



NEWS FROM THE CROSSROADS - JULY 2025



John L. Swisher
Village President

Planning Progress and Looking Ahead in Johnson Creek

There's been a lot of activity in Johnson Creek over the past year—but it's really just the latest chapter in a much longer story of growth and progress! Much of that progress has been guided by the Village's Comprehensive Plan, developed throughout 2017 and officially adopted on September 26, 2017. Updated at least once every ten years, the Plan outlines key goals and priorities in areas like land use, transportation, utilities, housing, community amenities, and economic development.

Nearly eight years later, we're proud to report major progress on many of those goals:

- The Gosdeck Bridge has been completed, improving local transportation and connectivity.
- Development near I-94 and State Highway 26 continues, including The View, Three Oaks, Qdoba, and the new Orthopaedic Associates of Wisconsin Clinic.
- 128 new market-rate apartments are under construction at The Ponds at Johnson Creek.
- The former high school was rezoned and converted to a new use, while the elementary school property has recently sold—with future plans still taking shape.
- A new park, Crossroads Landing, was created, providing river access, bike and pedestrian paths, and pet-friendly features.
- Several local businesses—including JWR, MasterMold, and Doosan Bobcat—have expanded, while new businesses such as Baseman Bros. and Grandpa Glenn's have joined the community.
- The Village partnered with developers to add 18 twin home lots on Resort Drive and 70 single-family lots in the Centennial Fields subdivision.
- Interest continues to grow in the MSI Business Park, highlighting our strong business development momentum.

These highlights represent just a snapshot of the many milestones we've reached since adopting the Comprehensive Plan.

One long-term goal has been the pursuit of a grocery store in Johnson Creek. While we've explored numerous opportunities over the years, we recently took a major step forward by completing a retail grocery market study. This study provides valuable insights into our trade area and market potential, allowing us to engage more effectively with grocery store developers and site selectors.

For the first time, we're equipped with detailed market data that demonstrates the strength of our community. With 128 multifamily units, 18 twin homes, and 70 single-family homes in development, Johnson Creek is preparing to welcome hundreds of new residents over the next few years. This population growth can shift a grocery project from a marginal opportunity to a truly viable and profitable investment.

Looking ahead, we remain optimistic. The Comprehensive Plan will be updated again in 2026 or 2027, giving the community and Village Board a chance to set new goals and priorities for the decade ahead. With the progress we've already made—and the momentum we've built—we're excited about what's next for Johnson Creek. We're moving forward—together.



Kyle Ellefson
Village Administrator

2017 Comprehensive Plan

	Prioritize East-West Connections		Support Development of Upscale Single-Family Housing
	Explore a Gosdeck Lane Bridge		Support Development of High Quality Multi-Family Housing
	Reserve Land Around I-94/STH 26 for High-Quality Development		Plan for the Village's Park and Open Spaces and Maintain an up-to-date Park and Open Space Plan
	Continue to Address the Need for a Local Grocery Store and Pharmacy		Conduct a Library Facility Needs Study
	Support the Reuse of the Former High School and Middle School Building		Work with Existing Local Businesses to Promote Economic Growth and Advance Development in the MSI Business Park
	Establish a Rock River Environmental and Recreation Corridor and Improve Regional Bicycle Connections		Update the Village's Sign Ordinance
	Address the Growing Need for Senior Housing		

TOURISM & COMMUNITY PROMOTION

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

We were thrilled to welcome hundreds of residents and visitors to Johnson Creek for this year's Independence Day Celebration. The event was a true showcase of community pride and spirit, with strong enthusiasm already building for next year.

The flag raising ceremony served as a powerful tribute to our community's patriotism and deep respect for our veterans. Festive decorations, family-friendly activities, live music, and the ever-popular inflatable slide helped create a fun and memorable atmosphere for all ages.



THANK YOU To Our Flag Donors!

Bolton & Menk, Culver's of Johnson Creek, Fort HealthCare, Gallitz Grading, J&L Tire, Jason Palumbo, John & Cheryl Swisher, Johnson Creek Mutual Hose, Kaerek Homes Kearns Auto, Kyle & Tina Ellefson, Kwik Trip, Linmar Properties, Loos Custom Homes, Lyle & Tami Wuestenberg, MasterMold, Michael & Ardys Lund, Mid-West Electric, Rooney & Shaina Freimund

We are still accepting donations to support this project, which will help fund the addition of concrete, benches, a sitting area, and landscaping. Email JCTourism@vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov for more information.



CLERK'S CORNER

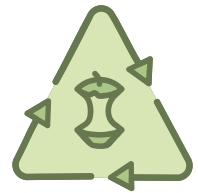
DATES TO NOTE:

Compost Pickup: August 4 & 18, September 2 & 15

Brush Pickup: August 11, September 8

Village Hall Holiday Closures: September 1

Garbage/Recycling for Sept. 5th will occur on Saturday, Sept. 6th due to Labor Day holiday



PROPERTY TAX – 2ND INSTALLMENT

Reminder to property owners who utilize the installment option for property taxes, that the second installment is due on July 31. The second installment is payable to the **Jefferson County Treasurer, 311 S. Center Avenue, Jefferson WI 53549**. The Village is unable to process second installment payments.

SEWER UTILITY RATE CHANGE REMINDER

The second phase of a planned two-step sewer utility rate adjustment will take effect with the utility bill mailed in early August. This phase includes an 8% increase, which amounts to approximately \$3.35 per billing cycle for an average household using 4,000 gallons per month.

This adjustment supports the continued operation and maintenance of essential services and helps fund the construction of a new sludge dewatering facility. This new facility will replace inoperable equipment to reduce costs associated with transporting waste for processing.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT NOTICES

New assessed values are intended to represent full market value as of January 1, 2025. State law requires periodic updates to keep assessments at or near market values and re-establish uniformity of valuation among different types of properties. Johnson Creek's assessments were last updated for market conditions in 2022.



The Village's 2025 assessments have increased proportionally higher than the tax levy will increase. Therefore, the mill rate will likely decrease. If your assessed value increases by a percentage similar to the Village's overall increase in assessed value, your taxes will likely see only minor increases. Taxes cannot be estimated by applying last year's mill rate (tax rate) to the new value. Total tax levy is calculated after the Village, County, School, and Technical College have finalized their budgets, typically by late November.

To discuss your assessed value with an assessor, please call ahead for an Open Book appointment. Open Book appointments may occur by phone until 7 days prior to the Board of Review or by in-person appointments at Village Hall on July 31, 2025 from noon to 5 pm. **Call 920-749-1995 to make your appointment at least 24 hours in advance.**

It is recommended that you contact the Assessor to attempt to resolve a disputed assessment before making a formal appeal at the Board of Review (BOR). The BOR is a quasi-judicial body that operates like a court to hear evidence and testimony for assessment objections. Under state law, the BOR must presume the assessor's valuation is correct, unless sufficient evidence is given to overcome that presumption. To enter a formal appeal, contact the Clerk at elissaf@vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov or visit Village Hall to obtain an Objection Form. Notice of intent to appeal must be received at least 48 hours prior to the BOR meeting on August 13, 2025 beginning at 2:00 p.m.

ROADWORK AHEAD!

The Village has contracted with Jefferson County Highway Department for repaving (mill and overlay) of the following streets: Linmar Lane, Glover Lane, Lincoln Street, and Sanctuary Court. This work was planned in the 2025 budget and a portion of the cost of Linmar Lane will be paid from State of WI Local Roads Improvement Program funding.

Work is anticipated to begin on Linmar Lane and proceeding to the other streets the week of August 18th, dependent upon weather. Alternate routes during work are being planned and further information will be posted on the Village website and Facebook page as it becomes available.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: NATURAL CARNIVORE PET FOOD & SUPPLIES

Natural Carnivore Pet Food & Supplies, located in Johnson Creek, opened its doors just over a year ago, founded by Nathan Grey and Tina Miller. Their journey began when they brought home Maine Coon cats and discovered the importance of proper nutrition for their pets' health. Their cats became known for joining them on hikes and kayak trips—often drawing attention for how healthy and energetic they looked. This experience sparked their commitment to pet wellness and the foundation of their store.

Natural Carnivore specializes in high-quality nutrition for cats and dogs, with a primary focus on raw and freeze-dried food options. While their main offerings cater to dogs and cats, they also carry a select number of products for small animals and reptiles. As Tina Miller explains, "We want to see your pet thrive and not just survive."

Nathan and Tina enjoy staying involved in the Johnson Creek community. They regularly connect with fellow business owners and local leaders at the Village's bi-monthly Business Breakfasts and actively engage with the Johnson Creek Public Library. Their commitment to building relationships and giving back reflects their passion for both pets and community.

Looking ahead, Natural Carnivore's goals include expanding into a larger location to better serve their growing customer base. They also hope to launch the Paws and Claws Foundation—an initiative aimed at helping pet owners facing financial hardship access nutritious food and essential supplies for their pets. Through this effort, they plan to support the well-being of both animals and the people who care for them.



Co-owner Tina Miller with one of her Maine Coon cats



Natural Carnivore is located at 540 Village Walk Ln Ste A

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Programming takes a break for most of August. **Fall Programming will begin in September.**

Storytime resumes August 28 at 10:00am

with A Special Event – "Storytime on a School Bus". Join us for stories, songs and a ride on a real school bus!

Legos

3rd Monday of every month from 3:30-4:30pm

Carnival Ride - September 15

Robots - October 20

Family Fun at the Library

2nd Saturday of the month 10:00-11:00am

Book Bingo - September 13

Glow Party - October 11

JCPL Library Board

Meets the third Tuesday of the month @ 4:00pm in the library.

Next meetings:

August 19

September 16

Snack & Chat

Resumes August 28 3:30-4:30pm



The Library has an outdoor patio! It's the perfect summer reading spot—plus, free Wi-Fi is available on the patio and in Veterans Park.

Busy Fingers - NEW Program

Calling all knitters, crocheters, needle artists, and hand crafters! Whether you're working on a project, just starting out, or curious about fiber arts, *Busy Fingers* is the perfect place to learn, share, and create.

Join a welcoming community of crafters and benefit from the knowledge of experienced local teachers.

Meets the 3rd Saturday of the month during the school year from 10am to 12 noon beginning **September 20.**



The library is now on INSTAGRAM! Make sure to give us a follow! @johnsoncreeklibrary



VILLAGE OF

Johnson Creek

WISCONSIN

REMARKS FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

During the past few weeks, members of the department continued to utilize the acquired structure located on Cty Hwy Y for hands on training. We are preparing to use this structure for a live fire training evolution in August so please be aware that during training evolutions you may see an increase in fire and EMS apparatus at this location as we continuously train on topics that are vital to our role. If you have any questions regarding this training please contact Chief Patterson at (920) 699-3456. A more comprehensive training plan will be available in July as we get closer to the actual date of the evolution. Thank you for your continued support.

Take care,
Chief Patterson



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

110 Aztalan St

Mark your calendar for our upcoming events!

- Soup & Sandwich to go on Mondays! September 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 4 pm-6pm
- Legends & Lores @ the Cemetery , October 4 from 7-9:30 pm
- Christmas in the Village - November 28 & 29
- Grandma's Bakery - December 13

DIAPER CLOSET

Penelope's Diaper Closet | 111 South Street
Open the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1-6pm
penelopesclosetjc@gmail.com

HEALTHY STEPS PROGRAM

Community Center | 417 Union Street
A therapeutic exercise and movement program held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 10:00am. Register online at forthehealthcare.com

SENIOR EXERCISE

An exercise class designed for seniors is held every Monday and Thursday morning from 9:00 to 10:00am in the gym at Crossroads Church.

Johnson Creek Village Hall

920-699-2296 | 125 Depot Street
Monday to Friday: 8 am — 4 pm
vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov

Plan Commission: August 11 @ 5 pm
Committee of the Whole: August 11 @ 5:30 pm

Board Meeting: August 25 @ 5:30 pm

Johnson Creek Public Library

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

Library Board Meeting: August 19 @ 4 pm

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday to Wednesday: 10 am — 5 pm

Thursday: 10 am — 7 pm

Friday: 10 am — 5 pm

Saturday: 9 am — 12 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

Closed: August 30-September 1 for Labor Day Weekend

JC FOOD PANTRY

129 N. Watertown St.
JohnsonCreekFoodPantry@gmail.com
Open Monday and Thursday from 10 am to 12 pm and every fourth Thursday of the month from 4 pm to 5pm.