

# Pingree Grove News



## President's Message



Amber Kubiak  
Village President

Dear Fellow Residents,

As the weather begins to warm, we are excited to see all the progress that has been made on the wastewater treatment plant expansion due in part to the mild winter. As the project continues, the loud banging noises should soon be distant memory and the sight of new plant buildings should soon be visible from the roadway. The board and staff have been busy working to complete a strategic plan for the village and will be holding further meetings open to the public as we get closer to completion. This plan will guide the village's priorities over the next 3 years. If you have comments or questions, I encourage you to reach out to myself or one of the trustees - we certainly welcome community input. Village road resurfacing will continue this summer, and we anticipate a late summer versus fall completion, as we went out to bid for the project much earlier.

Speaking of construction, we are excited for the Elgin/ IDOT Reinking Rd/Rt 20 roundabout project to begin this summer. This project will create a much safer intersection. I would like to encourage everyone to come out to support the Events Committee at the annual Touch-a-Truck event on Saturday, May 4, in the Charter School parking lot. You can find all of the event info on the Village Website. I am thrilled to announce that the Village will host the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce's 2024 Business Expo on Saturday, May 11 at the Village Municipal Center, and look forward to our continued partnership in bringing positive opportunities for both residents and businesses. Finally, I want to thank Representative Jeff Keicher for nominating me for the Emerging Women Leader, at the Emerging Women Leaders Conference that was held in Springfield on March 5. I was able to be part of a phenomenal day, meeting with leaders from across the state, and I am proud to represent Pingree Grove. As always, please reach out to me with questions or concerns at [akubiak@pingreegrove.org](mailto:akubiak@pingreegrove.org).

## Non-Home Rule Sales Tax Passed Voter Referendum

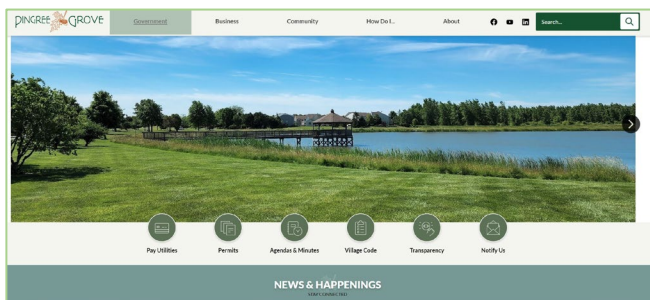


On Tuesday, March 19, 2024, by election ballot referendum, Village residents voted in favor of implementing a Non-Home Rule Sales Tax in the Village of Pingree Grove. Beginning in the summer 2024, a 1% local sales tax will be applied to eligible goods purchased within the corporate boundaries of the village. This 1% local sales tax will increase the village's current sales tax rate from 7% to 8%, consisting of a 6.25% state sales tax (of which the Village receives a 1.25% revenue

portion), a 0.75% Regional Transit Authority (RTA) tax, and the new 1% local sales tax with 100% of that revenue remaining directly in the Village. A state sales tax applies to all tangible and qualifying general merchandise such as convenience and ready to be consumed foods - from sandwiches, salads, and coffee - to furniture, appliances, and clothing and shoes. The 1% local sales tax will apply to anyone making eligible purchases within the village - residents and non-resident alike. The village anticipates that the new local sales tax will generate approximately \$325,000 in annual revenue.

## It's Time for the Pingree Grove Special Census

By time of this newsletter, you may have already received a mailing from the U.S. Census Bureau inviting you to complete an Internet Self-Response (ISR) to the online Special Census survey. The mailing will include a **12-digit Census ID** that will be used for your survey response in the Census portal. The online **reporting period is 3/29/2024 - 4/23/2024**. For those residents who are unable to respond online, Field Representatives from the U.S. Census Bureau will begin **in-person data collection from 5/9/2024 - 5/31/2024**. Your safety is important, Field Representatives will carry official U.S. Census Bureau identification at all times while conducting in-person data collection. For questions, please contact the Municipal Center at (847) 464-5533. We appreciate everyone's participation in being counted in this important project that will benefit the entire community!



## [www.PingreeGrove.org](http://www.PingreeGrove.org)

The Village website was designed with you in mind to keep you informed on all things Pingree! Have you visited the Village's website? Do you find what you are looking for? We welcome your comments on the usefulness of the website and any suggestions or additional content that may be helpful to the community. Send your comments and/or suggestions to [info@pingreegrove.org](mailto:info@pingreegrove.org).



## Keep Vehicles Locked

The Police Department would like to remind residents that it's not uncommon for thieves to walk down a row of parked vehicles checking handles for unlocked doors. Make it a practice to keep your vehicle doors always locked, whether parked to run in for a second or while driving. Reduce the chances that your vehicle will get broken into by keeping any valuables out of sight.

Village code was revised to allow for **parking on/over sidewalks during the hours of 9:00 pm and 6:00 am on any day**. Cars parked on/over sidewalks outside of these hours will be issued a \$40.00 parking citation.

Support Pingree Grove Police Department during the annual **Dunkin' Cop on a Rooftop** – the Dunkin' and Illinois Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois partnership. This year marks the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary



supporting Special Olympics athletes. **Friday, May 17 from 5am – noon Dunkin' corners of Rt 72 and Rt 47.**



Pingree Grove Community Events Committee will host this year's Touch-a-Truck on **Saturday, May 4 from noon – 3:00 pm**, at the Cambridge Lakes Charter School parking lot 900 Wester Blvd., Pingree Grove. Quiet hour is from noon – 1pm pm.

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

**2024 BUSINESS EXPO & JOB FAIR**

**SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024**  
10am to 1pm

**Free and Open to the Public**  
VISIT DOZENS OF LOCAL BUSINESSES ALL IN ONE PLACE!

**PINGREE GROVE MUNICIPAL CENTER**

- BUSINESS COMMUNITY
- HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS
- CITY & SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS
- LOCAL LENDERS
- NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
- AWESOME DRAWING PRIZES
- ENTERTAINMENT/FOOD
- GIVEAWAYS
- HIRING OPPORTUNITIES
- CRAFT VENDORS

Presented by the Hampshire Area Chamber of Commerce - [www.HampshireChamber.org](http://www.HampshireChamber.org)

## Hampshire Area Chamber of Commerce

The Village is pleased to partner with the **Hampshire Area Chamber of Commerce** as the host of this year's Home & Business Expo. This free expo event is open to the public and will take place at the **Pingree Grove Municipal Center, 555 Reinking Road, on Saturday, May 11th from 10am to 1pm**. Visit dozens of local businesses and community groups to receive giveaways, prize drawings, raffles, entertainment, food, and craft vendors! There is something for the whole family. Visit [www.HampshireChamber.org](http://www.HampshireChamber.org) for more information or to sign up to participate as a business vendor

## Pingree Grove Fire Protection District Receives Award of Valor

Congratulations go out to the **Pingree Grove & Countryside Fire Protection District** for receiving an Award of Valor from the **Illinois 100 Club!** Kane County Sheriff, Ron Hain, nominated the PGCFPD along with eight members of the department - Firefighters: Bartlett, Carlini, Cwik, Eiermann, N. Howell, Rissman, and Wangles, as well as Deputy Fire Chief, Chris Howell, and then awarded with the **2023 Kane County Valor Award** for their successful October 23, 2023, vehicle crash rescue response. Join us in thanking the PGCFPD for their selfless service.



## Ask Andy!

By Andy Ferrini,  
Village Manager



**Q. Are there roads within the community that the Village does not maintain?**

**A.** Yes. Illinois Route 72, Illinois Route 47, and US Route 20 are all roads that go through our community but are maintained by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). IDOT is responsible for making repairs to these roads as well as snowplowing and repaving.

**Q. When was the Village of Pingree Grove founded?**

**A.** The village was incorporated as a municipality in 1907. The Village was named after the Pingree family that first settled in this area in 1838. From 1907 until the mid 2000's the Village population was under 200 people. As of the 2020 Census, the population of the community was counted as 10,365 people. The Village is currently undergoing a special census count performed by the U.S. Census Bureau to get an updated count of all residents in the community to account for the growth in population from new homes constructed in the last few years.

**Q. Is the Village still planning on a traffic circle at Reinking and 20?**

**A.** Although not a Village project, yes, a traffic circle is planned for construction on US Route 20 and Reinking Rd. This City of Elgin and IDOT project is currently underway with utility staging and construction is scheduled to begin mid-to-late summer with a 5-month timeframe for completion.

Until the next question.

Best,

*Andy*  
Andy

Questions to "Ask Andy!" may be submitted by e-mail to [info@pingreegrove.org](mailto:info@pingreegrove.org)





## RECENT BOARD ACTIONS

At the February 20, 2024, Board Meeting, the Village Board approved an Amendment to Village Code Title 7, Chapter 5 Parking Regulations, Section 5-2 Restrictions on Parking. The amendment prohibits parking on or over a sidewalk between the hours of 6:00 am and 9:00 pm on any day, where the code previously prohibited any parking on a sidewalk.

On Monday, April 1, 2024, the Village Board approved the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget which incorporated the total program of Village expenditures and supporting revenues for the coming fiscal year and maintains the Village's operating reserves above minimum recommended levels, which includes the ability to hire additional staff for Police, Public Works, and Administration.

At the April 1, 2024, Board meeting, the Board approved the implementation of a final notice delinquency fine of \$25.00. This fine will be added to all accounts requiring a final notice hang tag placed on their residence, due to non-payment of the bi-monthly utility billing. The fine is to deter delinquent account holders from waiting until receiving a final notice prior to making payment for water/sewer utility service.

## Meet the Village

The Village appreciates the hard work and dedication of its staff and would like to introduce you to those employees being recognized in 2024 for their significant service time with the Village.



**Employee Spotlight** Meet Pat Doherty, a Village property owner and 16-year Village employee. Pat began serving the Village in 2006 as an appointed Planning Commissioner and began his full-time career in 2008 as a Public Works Supervisor. In 2017, Pat was promoted to Director of Public Works, a position he continues to hold today. In his role,

Pat is responsible for ensuring the efficiency and maintenance of all of the working parts of the village, from the water and sewer plants, streets and sidewalks, lighting, village facilities, parks, and grounds.

## PingREEN Grove

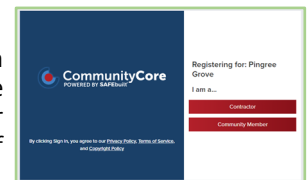
The Village is not only green and clean in celebration of Earth Day, but it makes continuous efforts in fostering the conservation of resources in its daily operations, in consideration of its residents' environmental quality of life. 2024 represents Pingree Grove's 8<sup>th</sup> year status as a **Tree City USA** in recognition of the amount of annual tree plantings and replacements. The village is also one of the only municipalities in Illinois that utilizes an IEPA permitted effluent spray irrigation system, and this reuse of grey water has transitioned the Village into a green oasis without the use of large amounts of potable water. Other conservation efforts include dark sky compliancy through the conversion of all village streetlighting from HID (high intensity discharge) to energy efficient LED, reducing the village's electricity cost by 66%. Additionally, the Village utilizes 11 bioswales designed to collect polluted stormwater runoff, soak it into the ground, and filter out pollution prior to reaching area creeks.



## Tis the Season for Building Permits

Is the warmer weather providing you with inspiration for ideas to improve and/or make repairs to your property but you are not familiar with the permitting process? Get answers to all of your building-related questions by contacting

**SAFEbuilt Illinois** via email at: [liinspections@safebuilt.com](mailto:liinspections@safebuilt.com) or by phone at (847) 510-4104. SAFEbuilt is the Village's building department service provider managing all building-related services from plan reviews, permitting, and inspections. If you are planning on outdoor improvements or repairs, such as roofs, solar panels, decks, pools, shed, etc., obtaining approval from the respective HOA is a necessary first step. The next step is to register (residents or contractors) for an online **CommunityCore** account – SAFEbuilt's online portal system for uploading approvals and project documents for review. All permit follow-up and next steps will be communicated by email, including when to make payment and the availability of permit retrieval.



## Municipal Center

555 Reinking Rd, Pingree Grove, IL 60140  
(847) 464-5533  
Mon-Fri 8:00 am – 4:30 pm  
[info@pingreegrove.org](mailto:info@pingreegrove.org) | [www.pingreegrove.org](http://www.pingreegrove.org)

## Village Manager

Andy Ferrini | [aferrini@pingreegrove.org](mailto:aferrini@pingreegrove.org)

## Board of Trustees Meetings

Monthly 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – 7:00 pm

## Village President

Amber Kubiak | [akubiak@pingreegrove.org](mailto:akubiak@pingreegrove.org)

## Trustees

Brook Carey | [bcarey@pingreegrove.org](mailto:bcarey@pingreegrove.org)  
Adam Hagg | [ahagg@pingreegrove.org](mailto:ahagg@pingreegrove.org)  
Luke Hall | [lhall@pingreegrove.org](mailto:lhall@pingreegrove.org)  
Joe Hirschbein | [jhirschbein@pingreegrove.org](mailto:jhirschbein@pingreegrove.org)  
Ed Tarnow | [etarnow@pingreegrove.org](mailto:etarnow@pingreegrove.org)

## Village Clerk & Customer Service Supervisor

Laura Ortega | [lortega@pingreegrove.org](mailto:lortega@pingreegrove.org)

## Finance Department

Albert Walczak | [awalczak@pingreegrove.org](mailto:awalczak@pingreegrove.org)

## Public Works Department

Pat Doherty | [pdoherty@pingreegrove.org](mailto:pdoherty@pingreegrove.org)

## Police Department

One Police Plaza  
Pingree Grove, IL 60140  
(847) 464-4600 | [info@pingreepolice.org](mailto:info@pingreepolice.org)

## Non-Emergency Dispatch

(630) 232-8400

## Chief of Police

Chris Harris | [charris@pingreepolice.org](mailto:charris@pingreepolice.org)



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## Village-Wide Garage Sale

The annual Village-wide garage sale will take place on **Thursday, June 13, Friday, June 14, and Saturday, June 15 from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm rain or shine**. Registration and a \$10 permit fee is required to participate. Register no later than Friday, June 7 to be included on the garage sale location map. Visit the “community” tab on the village website to register online. For questions email: [events@pingreegrove.org](mailto:events@pingreegrove.org).

## Independence Day Celebration

Save the date – **Friday, July 12 and Saturday, July 13**



## 3-Cycle Recycling Event



Start organizing for the Village's annual 3-cycle event – shredding, electronics and hazardous waste - which will be held on **Saturday, August 17 from 9am to noon**. The event is sponsored by Flood Brothers and is open to Village residents only.

## Village Calendar

DATE	EVENT
4/01/24	Board of Trustees Meeting Municipal Center 7:00 pm
4/15/24	Board of Trustees Meeting Municipal Center 7:00 pm
4/20/24	PinGREEN Grove Earth Day Clean-Up 9:00 am – Noon (Rain date 4/21)
5/04/24	Touch-a-Truck Community Events Committee
5/06/24	Board of Trustees Meeting Municipal Center 7:00 pm
5/11/24	Business Expo & Job Fair Hampshire Chamber Commerce
5/17/24	Dunkin' Cop on a Rooftop 5:00 am – Noon
5/20/24	Board of Trustees Meeting Municipal Center 7:00 pm
5/27/24	Memorial Day Observed – Municipal Center Closed
6/03/24	Board of Trustees Meeting Municipal Center 7:00 pm
6/13 – 6/15/24	Village-Wide Garage Sale 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
6/20/24	Board of Trustees Meeting Municipal Center 7:00 pm
07/12 - 7/13/24	Independence Day Celebration Wester Blvd Ballfields