



Village of Southern View

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Southern View, Illinois 62703

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Village of Southern View

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Volume 2

SOUTHERN VIEW NEWS



CENSUS

The 2020 Census is coming to a close on September 30th. Have you reported your address to the US Census? If not, you may be visited by the enumerators coming to your door. It is **imperative** that all residents complete the census. Many of the Village revenue funding received are based on the population or census and we need everyone to be counted, as these figures stay with the Village for the next 10 years. At least \$1,400 per man woman and child per year is at risk, which means it's about \$15,000 - \$20,000 for every person over the next ten years. Please do your part and register your address in the Village. Currently we are at 75% of the village that has responded and been counted, and an estimate of 400 people have not returned the census as of the 2010 census. Residents can complete the census online at www.my2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020, or by returning the census that was mailed to you, and lastly by speaking with the enumerators that come to your residence.

SNOW

A friendly reminder when there is more than 2 inches of snow predicted, we want to remind residents to move their vehicles off the street. It is a hazard for our Public Works Department to clear the street and spread salt on our roadways if there are vehicles they must avoid. If there is 2 inches or more that has fallen and a vehicle is on the street, it will be towed and you will be responsible for the tow fee. Please be courteous. The Village Public Works Department is responsible for clearing the streets and salting them to allow drivers access outside of the Village.

CHRISTMAS TREE REMOVAL

Hard to believe we are talking about Christmas in September, but the Public Works Crew will begin the Complimentary pick up and disposal of your Christmas Tree from December 26th to January 15th, 2021. The very last day the Public Works Crew will make only one trip on January 15th, 2021 to pick up the remaining real trees, make sure you have yours out by 7 am on that day.

QUESTIONS

We understand as residents you probably do not know what all the Village is responsible for. There may be issues that you are aware of near your property that maybe you feel the Village has neglected. Please reach out to us either by phone or by calling a fellow Trustee or attend a board meeting. We are here to help. The Village will not engage in battles on Facebook or Nextdoor. The Village posts to both apps in the spirit of keeping the village residents aware of any changes that come up, not to engage in argumentative views. Each board member and employee of the Village want to make a positive difference in your way of life. We all chose to live in this wonderful community, and it does take a Village to keep it that way. Stay humble and be kind. These are tough times for us all. A little kindness could make the difference. Your neighbor could be out of work, having to social distance for months, not being around others can bring them down, maybe they haven't left their residence in fear of Covid-19. We truly need to help one another and show compassion. A simple gesture could really make a difference in someone's life. We will get through this!

SOCIAL MEDIA

We want to keep residents informed in the Village and one way to do this is through social media. The Village of Southern View has a website, Facebook page, and we use the Nextdoor app to get the word out as quick as we can. If you haven't done so already, please sign up for the Nextdoor app. Nextdoor is similar to Facebook but you do not need to be friends with anyone to see what is posted in your neighborhood. It is a great tool that we have used to send news out to the residents of the Village. You can download this app through your Google Play store and it creates an icon on your mobile device.

Locate our social media presence at

www.southernview.us

[Facebook.com/villageofsouthernview](https://www.facebook.com/villageofsouthernview) | Nextdoor app

Municipal Office 217-529-3352

Police Non-Emergency 217-753-6666

BOARD MEETINGS

Unfortunately, with the state of Covid-19 the Village of Southern View Board decided to limit the number of Board meetings to one meeting per month. This meeting will be on the fourth Tuesday of each month. For the last few months, the Village Board has met in the Southern View Park at the Martin Pavilion to conduct these meetings and to allow residents to attend with six-foot social distancing. This has worked out quite well and we have enjoyed good weather during these meetings. This will have to come to an end as cooler and possibly wetter weather will be here before we know it. The Village will be doing the Board Meetings via Zoom. There will be a link on the Village of Southern View's webpage at villageofsouthernview.us that will take you into the Zoom meeting. On the Village website, go into archive, then board meeting dates, and you will see a link with the Zoom meeting you can attend.

DRAINAGE

Have you noticed flags of different colors in front of your home? If so, JULIE has been called to mark underground utilities. Do not remove the flags. You may have noticed that the Public Works Department has been very busy working on the drainage issues in the Village. Public Works have unclogged the main drains going out of the Village, and throughout the Summer and into the Fall they are digging out ditches that have filled up over the years and have also replaced various culverts to help the drainage. Of course, they have hit the problem areas first, but rest assure this is a project that takes time to complete. Some ditches may not need that much attention, but they are very few in the scope of this project. As of August 31st, 2020 Public Works have dug out over 3,508 feet of ditches and they are not done. They have also completed replacing nearly 100 feet of culverts. Great job Joe, Cody and Dave! Residents will see a difference when the rains come, and the water is traveling out of the Village. Please be patient. Hopefully by next fall we will have this project complete. We ask that you keep your ditches always clean of debris, as this helps the water travel. **DO NOT** burn, pile leaves, pile sticks or limbs, or garbage in the ditch.

DID YOU KNOW??

That it's **ILLEGAL** to leave your grass clippings on the roadway. Not to mention it is very dangerous for any motorcycle riders, it's like driving on black ice for them. Please remove your grass from the roadway. If not, you could receive a fine!

DITCHES

With all the repairs that the Public Works crew is doing for our drainage issues, **it is important to remind residents not to place ANYTHING in your ditches.** Debris in your ditch no matter what the size or what it is, stops the water from flowing where it needs to go. On June 23, 2020, the Village Board passed an Ordinance that revised the fines for littering in the Village. Littering as defined in Ordinance 20-06-02 includes but is not limited to depositing grass clippings or other debris in the ditches along village streets. A person found to be in violation shall be fined not less than \$250 and no more than \$1,000. Please remember to keep your ditch clean of all debris! Doing so helps you and your neighbors!

MUNICIPAL RENTALS

Unfortunately, with the Covid-19 the Village of Southern View Board had voted to cancel all rentals during the Covid pandemic. The Village of Southern View has a large room that is available for rent for your next party or get together. The rental hours are 8 am to 10 pm. Residents receive a discounted rental rate of \$100.00. There is an additional deposit of \$100.00 that is returned once the building is clean, no damage and the key is returned to the Office. If you are planning a party on a major holiday, there is an additional \$50.00 rental fee for holiday rentals. The Village does not accept credit cards. Payment must be made by cash or check. Call the Office at 217-529-3352 to book your party for next year!

BURNING RULES

Burning is allowed on Wednesday and Thursday of each week and the first and third Saturday of each month between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm or dusk, whichever is first. The fire must be constantly attended until it is extinguished and have a garden hose readily available.

Burning is not allowed if wind speed is 20 mph or more. Burning barrels are prohibited. No person shall burn trash, rubbish, papers, garbage, general household waste, commercial waste, construction, or demolition debris. No burning on the following holidays: New Years day, July 4th, Veterans Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Violations of this Ordinance can result in a fine of not less than \$250.00 or more than \$500.00.

LIMB REMOVAL

Limb pickup begins the first Monday of every month starting in April and goes to October. We ask that you DO NOT put limbs out at the curb until the weekend before pickup and never in your ditch.

The Village Public Works Crew will pick up the following:

- Limbs or branches that have fallen from the trees and bushes
- Only limbs or branches that have been trimmed from trees and or bushes as it pertains to normal tree maintenance.
- Limbs or branches must be less than 6 feet long and 4 inches in diameter.
- Restriction on the actual pile size is 6' x 4' x 4'
- We will not pick up whole trees that have been cut down

LEAVES

The Village of Southern View has a fall leaf collection program, which allows residents to remove their leaves without paying the usual \$1.50 per sticker on each bag. Rake your leaves to the edge of your yard, **NOT IN THE DITCH**, and then Public Works Crew will pick up and dispose of your leaves for free. The truck we use for this process has one huge hose to vacuum up the leaves. This hose is located on the right side of the vehicle and its design only allows it to be used for one side of the street at a time. When that one side is done and the truck is full, they must drive to the dump for disposal prior to any additional pickups. Please help by raking any other debris little twigs or limbs from your pile of leaves as only leaves can be vacuumed with this equipment. Again, these leaves should be placed at the end of your yard, **NOT IN THE DITCH!**

NEW POLLING PLACE

Sangamon County Clerk Don Gray reached out to the Village of Southern View to ask if our Village hall would be available to hold the Elections. If you are used to going to the Unity Church to vote, this year you will vote here at the Village hall. Social distancing and masks are recommended.

PARK RENTALS

At this time, the Village Board has cancelled all reservations at the Village Park through the calendar year of 2020. The Southern View Park is open for your recreational activities but currently, there are no bathroom facilities available. Please always enjoy our wonderful Park for all your recreational needs and remember to social distance.

SIDEWALK REPAIR

Are you in need of sidewalk repair in front of your residence? If so, give the office a call and we will come out and take a look. Trustee John McLaughlin calculates how much concrete will be needed to replace the existing sidewalk. The resident pays for the concrete and the Village Public Works crew provides the labor to put the sidewalk in. Currently, they have over 300 feet of sidewalks on the books this year to complete. Remittance of the project fee is expected within ten (10) days, upon receipt of the invoice.



PETS

Remember there is a Village Ordinance that requires you to put your pets on a leash when walking your pets off your premises. Whether you are walking down the street or walking your pet in the Village Park it is imperative that you have control of your animal. There are people that walk in our parks and roadways that are afraid of animals. Please be respectful and courteous to others.

DO NOT let your dog out unattended to relieve themselves in your neighbors' yard. Pick up your dog's droppings. This is your responsibility!! If not picked up, you could be faced with a fine by our Village of Southern View Police Department.

MOSQUITOS

The Southern View Public Works Dept would like to remind residents that you can help prevent the spread of mosquitos by a few simple preventive measures at home. The Public Works Dept has repaired the sprayer that we use throughout the Village for vector control to help eliminate the mosquito problem. This year, we have begun using a water based eco-friendly spray that does not put a huge fog into the air. This chemical is supposed to work more efficiently and is better for the environment as the previous chemical. There is a difference in the spray that comes out. Help us by ensuring that you have eliminated any breeding grounds on your residence. The list below will help you determine what to look for on your property to stop the spread of these pesky insects.

- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well-trimmed around the house
- Fill in any low places in the yard that puddles accumulate
- Dispose of any tires
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers and garbage containers
- Clear roof gutters of debris
- Clean pet water dishes regularly
- Empty out children's toys that have water accumulated
- Repair leaky outdoor faucets
- Change the water in bird baths at least once a week
- Canoes and boars should be turned over
- Avoid water collecting on pool covers
- Empty water collected in tarps around the yard or on woodpiles
- Plug tree holes
- Don't allow water to collect in any containers. They can breed hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes (bottles, barrels, buckets, overturned garbage lids etc.)

FALL PICK UP

Unfortunately, we will not be doing a fall pick up this year. This has been a big topic around the Village and the Village Board. The Village had investigated having a waste hauler come through the Village but unfortunately, most of the items the residents throw out for the pickup would not be accepted and the costs for this was \$8,000. The Village considered having a large dumpster at the Village hall for you to bring your unwanted items here but we were told that wouldn't be a good idea either due to having a large group of residents together at one time. In fact, Flowers Disposal who most Villages and small towns contract with refused to provide a dumpster to any event due to the pandemic. Covid-19 is not something we wanted to deal with that is for sure and it has affected so many things in our lives this year. This may not be a popular decision, but it is the best decision for the Village. The Village Boards main concern is keeping the residents and our employees safe. The Village has reached out to many other communities that offer junk pick up and each one has cancelled their events because of Covid-19 (Woodside Township, Jerome, Virden, and Chatham) due to safety concerns for their employees.