into a new role on the Plan Commission after previously serving on the Historical Commission. A 23 year resident, Dianna has watched the Village grow while raising her family here. Her time on the Historical Commission sparked a deeper interest in how development decisions are reviewed and approved. On the Plan Commission, she will help evaluate zoning requests, site plans, and proposals that shape the Village's future.



Dianna Barthel

Beth Penny joined the Historical Commission after three years in Itasca. Her interest grew from years of walking through the historic district before moving here and admiring the older homes and neighborhoods. She values the stories and character found in those homes and hopes to support thoughtful preservation efforts that respect the Village's history while recognizing its continued growth.



Beth Penny

Jess Finn, also joining the Historical Commission, brings a strong background in community involvement. A 10 year resident and preschool teacher, she has spent years helping families connect with local programs through the Park District, Springbrook Nature Center, and other community organizations. She looks forward to helping preserve Itasca's historic character for future generations.



Jess Finn

Frank Adamo was appointed to the Police Commission. An attorney and longtime resident, Frank has lived in Itasca for more than 20 years and raised his family here. He brings both professional experience and a long term connection to the community, and is motivated by a desire to support fairness, professionalism, and accountability within the Police Department.



Frank Adamo

The Village appreciates Dianna, Beth, Jess, and Frank for taking the time to get involved and serve their community. Their willingness to step up helps keep these commissions active and representative of resident voices.

The Village News
is the official publication
of the Village of Itasca.

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Village Clerk

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Village Administrator

Carie Anne Ergo

**Village Departments
and Taxing Districts**

Village Administrator

773-0835

Village Clerk's Office

773-0835

Community Development

773-5568

Public Works

773-2455

Wastewater Treatment Plant

773-5571

Police Department Non-Emergency

773-1004

Police Department Emergency

9-1-1

Itasca Chamber of Commerce

773-2949

Springbrook Nature Center

773-5572

Library

773-1699

School District #10

773-1232

Park District

773-2257

Fire District Non-Emergency

773-1223

Fire District Emergency

9-1-1

O'Hare Noise Hotline Complaints

(800) 435-9569



Village of Itasca

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Spring Street Sweeping Returns

Spring street sweeping helps clear away winter debris, sand, and buildup that collects along curbs and gutters. This seasonal service supports cleaner streets, improved drainage, and safer conditions throughout the community.

Street sweeping will begin this spring as weather conditions allow. During scheduled sweeping days, residents are asked to move vehicles off the street to allow crews to clean curb to curb. Streets with parked vehicles cannot be fully swept, which may result in debris being left behind.

Residents are encouraged to avoid pushing leaves or yard debris into the street, as this material can block storm drains and interfere with sweeping operations. Yard waste should be placed out for collection following proper guidelines.

Sweep schedules and updates will be posted on **itasca.com**.

Thank you to all the contributing editors
of the newsletters, especially:



Schedule of Monthly Meetings

Monday:

No Meetings Scheduled

Tuesday:

1st Tuesday - Board of Trustees - 7:00 p.m.

3rd Tuesday - Board of Trustees - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

3rd Wednesday - Plan Commission - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday:

3rd Thursday - Historical Commission - 7:00 p.m.

Friday:

No Meetings Scheduled