

Village VOICE OF RINGWOOD

JULY 2026



Dear Neighbors:

As the State Legislature wrapped up its spring legislative session, I want to provide you with updates on two legislative matters highlighted in the March Village Voice. Each could have very negative impacts on Ringwood's land-use.

First Housing - Governor JB Pritzker's proposal for statewide zoning to spur homebuilding and limit local control. I am pleased to report that this legislation has run into a wave of resistance from local and regional leaders throughout the state. To give you an idea of how extreme this legislation is, here is one example of Senate Bill (SB) 640 Amendment 001. The bill would mandate that any zoning district permitting detached single-family homes must also permit up to 4 units on lots between 2,500 and 7,500 square feet and up to 6 units on lots larger than 7,500 square feet. This bill has no regard for communities like Ringwood with only private well and septic. These density levels would greatly impact the character of our community. If passed, it could also cause significant environmental issues such as stormwater issues and reduced green space. In response to this legislation, the McHenry County Council of Governments sent a letter to the State Senate stating that any bill should make these density requirements optional and exempt communities on private well and septic from any density requirements.

Second Solar - Senate Bill 25 (SB 25) preempts local authority over solar within municipal boundaries. I have been working directly with the McHenry, Kane and Will Councils of Governments along with the Illinois Municipal League to identify legislative opportunities to restore local control back to municipalities to regulate solar. Ringwood has at least 33 locations throughout the Village that could be potential solar sites. Without local control, Ringwood is very vulnerable of being overwhelmed by the installation of solar farms. Ringwood has an ordinance that regulates solar farms and protects the public health and welfare, as well as protecting the property values for existing and future residential developments. At this time, I am a little less optimistic about changes to this legislation. Special interest groups and some legislators are resisting even the slightest amendments to this legislation.

There is an overall belief that housing legislation will be re-introduced in upcoming legislative session. As a result, in July, a coalition of McHenry County mayors, myself included, will be meeting with legislative leaders at their district offices to have further discussions regarding housing and solar legislation and its impact on Ringwood and McHenry County communities. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. I hope you have a very happy Fourth of July holiday. Happy 250th Birthday America!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick".

Richard E. Mack
Village President

Update - Governor Pritzker Proposal to Cut LGDF

Update - Your Village officials are pleased to report that the proposal below to cut the Local Distributive Fund (LGDF) was not approved by the State Legislature. Governor Pritzker in his February 2026, State of the State address proposed a reduction in the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) from 6.47% to 6.28%. The LGDF is the designated portion of the state income tax revenues that municipalities and counties receive on a per capita basis. Prior to 2011, 10% of total state income tax collections was dedicated to LGDF; today the local government share has been reduced to 6.47%. LGDF is an especially important source of funding for small non-home rule communities like Ringwood, who have limited resources and rely heavily on LGDF. For example, the LGDF is Ringwood's second highest source of revenue. It currently represents approximately 22% of Ringwood's total revenues. LGDF is critical for keeping our infrastructure in a good state of repair and to keep our local property tax burden low.

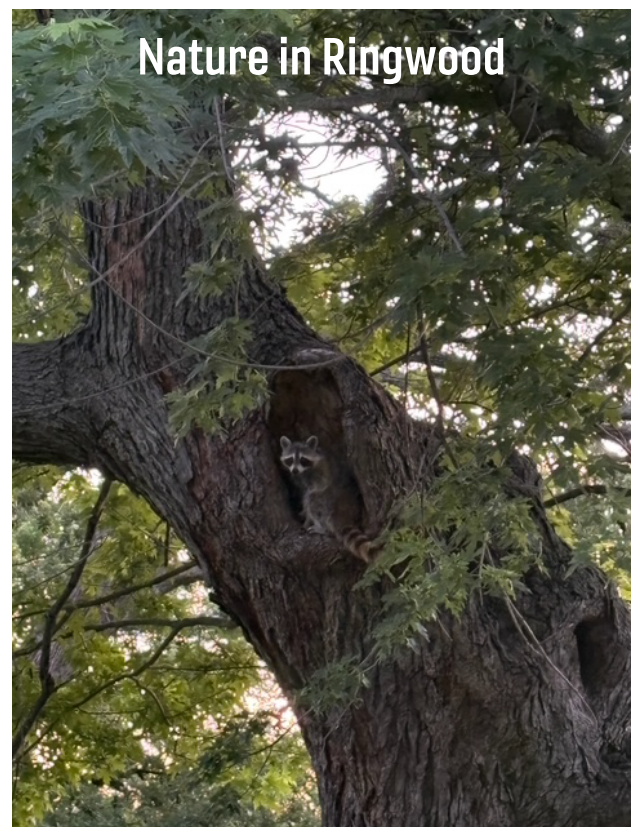
2026 Public Works Projects Update:

- Patty Lane - Resurface the west and south half of Patty Lane. Geske and Sons was the low bidder for this project. Top soil will be used for the shoulders.
- Intersection of Christina Court and School Road - At the southwest cornering of this intersection, the road shoulder is washing out due to recent heavy rain events. To prevent future washouts, the Village will install a curb and gutter at this location.
- Intersection of North Ridgeway and Barnard Mill Road - Road and shoulder is washing out at this location. The Village will repair the shoulder and road at this location and clean up debris left by past washout events and spread topsoil and seed the area behind the curb.
- Restripe the white and yellow lines on School, Ringwood and Barnard Mill Roads.
- Crack sealing - Complete

Possible Future Action by the Village Board

- Consider updates to Downtown and Long-range Land Use plans.
- Consider Solicitation ordinance.
- Consider Phase I Final Plat for Boulder Hill residential subdivision.
- Consider amendments to the Village Sign ordinance.
- Consider designed patio area outside future banquet hall.

Thank you to the Cencelewski family for sharing this photo





2026 RINGWOOD COMMUNITY PICNIC KIDS RAFFLE

HELP BRING BACK THE MAGIC OF THE RINGWOOD PICNIC KIDS RAFFLE!

For generations, the Ringwood Picnic Kids Raffle has been a highlight for local children—the excitement of choosing tickets, watching the drawings, and hoping to win a favorite prize. This year, we're working to bring back more of the themed baskets and fun prizes that made the raffle so memorable. As sponsorships have evolved over the years, community support now plays an even bigger role in helping us create this special experience for Ringwood's children.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Residents:

- Make a monetary donation by check payable to the Village of Ringwood - Please write "Kids Raffle" in the memo line.

Businesses:

- Sponsor a themed raffle basket (\$50 minimum)
- We will purchase the items, assemble the basket, and proudly display your business name as the sponsor.

Honor a Loved One (\$50 minimum)

- Sponsor a basket in memory of a loved one.
- A meaningful way to celebrate someone who cherished Ringwood and its community traditions.

Every contribution, big or small, helps create smiles, excitement, and lasting memories for the children attending the Ringwood Picnic on August 23rd.

Whether you grew up attending the Ringwood Picnic, have children or grandchildren who look forward to it each year, or simply want to support a beloved community tradition, your contribution will help make this year's raffle something special.

To donate or learn more, please contact:

Elaine Fung, Village Clerk at 815-355-6680 or Danielle Nelligan at 847-431-4202

Thank you for helping keep this special Ringwood tradition alive for the next generation!

Ringwood Village Hall

6000 Barnard Mill Road, Ringwood, IL 60072

Phone: 815-653-5511 • Fax: 815-653-9571 • Website: ringwood-il.us

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

President

Richard Mack - 815-321-1898

Clerk

Elaine Fung - 815-653-5511

Treasurer

Shelly Spata - 815-653-5511

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

Katie Herdus - 847-644-5963

Tim Meseck - 414-745-4525

Jason Meyer - 815-482-3698

Karen Morgan - 847-638-2009

Gary Reinwall - 815-728-0223

Missy Robel - 815-347-8916

VILLAGE HALL HOURS

CLERK

Every Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 am to 11:00 am

First Saturday of the month (April thru November) 8:00 am to 10:00 am or by appointment

BUILDING INSPECTOR

HR Green - Kathryn Melnick 815-320-7131

Village Board meets on the 3rd Monday of the month

Village Zoning Board of Appeals meets on an as needed basis.

*Village of Ringwood
6000 Barnard Mill Road
Ringwood, Illinois 60072*

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