

News from the Crossroads

April 2025

UPDATES FROM THE VILLAGE



John L. Swisher Village President

New Beginnings and Fond Farewells

On April 14th, Village Trustee Michael Saindon retired from the Village Board after more than six years of dedicated service. During his tenure, Trustee Saindon was instrumental in advancing community improvements, supporting local development, and ensuring that resident voices were heard and respected. His principled leadership and commitment to the village made a lasting impact, particularly through his efforts to enhance public infrastructure and services. The Village Board and the entire community extend their heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Trustee Saindon in his retirement.



Kyle Ellefson Village Administrator

On April 15th, the Village welcomed Lisa Schicker as the newest member of the Village Board. Trustee Schicker was officially sworn in and will serve on the Protection & Welfare Committee and the Community Development Authority. We look forward to the perspective and dedication she will bring to these important roles.

In addition, the Village is pleased to announce the addition of three new team members to the Public Works Department. Thomas Koch and Mason Miller have joined the Water & Wastewater Utility, while Marc Waugh has joined the Streets & Parks Department. We're excited to welcome them aboard and look forward to their contributions to maintaining and improving our community's essential services.

A LASTING SYMBOL OF PRIDE COMING TO CENTENNIAL PARK

We're excited to share a meaningful project taking shape in Johnson Creek — the installation of a permanent American flag at Centennial Park.

This isn't just about raising a flag; it's about raising community pride. Centennial Park is one of our most beloved spaces — a 16-acre gathering place for youth sports, family celebrations, community events, and everyday enjoyment. By adding a prominent American flag, we're creating a visible and lasting tribute to the values that unite us: patriotism, respect, gratitude, and community.



The flag will stand as a daily reminder of the freedoms we enjoy, the service and sacrifice of veterans, and the strength of our small-town spirit. It's a symbol that will greet generations of residents and visitors, reinforcing the pride we all share in calling Johnson Creek home.

Want to be part of it?

We're inviting residents, businesses, and organizations to support this project through donations. Every contribution — big or small — brings us closer to raising this powerful symbol.

To donate or learn more, contact: jctourism@vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov

NEW VILLAGE STAFF

CLERK'S CORNER



Cameron Day
Director of Tourism, Marketing &
Promotion

Hi, I'm Cameron, the new Tourism Director. I'm excited to work with local businesses, community members, and village leadership to highlight everything our village has to offer. My background is in marketing, and a fun fact about me—I just adopted a German Shepherd puppy!



Marc Waugh
Laborer—Public Works Department

Hi, I'm Marc, the new laborer in Public Works. I'm excited to learn new skills and enjoy doing something different every day. I've previously worked at a cabinet company and a stair elevator company. Fun fact: I love the outdoors—hunting, camping, and dock diving with my three dogs, Chloe, Charger, and Caliber.



Thomas KochUtility Operator—Water & Sewer Department

Hi, I'm Thomas, one of the new Utility Operators. I'm eager to learn the full treatment process for incoming waste. My background includes driving porta potty and septic trucks, roll-off dumpsters, and hydro excavators. I've also done augering and jetting for sewer, grease, and catch basins. On weekends, I enjoy canoeing and fishing with my wife.



Mason Miller
Utility Operator—Water & Sewer
Department

Hi, I'm Mason, one of the new Utility Operators, excited to learn more about the water treatment process and grow in my career. I have 8 years of maintenance experience, which helps me troubleshoot and solve issues. Fun fact: I love riding and learning about motorcycles.

COMPOST & BRUSH SITE CARDS

Cleaning up your yard this spring? The cost for an access card to the Village's compost and brush site on Aztalan Street is \$15. Cards do not expire and remain active while you are a resident of Johnson Creek.

The full 2025 schedule for brush and compost collection is available on the Village web site. Upcoming dates (weather permitting) for brush collection are May 12 and June 9 and for compost collection are May 5, May 19, June 2, and June 16. For brush collection, place brush at the backside of the curb with ends facing flow of traffic. No branches over 8" in diameter or stumps will be collected. For compost collection, place yard waste in biodegradable bags or open containers weighing under 35 pounds.

NEW VILLAGE WEBSITE

The Village has an updated website and web address! You can now find the site at vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov. If you have feedback regarding the new site, please contact us at info@vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS & BOARD OF REVIEW

In 2025, the Village's Assessor, Associated Appraisal (APRAZ), is performing an Interim Market Update. An Interim Market Update is a type of revaluation that does not require physical inspection of each property. The Assessor will use statistical and sales data and other information that may impact values to determine if the assessed value needs to be adjusted. Contrary to popular belief, higher assessments do not necessarily equate to higher property taxes. Though property value affects your share of taxes, the amount you pay is determined by budget needs of the local schools, county, technical college, and the Village. These taxing units decide how much money they will need to provide services for the coming year. When the tax levy remains unchanged, an individual tax bill only goes up if that property grows sufficiently in value to represent a larger part of the Village's total valuation. This can only happen when an individual assessment increases faster than total community assessed values.

The Interim Market Update will result in Open Book and Board of Review being held later than usual this year. Property owners that receive a notice of changed assessment later this summer may contact the Village Assessor during the Open Book period if there are questions regarding what factors were considered in determining the property value. If a property owner wishes to object to the property assessment after discussing the property assessment with the Village Assessor during Open Book, they can appear before the Board of Review. To do so, an objection form must be presented to the Village Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the Board of Review meeting. A hearing will then be scheduled before the Board of Review where the property owner will present evidence to support the objection such as recent sales price of the property or arm's-length sales of reasonably comparable properties.

TOURISM TOPICS

FAREWELL TO LONG-TIME ELECTION INSPECTOR

The Village of Johnson Creek is fortunate to have committed community members serving as election inspectors at the polls! We want to recognize one of our long-serving election inspectors, Betty Stout, who has decided to retire from election work. For many years Betty has been a cornerstone of the team working the polls each election, reporting at 6:30 a.m. each election to ensure each Johnson Creek voter's voice is heard! Betty has also taken additional training over the years to keep informed of frequent legislative and policy changes affecting elections and has been certified as a Chief Inspector for the last eleven years. We can't thank you enough, Betty!

REMARKS FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

Although March's call volume was slightly lower than average, we were still guite busy this month. We hosted Boy Scout Troop #98 for their food pantry drive which saw a terrific turn out. We also began annual fire inspections throughout the Village. Our command staff attended the Jefferson County Chief's association meeting as well as a countywide meeting with our EMS billing agency. Meetings like these are beneficial in that they allow fluid communication between all agencies to ensure that we maintain a high level of service through the utilization of best practices that go beyond industry standards. Training topics this month covered traffic incident management and severe weather responses. This training affords us the opportunity to ensure the overall safety of our personnel and those that we serve. Incidents involving high traffic roadways are exceptionally dangerous and ever changing, much like responses to severe weather conditions. Our staffing continues to improve, and our recruitment efforts continue as well. The support that we continue to receive from our community is inspiring and we cannot thank you enough. As always, please contact me with any questions, comments or concerns.

Respectfully, Chief Patterson

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

To help ensure everyone's safety and enjoyment, please be mindful of the following ordinance regarding pets in public spaces:

All pets shall be leashed and remain under the strict control of the person accompanying the pet. The person accompanying a pet shall remove and dispose of any fecal matter caused by the animal. Except for Crossroads Landing Park, no pets are permitted within the boundaries of any Village park at any time.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS—NICKEL NIGHT RETURNS

We're excited to share that Nickel Night will be held on Wednesday, August 20 this year. Once we receive more details, we will share those with you.

GROWING VILLAGE TOURISM—NEW BRANDING IN THE WORKS

We're proud to be partnering with a local designer to create a unique tourism brand for our village! This new look and feel will be used across social media, our website, campaigns, advertising, and more—all aimed at showcasing what makes our community special and inviting more visitors to experience it. Stay tuned for the big reveal!

TOURISM GRANT

We are always happy to help brainstorm ideas for promoting your next event in Johnson Creek and able to provide limited promotional funding grants for qualifying and commission approved events. If you're interested in submitting a grant application for your Johnson Creek event, visit the Tourism webpage to find the grant guidelines and application: vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov/services/tourism-promotion

Grants are reviewed four times a year by the tourism commission and applications are due on the following dates:

- May 5
- August 4
- October 6

Questions? Email Cameron Day, Tourism Director: jctourism@vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov

SOCIAL MEDIA—STAY CONNECTED

We're ramping up our social media presence with frequent posts highlighting community events, local businesses, outdoor recreation spots, and all the great things happening around the village. It's a great way to stay informed, show your village pride, and even discover something new right in your own backyard!

Follow us and share the love—every like, comment, and share helps spread the word about our amazing community.

Facebook: Visit Johnson Creek Wisconsin

Instagram (NEW!): Visit Johnson Creek

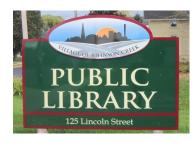


Village of Johnson Creek

www.johnsoncreek-wi.us



LIBRARY HAPPENINGS



Closed Days

Saturday, May 24-Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day Weekend

Red Cross Blood Drive!

Friday, May 2nd 9am-2pm Receive a \$20 e-gift card and coupon For a FREE pint of Culver's Frozen Custard!

Community Mental Health and Wellness Night

JC Elementary School Tuesday, May 6 5:30-7:00pm

Summer Learning Program Kickoff!

Saturday, May 31st 10am – 12pm Free book for registering, face painting, treats and prizes to win! SLP runs May 31st through July 28th

Friends of the JCPL

Used Book Sale at the JC Community Center 417 Union Street. Friday, April 25th and Saturday, April 26th, both days 8:00am to 2:00pm

Family Fun at the Library

2nd Saturday of the month @ 10:00am

May 10 – Tea Party- Register online

June 14 – Let's Get Creative – Sponsored
by PBS Wisconsin Education and Art Hub

PAWS and READ

2nd Monday of every month from 3:30-4:30 May 12

Storytime – every Thursday morning at 10:00am

Legos

3rd Monday of every month from 3:30-4:30 May 10 – Build a Potted Plant June 16 - Magic

Johnson Creek Village Hall

Monday to Friday: 8 a.m. — 4 p.m. 920-699-2296 125 Depot Street www.johnsoncreek-wi.us

Plan Commission: May 12 @ 5 p.m. Committee of the Whole: May 12 @ 5:30 p.m.

Board Meeting: May 26 @ 5:30 p.m.

Johnson Creek Public Library

920-699-3741 125 Lincoln Street www.johnsoncreeklibrary.org

Library Board Meeting: May 20 @ 4 p.m.

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday to Wednesday: 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m. — 7 p.m. **Friday:** 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. — 12 p.m. (Closed Sunday)

JC FOOD PANTRY

129 N. Watertown Street
920-699-2471
JohnsonCreekFoodPantry@gmail.com
Open Monday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to
12 p.m. and every fourth Thursday of the
month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.