



Village of Lena

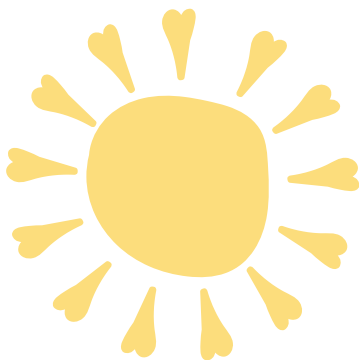
Spring/Summer 2024 Newsletter



Steve Buss
Village President

From the desk of the Village President

Spring is upon us and so is the start of a busy season around the Village. As you're out and about you will notice two projects that are slated to be completed later this spring. William Street, School Street and Leet Street will be torn out, shaped and new asphalt will be laid along with addressing the drainage issues. Dayton Street will also be torn out and upgraded to an 80,000 pound road with an additional turn lane for truck traffic.



New projects out for bid this season are the east and west ends of Main Street, east and west ends of Railroad Street and E Railroad Street will see another block of water main replacement. Butternut Woods will see drainage improvements and new asphalt. The grass areas in Willow Creek Circle and Old Corduroy Circle will be removed and replaced with asphalt. We will be grinding and resurfacing various locations throughout the Village to upgrade aging roads. These projects are funded by MFT (Motor Fuel Tax), TIF (Tax Increment Financing), the 1% sales tax and general funds allocated for roads.

Sherwood Lane, N Freedom Street and Townline Road are three areas in the process of getting final engineering completed for storm drainage upgrades based on a stormwater study completed in 2022. These projects will be funded by an IEPA loan with the possibility of loan forgiveness.

The Village applied for two sidewalk project programs. The first is an ITEP Grant, which covers 80% of the project cost. This project would complete sidewalks from town to Parkside/Oak View Terrace and continue the sidewalk to Fairway Hills. The second project would utilize the Safe Routes to School Grant, which covers 100% of the project cost, and would complete sidewalks from Fremont Street to the Lions Park entrance.

A contract was signed to provide fiber internet service to Lena. Directional boring began last fall for the main lines to town and will continue soon to provide service throughout the rest of the Village.

These improvements will continue to make Lena better, but it's always been the people who make Lena a community. As always, we welcome your input and feedback on our agenda.

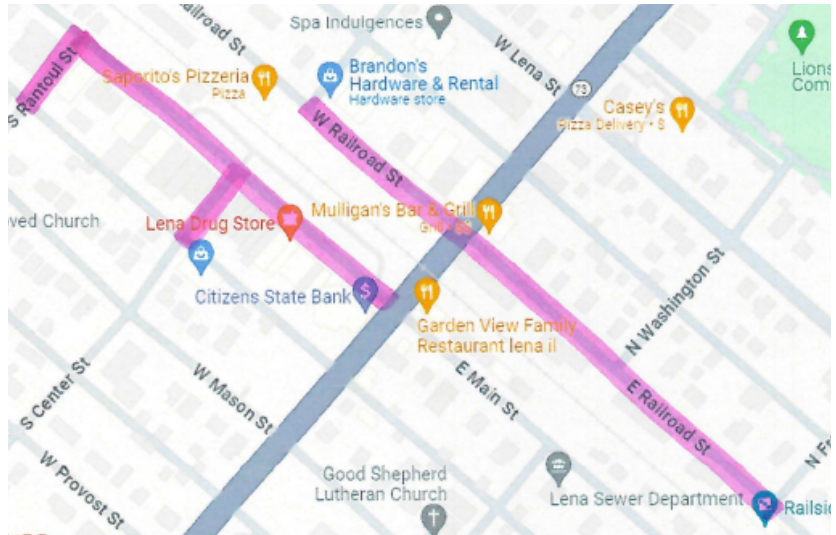


Overnight Parking Ordinance

During the March 2024 board meeting, an Overnight Parking Ordinance was approved to add to the Village of Lena Code of Ordinances. This will prohibit overnight parking in the following areas between the hours of 10pm and 6am:

- Main St from Rantoul St to Schuyler St
- Railroad St from Center St to Franklin St
- Center St from Main St to the alley south of Main St
- Rantoul St from Main St to the alley south of Main St

Overnight parking is prohibited in the highlighted areas on the map

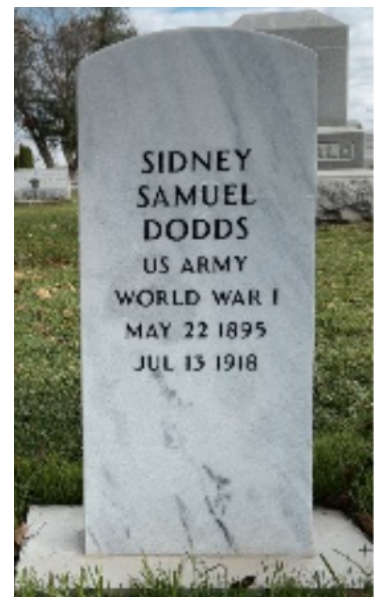


Lena Burial Moves Forward and Looks Back

Moving Forward - The maintenance building was refurbished, and extended to create the first-ever office for the cemetery, and a storage fence was added. No more meeting with families in the rain, snow, or cold – a major improvement – and will serve the community well for many years.



- **Looking Back** - On Veterans Day, Lena Burial Park hosted a ceremony to honor one of Lena's own, who had been forgotten for over 105 years. Samuel Sydney Dodds, great-grandson of Samuel Finley Dodds, Lena's founder.
- He was killed in an aviation training accident in 1918 and buried next to his father, Homer Dodds. No marker was ever placed to honor him.
- The cemetery obtained a Veterans Affairs marker and the Lena Area Historical Society organized service and military honors by Lena's American Legion Sprague-Inman Post 577.



Contact Lena Burial Park:

PO Box 383

Lena, IL 61048

cemetery@villageoflena.com

815-541-4841

Links to Village Website

UTV/Golf Cart Registration

The 2023 UTV registration stickers will expire on April 30th, 2024. 2024 registration will begin on May 1st, 2024. Stickers can be purchased at Village Hall. An application will need to be filled out for newly registered vehicles.

For UTV/Golf Cart Application and checklist please use the QR code or stop by Village Hall.



Sidewalk Replacement Application

If your sidewalk needs repair, consider using the Village of Lena's Sidewalk Replacement Program to help alleviate some of the cost. The money is distributed on a first come first serve basis.

For Sidewalk Replacement Application and requirements please use the QR code or stop by Village Hall.



Automatic Utility Bill Payments

Save the monthly hassle of writing a check by enrolling in ACH Payments!

For Application and requirements please use the QR code or stop by Village Hall.



Village of Lena Ordinances

The Village Ordinances are now available to view online.

To view the Ordinances, please use the QR code.



Spring/Summer Reminders

- The Village Water Department will be flushing hydrants from April 15th to April 26th. Please avoid washing clothing while the hydrants are being flushed in your neighborhood as it can cause discoloration.
- Grass length should not exceed 8 inches. Please do not blow grass clippings from mowing into the street. This can cause blockages in the storm sewers during a rain event, thus leading to flooding. Please help out and keep the storm sewer inlets free of debris, if you're unable to clear your inlet due to large amounts of debris, please contact the village.
- The Village will pick up brush and branches on the 1st and 3rd Mondays starting in April and ending in October. Putting your brush in a container is not required, but helps quicken and streamline the brush pick up process. No yard waste (grass clipping, plants, anything with green vegetation, etc.), root balls, construction material, shrubbery trimmings, wood with foreign objects or thorny bushes will be picked up.



Recycling Day

When: May 4th 8am-1pm

Where: Municipal lot on W Railroad St

What: TVs, monitors, laptops, bulbs, large/small appliances, printers, phones, bikes, grills, vacuums, holiday lights, car batteries and more!

Proof of Lena residency required

Fees associated with Electronic Disposal

CASH ONLY

A dumpster for non electronic items will be available free of charge



Visit our Facebook Page for more details!

Village President - Steve Buss
Village Clerk - Claudia Simpson
Treasurer - Nicole Callos
Office Manager - Madison Becke
Chief of Police - Wayne Gift
Officers - Cameron Reuter
 Louis Cusanelli
 Sierra Maurer
Streets Department
 Brandt Esling
 Ben Cheeney
 Mike Snyder
Water - Kory Polhill
Sewer - Jon Schoenhard

Trustees
Administration - Cathy Stevens
Health & Environment - Brooke Baldauf
Police - Christin Keeffer
Streets - Brian Peight
Water & Sewer - Brandon Smith
Zoning - Dean Rood

Village of Lena
PO Box 607
Lena, IL 61048

Upcoming Events:

Town Garage Sales - May 10th & 11th

Taste of Lena - June 22nd

Lena Lions Pet Parade (diabetes awareness) - July 20th, 10 am

Police Night Out - August 13th, 5pm - 8pm

First Day of School - Monday, August 19th

Lena Lions Fall Festival - September 6th & 7th

Garbage Pick-Up Delayed to Saturday for:

Memorial Day

4th of July

Labor Day



WasteConnect

For more updates, visit www.gillsfreeportdisposal.com or
download the WasteConnect app!

LENA COMMUNITY PARK DISTRICT SUMMER REGISTRATION

Monday, April 22nd: 5-8pm

Thursday, April 25th: 5-8pm

Saturday, April 27th: 9am-12pm

For more information visit www.lenaparkdistrict.org

Contact us!

815-369-4016

office@villageoflena.com

www.villageoflena.com

