



# Village of Lena

## Spring/Summer 2025 Newsletter



*Steve Buss*  
*Village President*

## From the desk of the Village President

### Spring Update on Village Infrastructure Projects

As spring arrives, we've been busy planning and budgeting for a productive summer. Several key projects have been approved, and we're ready to get started. Here's a look at what's in store for the season:

- **Storm Drainage Upgrades**

We continue to improve the storm drainage system throughout town. A major upgrade will take place from Lena Street, behind the Lena Drive Inn, all the way to Lake Road. This will include the installation of a 30-inch drain pipe to help alleviate drainage issues in the area.

- **Camp Street Reconstruction**

Camp Street, from Center to Schuyler, will be replaced and reshaped to improve both safety and functionality.

- **Main Street & Townline Road Intersection Overhaul**

The intersection of Main Street and Townline Road will be completely reconstructed, with significant drainage upgrades to better manage stormwater and improve traffic flow.

- **Milfred Street Reconstruction**

Milfred Street will undergo a full reconstruction, which will include the installation of a new water main, as well as new curbs, gutters and storm drains.

In addition to these larger projects, we will also be performing regular maintenance including street patching and updates to storm inlets. With these upgrades, along with the ongoing sanitary sewer lining project, we are in for another busy season of essential improvements!



# Ordinance Review - 9-20: Dogs at Large

As per CHAPTER 9 Animals, ARTICLE III PETS, SECTION 9-20: DOGS - AT LARGE:

A) No dog shall be permitted to run at large within the Village, unless said animal is secured on the owner's premises in an area enclosed by secure fence or by leash. All dogs when not in a building, pen, or fenced yard must be on a leash. The leashes cannot exceed 8 feet in length when in public areas.

B) Any dogs found running at large shall be declared to be a public nuisance.

C) If any owner or possessor of a dog shall permit the same to run at large at anytime within the Village, he/she shall be subject to the penalties ascribed in Section 9-99.

Please keep your dogs and others safe. If you encounter a loose dog, please contact the county's non-emergency line at 815-235-8252. While the Village does have an ordinance in place, the authorities will need to be notified so further action is able to be taken on those in violation.

## Online Utility Bill Payment Option:

<https://allpaid.com/plc/a006ef>

or

[www.villageoflena.com](http://www.villageoflena.com)

Home Page > Residents > Online Payments



\* A 2.95% (\$1 minimum) service fee is associated with all credit/debit card payments

## Recycling Day

When: Saturday, April 26th 8am-12pm

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 will be available free of charge



Visit our Facebook Page for more details!

## A Season of Change at Lena Burial Park

The past few months have seen a wave of changes at Lena Burial Park. There is a new cell phone number (815-656-0995) and a new email address (cemetery@villageoflenail.gov) as well as personnel changes. Jake Andrews, who served as sexton and groundskeeper for 10 years, accomplished bringing the cemetery to its current well-documented and beautifully restored and maintained condition. We have a new Sexton, Wayne Kurth, who will maintain the high quality of service, and groundskeeper, Troy Esling, who will continue to maintain the grounds at the high standard that make the Lena Burial Park so special. Welcome Wayne and Troy!

### Contact Lena Burial Park:

PO Box 383

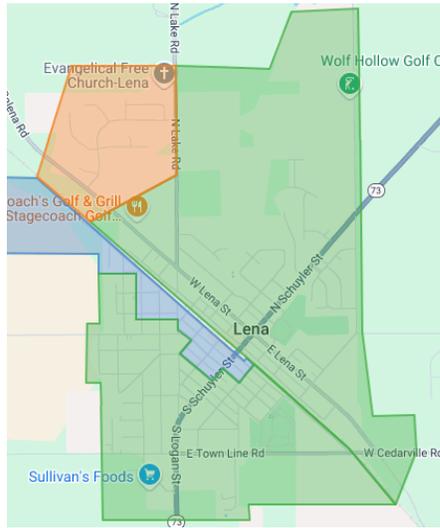
Lena, IL 61048

[cemetery@villageoflenail.gov](mailto:cemetery@villageoflenail.gov)

815-656-0995



The construction for the fiber internet continues this spring! The south side of the tracks is nearing completion, and the work on the north side of the tracks is in full swing! Fiber should be available to all residents by the end of the year.



For more information, you can visit [jcecoop.com/fiber](http://jcecoop.com/fiber) or call 800-858-5522

## IEPA Sewer Lining Project

The Village of Lena, with the assistance of Fehr Graham, have been awarded an IEPA Loan in the amount of \$2,470,000 to complete a Sanitary Sewer Lining and Rehabilitation Project. The purpose of this project is to address the infiltration and inflow of ground water into the sanitary sewer system. This construction project includes cleaning, televising, cured-in-place sanitary sewer lining, manhole rehabilitation, and any point repairs that are necessary as they are discovered. This loan funding includes **30% Principal Forgiveness on the total project, meaning that the Village does not have pay this portion back to the IEPA, so it's essentially a grant.** The Village of Lena accepted competitive bids to have the entire sanitary sewer collection system within the Village, and some storm sewer locations, televised and cleaned prior to any Lining activities taking place, and then for the Lining, Point Repairs, and Manhole Rehabilitation to be completed. Once the initial cleaning and televising is completed, the Village will prioritize the lining locations and will identify areas throughout the collection system where point repairs are needed on the sanitary sewer main. This work will begin in early April 2025.

- 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, causing flooding. Please help keep the storm sewer inlets free of debris, if you're unable to clear your inlet, please contact the village.
- The Village will pick up brush and branches on the 1st and 3rd Mondays from April to October. Putting your brush in a container is not required, but keeps the brush pick up process efficient. Each property is limited to one pile similar in size to a 44 gallon garbage can. 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. Brush and yard waste can also be dumped at the Village yard waste and brush piles.

### NO TRASH



## Building Permits

With spring quickly approaching, so are all the projects! If you're unsure if you need a building permit, call Village Hall at 815-369-4016.

### DO YOU NEED A PERMIT?

#### YES

- Fence
- House
- Retaining Wall
- Driveway
- Shed
- Garage
- Addition
- Deck/Porch/Patio
- Sidewalk/Walkway
- Solar Panels
- Driveway Pillar
- Demolition

#### NO

- Siding
- Windows
- Roof
- Interior work
- HVAC



Village President - Steve Buss  
Village Clerk - Claudia Simpson  
Treasurer - Nicole Callos  
Office Manager - Madi Becke  
Chief of Police - Wayne Gift  
Officers - Louis Cusanelli  
          Sierra Maurer  
          Nick Georgean  
Streets Department  
          Brandt Esling  
          Ben Cheeney  
          Andrew Martin  
Water - Kory Polhill  
Sewer - Jon Schoenhard

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

## Upcoming Events:

**Town Garage Sales - May 9th & 10th**

**Taste of Lena - June 14th**

**LBPA Dog Days of Summer Sale - July 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Luann Jordan Memorial Bike & Pet Parade - July 19th**

**National Night Out - August 12th, 5pm - 8pm**

**First Day of School - Monday, August 18th**

**Lena Lions Fall Festival - September 5th & 6th**

## Garbage Pick-Up Delayed to Saturday for:

Memorial Day

4th of July

Labor Day



**WasteConnect**

For more updates, visit [www.gillsfreeportdisposal.com](http://www.gillsfreeportdisposal.com) or download the WasteConnect app!

## **LENA COMMUNITY PARK DISTRICT SUMMER REGISTRATION**

Monday, April 21st: 5-8pm

Thursday, April 24th: 5-8pm

Saturday, April 26th: 9am-12pm

***For more information visit [www.lenaparkdistrict.org](http://www.lenaparkdistrict.org)***

**We have a new Village website coming soon!**

**You will be able to find all Village related information at [www.villageoflenail.gov](http://www.villageoflenail.gov)**

Village of Lena  
PO Box 607  
Lena, IL 61048