



Committed to our future.
Inspired by our past.

Family Fun at Itasca
Waterpark - courtesy of
Sandy Anderson
(See Back Cover)



The Village News



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Mayor's Message



Mayor Jeff Pruyn

There's something special about summer in Itasca. It's a time when our parks fill with activity, familiar faces gather downtown, and the community comes alive with shared traditions and new experiences. It's also my favorite season—when the longer days and warm evenings give us more chances to connect with one another.

We'll start the season by bringing our patriotism and gratitude to the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26th. This event is a meaningful way to honor those who served our country, and I hope residents of all ages will come out and take part. With Usher Park under construction,

the parade will follow a new north-side route, and the community is invited to Peacock Park for the Memorial Day service following the procession.

This summer brings a full calendar of events, including the return of the Summer Concert Series starting Wednesday, June 4th. Concerts will rotate through different park locations this year, offering more ways for neighbors to enjoy live music throughout the season. The Village is proud to co-sponsor the series with the Itasca Park District—so grab a lawn chair, bring a friend, and settle in for an evening of music and fun.

The Walnut Street Market is also coming back this season. If you missed it last year, you'll have two chances to check it out—June 14th and September 13th. The market features handmade goods, vintage finds, and a variety of food in the downtown area. More details will be shared on the Village's website and social media, so follow along and sign up for news alerts.

We're also gearing up for ItascaFest from July 10–13. This multi-day celebration is one of the community's favorite summer traditions, bringing together live music, food, rides, and family fun. You can find full event details on page 5 of this newsletter.

In addition to these larger events, families will find plenty of ways to stay active and connected. Fish with the Cops and Ice Cream with Police and Fire are great opportunities to meet local first responders while enjoying some summer treats. And for those who love nature, the Flock Party is a fun, bird-themed event perfect for all ages. Don't forget to check in with the Library, Park District, and Nature Center for even more summer programming.

This year, we're placing extra focus on supporting local events hosted by area businesses and

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Mayor's Message Continued...

nonprofits. With the Village unable to hold Fourth of July fireworks in Hamilton Lakes Business Park this year due to scheduled construction in and around the park, funding will instead be used to enhance and introduce community events throughout the year. These gatherings will offer new ways to bring people together while supporting our local economy. Keep an eye on our website and social media for updates.

As people dust off their bikes and head to summer events, it's important to ride with care. E-bikes and scooters have become

more common, and while they offer a fun and convenient way to get around, they can also reach higher speeds than traditional bikes. To help keep everyone safe, new safety rules are now in effect. You'll find more information in the enclosed newsletter insert, along with an invitation to take the e-bike safety pledge.

Summer is always a special season in our village, and this year is no exception. Whether you're attending a concert, visiting a market, or catching up with neighbors at a local event, I hope you find time to enjoy everything our community has to offer.

Administrator's Message

The Fourth of July fireworks have been a favorite Itasca tradition for decades. Like many of you, we host an annual Fourth of July barbecue for family and friends. At the end, we make our way over to Hamilton Lakes to join thousands of visitors in celebrating our nation's birthday.

I share the disappointment many of you are feeling about this year's show being canceled. At the same time, I know with absolute certainty that it was the right call for our community.

Challenges posed by construction scheduled in and around Hamilton Lakes meant that the Village could not reasonably guarantee the safety and security of residents and visitors attending the event. Your safety is always our top priority.

This also gave the Village Board a chance to reimagine how we foster community connection. They chose to reinvest funds



Carie Anne Ergo

originally allocated for the fireworks into a new pilot program, Only in Itasca. This initiative will partner with local businesses and community organizations to host events where residents and visitors can connect and enjoy unique entertainment experiences.

As part of this effort, we will also introduce a passport program to encourage shopping and dining locally. Residents and visitors will be able to enjoy discounts and special offers at participating businesses. The passport program is expected to launch this fall, just in time for Small Business Saturday and the holiday shopping season.

While it's unfortunate that we won't be able to carry on the fireworks tradition this year, I'm confident the new events we're planning will offer a fresh and exciting way to bring our community together. Meanwhile, we will be exploring options for bringing the fireworks back to Hamilton Lakes in 2026—in time for our nation's 250th birthday.

Keep an eye on the Village website and social media to stay up to date on Only in Itasca events. I encourage everyone to take part and enjoy all that's coming this summer—and beyond.

Usher Park Renovation Project Underway

You may have already noticed some exciting changes taking place at Usher Park! Renovations began in March with the removal of the gazebo and sidewalks, making way for a more accessible and welcoming space. Work will continue into the summer as we focus on improving accessibility and enhancing the park for everyone in the community.

While these changes are happening, concerts typically held at Usher Park will be relocated, giving residents the opportunity to explore different parts of town. These free concerts will be hosted at various venues across the community, providing fresh opportunities to enjoy music and connect with neighbors.

For those planning graduation or wedding photos, alternative scenic spots in town are available. The Arboretum (550 W. Irving Park Rd.), Springbrook Nature Center (130 Forest Ave.), and the Historical Depot Museum (101 N. Catalpa Ave.) all offer beautiful backdrops for capturing special memories.

Track the progress of Usher Park's transformation by visiting



itasca.com/usherpark. You can view time-lapse videos and stay up-to-date on the ongoing work.

We look forward to unveiling the newly renovated Usher Park later this year and welcoming the community to enjoy its improved features!



For the latest updates and more information on the project, visit itasca.com/usherpark.

Congratulations to Itasca's Newly Elected Officials

On April 1, 2025, the Village of Itasca held elections for five Village Board positions. Mayor Jeff Pruyn, Village Clerk Jody Conidi, Trustee Jeff Aiani, Trustee Patrick Powers, and Trustee Melissa Christensen have all begun new terms. We look forward to the progress and collaboration that will come with the start of this new term.

A Look at Our Re-Elected Officials



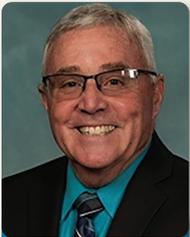
Jeff Pruyn

Mayor Jeff Pruyn begins his fifth term as Mayor and his ninth overall term on the Village Board. With years of experience and deep ties to the community, Mayor Pruyn has led with a focus on stability, strategic planning, and responsible growth. Under his leadership, the Village continues to invest in long-term infrastructure improvements, support local businesses, and foster a strong, connected community where residents feel informed and engaged.



Jody Conidi

Village Clerk Jody Conidi enters her third term with continued dedication to public service. As Village Clerk, she plays a key role in maintaining transparency by carefully recording and preserving official records and proceedings. Her attention to detail and commitment to open government helps ensure residents have access to accurate and timely information.



Jeff Aiani

Trustee Jeff Aiani is serving his ninth term and brings decades of experience to the Board. He continues to take the lead on capital improvement planning and infrastructure projects, overseeing the development and maintenance of Village systems. His forward-looking approach ensures that Itasca's infrastructure remains reliable and built to meet the needs of future generations.



Patrick Powers

Trustee Patrick Powers begins his second term on the Village Board. He remains focused on financial matters, helping guide a stable and balanced Village budget. Trustee Powers is also involved in long-range fiscal planning, working to ensure that Village finances remain strong and sustainable while supporting services that benefit the entire community.

Welcoming Melissa Christensen



Melissa Christensen

We are excited to welcome Trustee Melissa Christensen, who joins the Village Board for the first time. A resident since 2019, Melissa has been deeply involved in the community, having served as president of the Parent-Teacher League and as the founder of Itasca Sprinkle with Love and Care, an initiative dedicated to spreading kindness. Melissa also works as a software engineer and co-owns Christensen Communications with her husband. We look forward to her fresh perspective and contributions.

Thanking Trustee Frank Madaras



Frank Madaras

The Village thanks Trustee Frank Madaras for his 16 years of service. Since joining the Board in 2009, Frank has contributed across numerous Village committees. He's also represented Itasca on the Meet Chicago Northwest Board and has supported local businesses and the Itasca Lions Club. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors and hope Frank enjoys a well-deserved break on Tuesday nights after years of dedicated public service.

New Hires, Promotions, & Retirements



Kurtis Pozsgay

The Village is excited to welcome Kurtis Pozsgay as the new Director of Community Development. Kurtis officially joined the Village in early March and brings with him 18 years of experience in community and economic development.

Kurtis holds a Master of Professional Studies in Community and Economic Development and most recently served as the Director of Community and Economic Development in the

Village of Bensenville. Kurtis says, "It's a great time to be coming into the Village, with lots of transformative projects either already started or on the horizon. There are some great opportunities to help shape the community, and I'm excited to get to work."

The Village is thrilled to have Kurtis as part of our Executive Team and looks forward to the valuable contributions he will make to helping Itasca continue to grow and thrive.



Ryan Roth

The Village is pleased to welcome Ryan Roth to the Public Works Department. Ryan began his role as a General Services Category I Maintenance Operator in early March.

Ryan brings valuable experience in municipal public works, along with multiple safety certifications. He also has prior knowledge of the Village from his work as a utility locator.

Ryan's skills and background will make him a valuable asset, and the Village looks forward to his contributions to the community.



Niki Renslow

The Village is excited to welcome Niki Renslow as the new Customer Service Representative in the Administration Department. Niki began her role in early March and will be the primary point of contact for residents, business owners, and visitors at Village Hall.

With over ten years of experience in customer service and finance, Niki brings a wealth of expertise to the Village.

Join us in welcoming Kurtis, Ryan, and Niki to the Village team! We're excited to have them on board and look forward to the contributions they will make.

Business Spotlight

For 33 years, Tree Guys Pizza Pub has been one of those places in Itasca where everyone feels right at home. Whether you're a regular who's greeted by name or a first-timer just discovering your new favorite spot, there's something special about this laid-back hangout known for its great food and good vibe.

It all started back in 1992 when three friends—Anthony and his two longtime buddies—decided to open a local pizza place together. They called themselves the “Three Guys,” but thanks to a little Chicago flair, the name quickly became “Tree Guys.” The name stuck, and so did the friendly, down-to-earth feel they set out to create.

A couple of years later, Anthony became the sole owner, and from there, things really started to grow. In 1998, he expanded into the bar next door, then gave the dining area a refresh in 2004. By 2006, Tree Guys had a brand-new patio, perfect for kicking back with a cold drink on a summer evening.

Tree Guys continued to update, and in 2014, the bar got an exciting upgrade with more seating, new bathrooms, and a dedicated gaming area. But through all the changes, one thing's stayed the

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



Visit treeguyspizza.com or scan the QR code.

same: Tree Guys is all about good food, good people, and creating a welcoming place for the community to hang out.

Still owned and run by the same family since the '90s, Tree Guys isn't just a pizza pub; it's part of the neighborhood. Located at 101 Irving Park Road, it's the kind of place where you can pop in for a quick slice, catch up with friends over drinks, or just unwind after a long day.



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.

GTH America - 900 N. Arlington Heights Rd.

GTH America connects international startups to North American markets with business and legal support. Visit gthamerica.com.

Cruickshank Insurance - 401 W. Irving Park Rd.

Scott Cruickshank helps clients find the right coverage through American National. Call (630) 307-3601.

Sea Converting Inc. - 1211 Norwood Ave.

Custom converter offering fast, quality solutions for various applications. Visit seaconverting.com.

Suvagia Orthodontics - 1137 Prospect Ave., Unit C101

Locally owned office offering braces and aligners in a modern setting. Visit suvagiaorthodontics.com.

Sancar-Pak LLC. - 1141 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.

Warehouse specializing in paper product distribution. Call (630) 746-3700.

T&K Toka USA, Inc. - 900 W. Thorndale Ave.

Distributor of imported printing inks. Call (847) 305-2565.

As we welcome new businesses downtown, we're also looking ahead. The Village received a \$40,000 RTA grant to update downtown zoning districts. Learn more, explore upcoming activities, and share your input by visiting the project page: tinyurl.com/itasca-tod-zoning.

Itasca Country Club Celebrates 100 Years

Itasca Country Club has long been a gathering place for friends, families, and neighbors. As it celebrates its 100th anniversary, the Club reflects with gratitude on the many generations who have walked its fairways, dined at its restaurant, and contributed to its rich history.



To honor this milestone, the Club is welcoming the community to enjoy a summer filled with special events, great food, and fun drinks.

Father's Day Car Show | Sunday, June 15th

Celebrate Father's Day with a classic and custom car show, perfect for all ages.

Outdoor Summer Market | Sunday, August 3rd

Shop local vendors and enjoy live music in a festive outdoor setting.

No School Tomorrow 90s Pop-Up Cocktail Bar

Throw it back with themed drinks and fun at this nostalgic pop-up bar.

Live Music at Fox and Turtle

Enjoy live music at the Club's on-site restaurant, open to the public.

For event details, contact Conny at (630) 361-8050.

The Village of Itasca congratulates Itasca Country Club on 100 years of tradition. If your business is celebrating an anniversary or milestone, we'd love to feature you. Please reach out to Communications Specialist Shelly Holmes at (630) 773-0835.

Itasca Outdoor Concert Series

Get ready to enjoy a summer of live music as the Village and the Park District team up to present the Itasca Outdoor Concert Series! This year's lineup features an exciting mix of genres and talented artists, with performances happening all around town. Pack a picnic, bring your lawn chairs, and gather with friends and family for these free community concerts!



2025 Concert Schedule:

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

June 4th | Washington Park – The Messengers (Urban Acoustic)

June 18th | Depot Museum – Serendipity (Women Who Rock)

July 16th | NC Arboretum – Classical Blast (Classical Meets Classic Rock)

July 30th | Area by “Wine with Me” – Sealed With a Kiss (Pop/Rock Cover Band)

August 6th | Peacock Park – Prairie Station (Country)

August 20th | Softball Complex – The Rockin’ Fendershirts (‘50s and ‘60s Rock & Roll)

Memorial Day Parade – New Route!

Join us for the annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26th at 9:30 a.m.! This year, we’re celebrating on the north side of town with a new route. Due to construction at Usher Park, the parade will now head from Bryn Mawr and Catalpa, moving east to finish at Peacock Park for the Memorial Service.

We look forward to seeing everyone there as we honor those who have served our country.

For more details, visit itascaparkdistrict.com.



ItascaFest 2025



Free Admission & Parking

The Itasca Lions Club and the Village are excited to present ItascaFest 2025, now in its 36th year! This four-day festival will take place July 10–13 at Washington Park, 350 E. Irving Park Road, and offers something for everyone—live music, carnival rides, delicious food, and family-friendly fun.

To kick things off, stop by Fish with the Cops on Sunday, June 22nd, at Happy Acres Pond. Kids who catch a tagged fish will be entered for a chance to win a prize at ItascaFest—it’s a great way to start the celebration early.

Once the festival begins, enjoy live music performances every night from an exciting lineup of local and regional bands. The carnival will feature unlimited ride specials, perfect for families looking for a day of fun. A variety of food vendors will be on-site, serving up classic festival favorites all weekend long.

Don’t miss the Classic Car Show, where you can check out a stunning display of vintage and custom cars. And for those feeling lucky, indoor cash bingo will be open throughout the weekend.

For more details, visit the Itasca Lions Club website at itascalionsclub.org or the Village’s website at itasca.com/specialevents.

Entertainment Lineup:

Thursday, July 10th

7:00 – 10:30 p.m. – Exit 147 Band

Friday, July 11th

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Big Brother Vinyl

9:00 – 11:00 p.m. – 7th Heaven

Saturday, July 12th

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Form

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Jessie’s Girl

9:00 – 11:00 p.m. – Jimmy Nick

Sunday, July 13th

3:00 – 4:30 p.m. – Throwback Jukebox

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. – Rick Lindy

8:30 – 10:30 p.m. – Brass from the Past

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.



Scan the QR code to access our event page.



Mon., May 26th
Memorial Day Parade
New North Side Parade Route!
(Bryn Mawr and Catalpa)
Step-Off 9:30 a.m.
Join us for the annual Memorial Day Parade. A Memorial Service will be held at Peacock Park immediately after the parade. See page 5 for more details.



Mon., June 2nd
Family Storytime
Library
10:00 a.m.
Drop in for stories and more every Monday through July 28th. Geared to ages 6 & under.



Wed., June 4th
Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
Washington Park
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
Band: The Messengers
Genre: Urban Acoustic



Tues., June 10th
Music and Movement
Nature Center
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Grab your picnic blanket and come hang out in the park for a fun afternoon of family-friendly entertainment featuring Jeanie B! Everyone's welcome to join the fun!



Thurs., June 12th
The History of the Circus
Library
7:00 p.m.
William Pack takes you on a fantastical journey through the history of the circus.



Tues., June 17th
Summer Park Parties
Peacock Park
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Step up to the plate for a baseball-themed night featuring a thrilling home run derby and a movie under the stars. *Movie in the Park starts at 8:30 p.m.



Tues., June 17th
Movie in the Park
Peacock Park
8:30 p.m.
Grab your blankets and join us under the stars at Peacock Park for a free Movie in the Park featuring the classic baseball adventure, *The Sandlot!*



Wed., June 18th
Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
Depot Museum
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
Band: Serendipity
Genre: Women Who Rock



Thurs., June 19th
Soup, Eggroll, Stir Fry and Rice: The Hidden Meanings in Chinese Food
Library
7:00 p.m.
Presenter Yvonne Wolf will introduce you to a taste of cultural history behind America's favorite cuisine.



Sun., June 22nd
Fishing with the Cops
Happy Acres Pond
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Join the Itasca Police officers for fishing, hot dogs, and chips. Enjoy a fun day bonding and reeling in big catches. Participants are encouraged to bring their fishing gear.



Sun., June 22nd
H2O Nights – Free Admission
Itasca Waterpark
7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Twins & Teens going into grades 4th – 9th are invited to Itasca Waterpark for an exciting night of water, music, and fun! Bring your friends and a swimsuit!



Thurs., June 26th
Bubbles and Birds
Nature Center
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Grab your picnic blanket and come hang out in the park for a fun afternoon of family-friendly entertainment featuring TwistiCity Giant Bubble Show and Wings & Talons! Everyone's welcome to join the fun!



Sat., June 28th
Flock Party
Springbrook Nature Center
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Join us for our annual summer flock party! Spend time with Wings and Talons ambassadors and learn about their unique adaptations.



Sat., June 28th
Movie in the Park
Depot Museum
8:30 p.m.
Grab your blankets and join us under the stars at the Depot Museum for a free Movie in the Park featuring *Night at the Museum!*



Tues., July 8th
Chess Club
Library
2:00 p.m.
Enjoy playing chess or want to learn how? Join other kids to play and learn every Tuesday through July 29th. Chess sets provided.



July 10th - 13th
ItascaFest
Washington Park
Times Vary
Join us at ItascaFest, the annual family fun event! Enjoy delicious food, live music, entertaining performances, and the vibrant atmosphere of the carnival. See page 5 for more details.

Celebrate Our Community



Tues., July 15th
Tall Tales and Silly Songs
 Franzen Park
 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Grab your picnic blanket and come hang out in the park for a fun afternoon of family-friendly entertainment featuring Todd Downing! Everyone's welcome to join the fun!



Tues., July 15th
Ice Cream with the Cops & Firefighters - Sponsored by Itasca Bank & Trust
 Franzen Park
 11:30 a.m.

Enjoy free ice cream with the Itasca Police Officer and Firefighters! Sponsored by Itasca Bank & Trust



Wed., July 16th
Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
 NC Arboretum
 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
 Band: Classical Blast
 Genre: Classical Meets Classic Rock



Thurs., July 17th
Turn Your Garden into the Perfect B&B for Birds
 Library
 6:30 p.m.

We'll cover the perfect location to place your design, tips for attracting your favorite birds, proper hygiene, and strategies for keeping those pesky squirrels away.



Tues., July 22nd
Train Conductor/ Balloon Twister & Facepainting
 Depot
 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Grab your picnic blanket and come hang out in the park for a fun afternoon of family-friendly entertainment featuring Fairytale Entertainment! Everyone's welcome to join the fun!



Tues., July 22nd
Summer Park Parties
 Benson Park
 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Get ready to groove with a DJ and exciting games that'll promise to keep you dancing all night long!



Sat., July 26th
Christmas in July
 Springbrook Nature Center
 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Celebrate Christmas in July! Enjoy early shopping at the Arts and Crafts Fair, photos with Santa, tasty treats, and fun activities. Donate to support Friends of Springbrook Nature Center and receive a wine glass for free wine tasting.



Sun., July 27th
H2O Nights – Free Admission
 Itasca Waterpark
 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Tweens & Teens going into grades 4th – 9th are invited to Itasca Waterpark for an exciting night of water, music, and fun! Bring your friends and a swimsuit!



Wed., July 30th
Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
 Area by "Wine with Me"
 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
 Band: Sealed With a Kiss
 Genre: Pop/Rock Cover Band



Tues., August 5th
Music & Puppets on the Farm
 Nature Center
 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Grab your picnic blanket and come hang out in the park for a fun afternoon of family-friendly entertainment featuring Miss Jamies Farm! Everyone's welcome to join the fun!



Tues., August 5th
National Night Out
 Itasca Municipal Complex
 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Get ready for a night of community fun at National Night Out (NNO), spread across the Water Park, Library, Fire Station, and Police Station! Enjoy free entry to the Water Park from 5:00 – 9:30 p.m., plus raffles, entertainment, food, and much more!



Wed., August 6th
Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
 Peacock Park
 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
 Band: Prairie Station
 Genre: Country



Tues., August 12th
Reptile Show
 Nature Center
 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Grab your picnic blanket and come hang out in the park for a fun afternoon of family-friendly entertainment featuring JG's Reptile Show! Everyone's welcome to join the fun!



Wed., August 20th
Watercolor Crystals
 Library
 6:30 p.m.

Experiment with texture and splatter as you learn how to paint crystals with watercolor. Presented by Audrey Ra of Audrey Ra Design.



Wed., August 20th
Itasca Outdoor Concert Series
 Softball Complex
 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a free outdoor family concert this summer.
 Band: The Rockin' Fendershirts
 Genre: '50s and '60s



Sun., August 24th
H2O Nights – Free Admission
 Itasca Waterpark
 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Tweens & Teens going into grades 4th – 9th are invited to Itasca Waterpark for an exciting night of water, music, and fun! Bring your friends and a swimsuit!

GOATS FOR GROWTH

SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER

Springbrook Nature Center is embracing an innovative approach to ecological restoration with the Goats for Growth Program. This initiative harnesses the natural abilities of goats to combat invasive species such as Buckthorn, which pose a threat to local ecosystems. By engaging these eco-friendly helpers, the area is gradually returned to its native state, promoting a healthier, more diverse environment.



The goats will be visiting the Nature Center during select times throughout the year to maximize their impact:

- **Spring:** May 14-27
- **Summer:** July 16-29
- **Fall:** September 10-23

The community is invited to participate in a variety of unique and engaging activities designed to support these restoration efforts:

- **Goat Poop Parade Fundraiser** – A light-hearted event where a lucky goat ‘drop’ might just win attendees a prize.
- **Goat Selfie Fundraiser** – Capture a moment with the goats to help fund the ongoing restoration activities.
- **Goat-Powered Ice Cream Social** – Discover the impact of these goats while enjoying a refreshing ice cream treat.
- **Name-a-Goat Program** – Support a goat and track its contributions to restoring the nature center.
- **Wine Tasting with the Goats** – Come for the goats, stay for the wine!
- **Yoga & Wine in Nature** – Relax, stretch, and connect with nature; bring your favorite drink to sip after yoga.

Each activity offers a hands-on opportunity to aid in the ecological recovery of the Springbrook Nature Center while enjoying the outdoors and learning more about sustainable practices. For additional information on how to get involved with the Goats for Growth program you can view the Itasca Park District’s summer guide or visit itascaparkdistrict.com. Join in and help make a difference!

Conservation Champion Sponsors



Level Up at Your Library Summer Reading Clubs

Join one of the library’s Level Up at Your Library Summer Reading Clubs, running from May 27th through July 31st. Read books and earn fun prizes all summer long!

Adult Reading Club

Adults who finish reading three books can claim a finisher prize and enter a drawing for one of three grand prizes. Earn further entries for grand prizes with each additional book. All participants get a sign-up prize. Grand prizes include gift cards and a Meta Quest 3S.



Youth & Teen Reading Clubs

Kids and teens from birth through high school can earn prizes for reaching reading time goals. In addition to earning prizes for reading, visit the library regularly to spin our prize wheel and enter weekly drawings. For full details and to sign up, visit the library’s website at itascalibrary.org.

Itasca Garden Club Celebrates 95 Years!



The Itasca Garden Club is a dedicated group of individuals who care deeply about the environment, the natural beauty of plants, and the community. Over the years, the club has planted and maintained gardens in public spaces

throughout Itasca, hosted garden walks and flower shows, and guided students in planting and beautifying school grounds. Members have also provided programs at the Itasca Library, decorated a holiday tree, created centerpieces for community events, and planted gardens for the Itasca Food Pantry.

Each year, the club supports the Lions Club by volunteering at the ticket booths during one evening of ItascaFest.

The club typically meets at noon on the fourth Tuesday of each month (September through November and January through May) in the Iris Room at the Itasca Park District. Monthly programs have included flower arranging demonstrations, building teacup bird feeders, conservation field trips, and educational talks on topics like winter garden design, soil science, and tablescape design.

New members are always welcome. For more information, email Club President Olga Cruickshank at: ItascaGardenPresident@gmail.com.

9-1-1: Call If You Can, Text If You Can't

In an emergency, every second counts. Calling 9-1-1 is the fastest way to get help, but sometimes speaking isn't possible. If you're in one of these situations, texting 9-1-1 can be a safer and more effective option:

- If you're deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability
- If you're experiencing a medical emergency and can't speak
- If it's dangerous to talk

If you're in Itasca and use Verizon, AT&T, or T-Mobile, text "9-1-1" with your exact location and a brief description of the emergency. A dispatcher will respond by text and send help right away, just like with a voice call. This service ensures you get the assistance you need as quickly as possible.

How to Text 9-1-1 in an Emergency:

- 1. Know your location** – Start your text with your exact address or location.
- 2. Text what you need** – Indicate whether you need police, fire, and/or medical help.
- 3. Be clear** – Use simple words. Avoid abbreviations, emojis, images, or videos.
- 4. Stay calm** – Answer all questions and follow the dispatcher's instructions.



Please remember that texting 9-1-1 is for emergencies only. Misuse of the service, similar to making a fake 9-1-1 call, is against the law.

For more information, visit itasca.com/textto911.

National Night Out



Join us for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5th, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex, 550 W. Irving Park Road!

This community event is a great opportunity to connect with neighbors, meet our local police officers, and learn more about public safety in a fun, family-friendly setting. Kids and adults alike can tour emergency vehicles, play games, and enjoy entertainment. Free food will be available while supplies last.

The Itasca Water Park will also be open and free to the public from 5:00 to 9:30 p.m., so bring your swimsuits and towels! Activities will take place at the Water Park, Library, Fire Station, and Police Station.

For more information, contact the Police Department at (630) 773-1004.

Itasca Impact Awards

The Village is proud to host the Itasca Impact Awards, honoring individuals who go above and beyond to support our community. Nominate a neighbor, friend, or local leader who makes a difference through leadership, kindness, or service.



The recognition ceremony will take place on Sunday, September 7th, at Washington Park, where we will celebrate and honor this year's recipients. Join us as we come together to acknowledge those who truly make an impact!

For more details and to submit a nomination, please visit itasca.com/impactawards.



Vacation Watch

Heading out of town? Don't make your home an easy target for burglars. Before you go, take these simple steps to keep your property secure:

- **Pause Deliveries** – Have a trusted person collect your mail and newspapers or request a temporary hold.
- **Maintain Your Yard** – Arrange for lawn care or snow removal to keep up appearances.
- **Secure Valuables** – Store cash and valuables in a bank deposit box or other secure location.
- **Check Locks** – Ensure all doors, windows, and garage entries are locked and in good condition.
- **Use Light Timers** – Set lights and electronics to turn on in the evening to mimic activity.
- **Inform a Trusted Person** – Give a spare key and emergency contact info to someone you trust.
- **Notify the Itasca Police Department** – Request a Vacation Watch to have officers check on your home.

To request a Vacation Watch, call the Police Department at (630) 773-1004 or visit itasca.com/vacationwatch.

Update Your Utility Billing Account

Over the next few months, the Village of Itasca is transitioning online payments from the payment service Online BillPay to Municipal Online Payments and on August 1, 2025, the Online BillPay website will no longer be available to make online payments.

The new system offers:

- Lower card fees (flat \$1.25)
- Real-time balance updates
- Auto pay options
- Full account history since 2019

How to Register Your New Account:

Please note you will need your account number and last payment amount prior to registering for a new account.

- Visit **www.itasca.com**
- Click Online Payments on the home page
- Click Sign In/Register
- Select Register under “Don’t have an account?”
- Follow the instructions to register a new account

Questions? Contact Utility Billing, at (630) 228-5608.

Understanding Your Water Meter: How to Detect Leaks and Save Water

Did you know your water meter has a built-in leak detection feature? This tool can help you identify running water in your home and pinpoint leaks that may be wasting water and increasing your bill.



If you notice a plus sign (+) inside a circle on the digital display of your water meter, it means water is currently flowing through the meter. This can be especially helpful in detecting leaks from fixtures such as toilets, outdoor spigots, humidifiers, or other appliances.

To check for a leak, follow these simple steps:

1. Locate the Suspected Source – Identify the fixture or appliance you think may be running.
2. Turn It Off – Shut off the water supply to that fixture.
3. Check the Meter Display – If the plus sign disappears, you’ve found the source! That fixture is leaking and should be repaired.

Additionally, the new water meters are highly sensitive and can detect water flow as small as one-hundredth of a gallon, making it easier than ever to spot even minor leaks.

By using this feature, you can take quick action to prevent water waste. If you have any questions about reading your water meter, don’t hesitate to reach out to the Public Works Department at (630) 773-2455.

Holiday Refuse Reminders & Free Yard Waste Pickup

The Village offers free yard waste pickup on your regular garbage collection day, now through the first Monday in December. To participate, place yard waste and clippings in approved bags or containers at the curb for pickup by Republic Services.



For the holiday collection schedule, Memorial Day service will be delayed by one day, with collection taking place on Tuesday, May 27th. Independence Day collection will follow the regular schedule with no delays; however, Village offices will be closed on Friday, July 4th.

As a reminder, refuse containers should be placed on the street after 4:00 p.m. on Sunday and removed by 10:00 p.m. on Monday.

Street Sweeping

The Village’s street sweeping program helps maintain clean streets, enhances community aesthetics, and improves water quality by preventing debris from entering storm drains.

Resident Cooperation

To help maintain clear streets, residents are asked to move parked cars off the street before scheduled sweeping days.

Important Reminders

- **Do not place leaves, grass, or debris in the street.** Raking or blowing yard waste into the street is prohibited and will not be picked up. Yard waste should be disposed of properly through the Village’s free yard waste collection program, which runs through the first Monday in December.
- **Garbage cans must be placed on the curb, not in the street.** This ensures that sweepers can properly clean curb lanes and keep roads clear.

Your cooperation helps keep our streets clean and our community looking its best.

2025 Sweeping Schedule:

Week of May 27 th	Week of July 28 th
Week of June 16 th	Week of August 11 th
Week of July 14 th	Week of August 25 th



Preventing Cooking Fires with a Home Safety Visit

Cooking fires are the leading cause of residential building fires, posing a serious risk to families. According to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, Illinois has already experienced 16 fatal fires and 19 fire-related deaths as of February 14, 2025. Fires spread fast—thick, black smoke can fill a home in minutes, leaving only seconds to escape safely.



The best defense against fire is prevention and preparedness. Every home should have smoke detectors on every floor and in each bedroom, along with carbon monoxide detectors on every level.

The Itasca Fire Protection District is here to help with free Home Safety Visits for Itasca residents. During a visit, our crew will assess your home's smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, identify any visible safety hazards, and install battery-operated smoke and carbon monoxide detectors at no cost.

Schedule your Home Safety Visit today by visiting itascaFD.org and clicking the Home Safety Visit button or calling (630) 773-1223 x301. Take this important step in fire prevention to keep your home and family safe.

District 10 Registration Now Open

Registration for the 2025–2026 school year is now underway. Families are encouraged to register early to help District 10 prepare for the upcoming academic year. More details and important information can be found by scanning the QR code or by visiting itasca10.org/registration.



Objects in the Public Right-of-Way

As a reminder to all property owners, objects such as boulders or signs should not be placed in the public right-of-way, which is the area between the sidewalk and the street, also known as the parkway. These areas are intended to remain clear for public safety and access.

Placing items in the right-of-way can create hazards and may result in the removal of those objects by the Village. Please ensure that your property is free of obstructions in these spaces. Thank you for helping to keep our community safe!

Water and Sewer Rate Update

Every time a faucet turns on or a toilet flushes, reliable water and sewer systems are working behind the scenes. Keeping these systems running smoothly takes ongoing investment and careful planning. To make sure rates stay fair and reflect actual service costs, the Village of Itasca commissioned an independent Water and Sewer Rate Study.

The study reviewed the actual costs of providing water and sewer services, including daily operations, infrastructure repairs and replacements, and maintenance of major systems such as the wastewater treatment plant. It also considered required rate adjustments from the DuPage Water Commission.

Since January 2022, water and sewer rates have remained unchanged while the study was being completed. With the study now complete, the Village Board has adopted a new five-year rate plan.

Beginning May 1, 2025, water and sewer rates will increase by 2.7 percent, which amounts to about \$4.00 more per month for the average homeowner.* This change will first appear on the July utility bill. Rates will increase by 2.7 percent each May through 2028.

The plan is structured to cover the cost of providing service, maintain an emergency reserve, and support future capital projects. Among these is the Northside Infrastructure Program, which will see new water mains installed along with street and stormwater improvements.

Typical Family Monthly Water and Sewer Cost

For an average household using 4,000 gallons per month:

	Initial Rate	May 2025	May 2026	May 2027	May 2028
Avg. Monthly Cost	\$135	\$139	\$143	\$147	\$151

For questions about water bills, contact Utility Billing at (630) 228-5608.

**Based on 5,000 gallons*



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

Mayor

Jeff Pruyn

Village Clerk

Jody Conidi

Trustees

Jeff Aiani

Melissa Christensen

Brendan Daly

Dino Gavanese

Ellen Leahy

Patrick Powers

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

550 W. Irving Park Rd.

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**Want to See Your Photo
on Our Next Cover?**

The Village of Itasca would like to thank resident Sandy Anderson for providing the beautiful cover photo for this summer's newsletter. The photo holds special meaning for Sandy, as it captures a moment between her grandchildren, who live in different states and do not have the opportunity to see each other often. During a recent visit, they spent many happy hours together at the Itasca pool, where some of the grandchildren take swimming lessons and enjoy pool activities. They are already looking forward to making more memories together this summer.

The Village appreciates residents like Sandy who help capture the spirit of the community. Residents interested in having their photos featured on a future newsletter cover are encouraged to visit itasca.com/newsletter to submit an image for consideration.



**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