

Pingree Grove News



President's Message



Amber Kubiak
Village President

Dear Fellow Residents,

Summer is officially upon us, and the Village continues to diligently strive to provide an improved quality of life for you and your family as residents of our wonderful town! Bayfield neighborhood no. 1, and West Hampton neighborhood no. 5, were chosen for street resurfacing under this year's MFT road resurfacing project including adjacent sidewalks and ADA ramp replacements. Additionally, the remaining gravel road portion of Highland Avenue will be given surface-level paving. Although Highland Avenue is City of Elgin property, resurfacing it is not a high priority for them. As Highland's condition has become increasingly hazardous for residents and visitors who utilize it, the Village Board voted in favor to include Highland surface-level paving under the Village's MFT program. Speaking of construction, the Board approved a change in construction hours from the

current 7am-9pm daily, to 7am-8pm Monday-Friday and 8am-8pm on Saturday and Sunday. The new construction hours do not apply to the DR Horton project agreements in place. Public Works has mapped out various areas around Village paths and ponds to add benches for residents to sit and relax while taking in our various natural habitats, to take a break, or to socialize with neighbors that you may run into along the way. Lastly, if you have not had an opportunity to visit the community pollinator garden, please take a moment to do so. With the Village's recent commitment to becoming part of the Monarch City USA program, there are many new plantings to help encourage and sustain the Monarch butterfly and other insects that rely on nectar producing plants for survival. As always, I welcome your questions and feedback akubiak@pingreegrove.org. Have a wonderful summer!

Monarch City USA



At the May 6th Board Meeting 2nd grade student, Miss Biz Hirschbein, addressed the Board with a presentation on



on the Monarch butterfly, proposing that the Village join the Monarch City USA program. The program recognizes the efforts and a commitment to the environment and encourages municipalities to directly help the Monarch butterfly population recover by planting milkweed and other nectar producing plants. President Kubiak agreed with Miss Hirschbein's proposal and the importance of sustaining the Monarch butterfly, and on June 3rd, passed a Village Proclamation naming the month of June as **Monarch Butterfly Month** in the Village of Pingree Grove.



Earth Events



In April, the Village honored **Earth Day** with its first organized clean-up event. Residents formed groups of volunteers to clean-up the community. Thirteen 30-gal bags of trash were collected on that very chilly day! First, second and third place groups collecting the most trash received a gift card to a community establishment of their choice. Lots of Milk House Ice Cream to be had over the summer!



TREE CITY USA
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

Arbor Day was celebrated with the planting of a new **Frans Fontaine Hornbeam** tree that at maturity, will reach 35' x 15'. Students from Cambridge Lakes Charter School joined the Village for a presentation of a Proclamation read by President Kubiak in honor of Arbor Day and the Village's status as a Tree City USA. Public Works Director, Pat Doherty, gave a brief arbor history while the students enjoyed a snack and participated in answering questions, and sharing their knowledge of all things, trees!





National Night Out

Show your support for Pingree Grove Police officers by joining them and other police department personnel at the 2024 **National Night Out** event on **Tuesday, August 6 from 5-8pm** at the Pingree Grove Police Department, One Police Plaza, parking lot. The Carillon Car Club will be on display, food, exhibits and more! National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.



Village Infrastructure Improvements



The annual **MFT road resurfacing project** ensures that the Village is keeping up with its maintenance obligation of all Village roadways. Each year the Village's Engineering and Public Works team conduct inspections of all Village roadways and track the conditions utilizing a pavement management plan. This pavement management plan is then used to select and prioritize the roads within two to three neighborhoods for inclusion in the road resurfacing program. This year's program will include the resurfacing of streets within neighborhoods 1 and 5 to include adjacent sidewalks and ADA ramp replacement:

Bayfield

Birchwood Drive
Evergreen Lane
White Pines Trail

West Hampton

Bay Shore Drive
Glen Cove Lane
Valley Stream Drive

As many of the roads in the Village are fairly new, we are fortunate to have good-quality roadways throughout the community. The cost associated with this annual project comes from state-issued motor fuel tax (MFT) funding. Included in this year's road resurfacing is surface level paving of the remaining gravel road on Highland Avenue from Catamaran Circle to Damisch Road.

The **Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion**, the largest infrastructure project in Village history is well underway. This project entails the expansion of the Village's wastewater treatment plant facility and will result in the doubling of its processing capacity. This is a four-year project, which is expected to be completed in late 2027. The increased capacity from the plant is critical to accommodate the Village's growing population as well as future economic development efforts. Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi (IL-08), visited the wastewater treatment plant construction site on July 15th, and provided the Village with a presentation check in the amount of \$959,752 in federal funding towards project costs.



The Illinois Department of Transportation has informed that they have pushed back the start date for the Elgin **Route 20/Reinking Road Roundabout Project** to the Spring of 2025. This State project will consist of the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Reinking Road and US Route 20. This roundabout will help improve traffic flows and intersection safety at that location. The surface paving of Highland Avenue will be timely in accommodating detours that will be necessary during the construction of this project.

Ask Andy!

By Andy Ferrini,
Village Manager



Q. How many parks are there in the community and who runs them?

A. There are 19 parks in the community. Ten are maintained by the Homeowner Associations and nine are maintained by the Village. As a general rule, the Village maintains parks that are more than an acre in size including:

- Skate Park
- CL Baseball Complex
- Rec Center Park
- School Park
- Wester Reinking
- Centennial Park
- Parkside Baseball Complex
- Prairie Street Park

Q. My neighbors and I want to hold a block party, How do we get approval for one?

A. A block party application and an approved permit is required to hold a block party. Applications can be found on the Village website under the "How Do I" tab. Complete and submit to the Municipal Center at least 14 days prior to the requested event date. There is no cost for a block party permit, however, there is a \$380 refundable check deposit required for four street closure barricades. The deposit is returned when barricades are retrieved. *The Village does not allow block parties to be held during the community-wide garage sale in June, or the Independence Day celebration in July.*

Until the next question.

Best,

Andy

Questions to "Ask Andy!" may be submitted by e-mail to info@pingreegrove.org



RECENT BOARD ACTIONS

June 17, 2024 - The Village Board authorized a Hotel Market Feasibility Study with HVS Consulting. HVS will perform a study on the economic potential of the Village for future hotel development. If the study comes back with data that indicates that there is a market for a hotel, then the Village will work with developers to attract the development of a hotel within the Village. A hotel can help strengthen the Village's tax base and boost tourism to the area.

July 15, 2024 - The Village formally approved the conveyance of vacant Village-owned land to the library district for the purpose of constructing a library. The Ella Johnson Library District is a separate government entity, but the Village worked with them to facilitate the transfer of vacant land, just North of the Municipal Center on Reinking, to the Library District. The Library District has 6 years to obtain approval in a referendum for bonds to finance the construction of a library building at that property. If a referendum is not approved at that time, the ownership of the land will revert back to the Village. Please stay tuned for communications from the Library District regarding building plans and a referendum

Village Board meetings are held on the first and third Monday of the month; Tuesday if date falls on a Village observed holiday. Board Meetings are open to the public by in-person attendance or livestream online via YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@PingreeGroveVillage/streams>



Meet the Village - Employee Spotlight

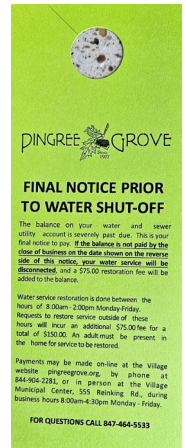
Meet Susan Terranova, a Village resident and 5-year Village employee. Susan is an active member of the community and in D300 sporting events with her two children. It's most likely that you've already come to know Susan. As the Village's Customer Service Representative, Susan is the

main voice at the other end of the line assisting residents and answering a variety of questions that come into the Village. Susan is responsible for managing resident utility accounts, billing records, and cash receipting. One of the more important roles Susan fulfills is Mrs. Clause during the annual Canadian Pacific Kansas City Holiday Train and Village Tree Lighting events.

Utility Bill Delinquency Fine Implemented

Beginning with the July utility billing cycle for water/sewer service from May 1 - June 30, due on August 1, a \$25 delinquency fine will be added to those utility accounts reaching the final notice green tag stage for lack of payment. This fine will automatically be added to the account holder's delinquent balance. A reminder that utility bills are issued in odd numbered months and due in even numbered months on the 1st day of the month. Should the 1st fall on a weekend/village-observed holiday, payment is due on the first business day following. To assist in managing utility account billing, a utility billing schedule is available for pickup at the Municipal Center, or it may be downloaded from the Village website at:

https://www.villageofpingreegrove.org/DocumentCenter/View/3344/2024_Utility-Billing-Calendar_Web



Village Strategic Plan May 2024 - April 2027



This year the Village engaged in a strategic planning process, and a formal strategic planning document, created with the help of students from the NIU Experiential Learning Center. The Village Board and staff discussed the various challenges and opportunities before the Village and set organizational priorities for the next three years. As part of this process, the Village identified four main priority areas and identified projects and programs to help achieve these priorities.

The four strategic priorities set were:

1. Balanced Growth and Economic Development - Foster well-rounded community growth, ensuring the availability of public services, quality housing, and both public and private amenities for all residents;
2. Financial Stewardship - Ensure the responsible and ethical management of financial resources to provide a financially sustainable community;
3. Invest in Infrastructure - Allocate adequate resources and funding to enhance, develop, and maintain essential public structures, assets, and facilities; and
4. Organizational Excellence - Attain heightened levels of operational performance, service delivery, and employee expertise.

The full strategic plan document is available for viewing on the Village website. All residents are invited to review the document and see some of the projects the Village is working on over the next few years.

Municipal Center

555 Reinking Rd, Pingree Grove, IL 60140

(847) 464-5533

Mon-Fri 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

info@pingreegrove.org | www.pingreegrove.org

Village Manager

Andy Ferrini | aferrini@pingreegrove.org

Board of Trustees Meetings

Monthly 1st & 3rd Monday – 7:00 pm

Village President

Amber Kubiak | akubiak@pingreegrove.org

Trustees

Brook Carey | bcarey@pingreegrove.org

Adam Hagg | ahagg@pingreegrove.org

Luke Hall | lhall@pingreegrove.org

Joe Hirschbein | jhirschbein@pingreegrove.org

Kevin Pini | kpini@pingreegrove.org

Ed Tarnow | etarnow@pingreegrove.org

Village Clerk & Customer Service Supervisor

Laura Ortega | lortega@pingreegrove.org

Finance Department

Albert Walczak | awalczak@pingreegrove.org

Public Works Department

Pat Doherty | pdoherty@pingreegrove.org

Police Department

One Police Plaza

Pingree Grove, IL 60140

(847) 464-4600 | info@pingreepolice.org

Non-Emergency Dispatch

(630) 232-8400

Chief of Police

Chris Harris | charris@pingreepolice.org



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3-Cycle Recycling Event



The Village is teaming up with Flood Brothers for a 3-cycle recycling event on Saturday, August 17th from 9:00am-12:00pm at the Village Municipal Center parking lot (555 Reinking Rd.). Residents may drive through and drop off paper, hazardous waste, or electronics for recycling. This FREE recycling event is open to Village residents only. One TV disposal allowed per household.



PINGREE GROVE
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The Village of Pingree Grove's Community Events Committee would like to thank all of its generous 2024 sponsors which help bring these events to the community

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3-CYCLE RECYCLING EVENT

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Main Street Bicycles • Mas Supply • Metropolitan Industries • Municipal Collections of America • Pena Group • Uniform Den East

