

ISSUE 8
APR-JUNE 2025

JEFFERSON

COUNTY, MISSOURI



NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- State of the County 2025
- Stormwater Task Force Seminar
- County Council News
- Road Projects
- and MORE...



COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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636-797-5400

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

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636-797-5400

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District 3

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District 4

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OFFICES CLOSED

May 08, 2025

Truman Day

May 26, 2025

Memorial Day

June 16, 2025

Juneteenth

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Check our [website](#) for all upcoming meetings, agendas and journals.

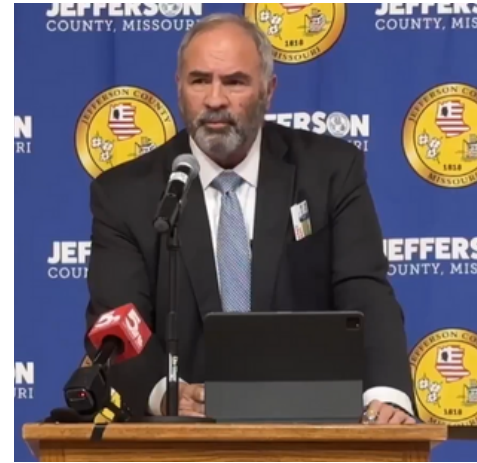
State of the County 2025

Each February, the Jefferson County Growth Association hosts hundreds of local leaders for the State of the County Address, reflecting on the past year's achievements and challenges while setting a bold vision for the future. Every two years, the Jefferson County Public School Districts take turns hosting the State of the County Address, adding a community-centered touch to the event.

This year, Northwest High School hosted the event, highlighting its facilities and students. The rotating tradition strengthens ties between the county's education system and local stakeholders. The State of the County Breakfast has become a community tradition, bringing leaders, educators, and residents together to share ideas and plan for the county's growth.

County Executive Dennis Gannon highlighted key 2024 developments in infrastructure, economic growth, community engagement, and sustainability. His speech showcased ongoing initiatives and announced ambitious plans to further improve the quality of life for county residents.

These plans aim to enhance infrastructure, expand services, and promote sustainability. Gannon also highlighted efforts to attract investment and economic opportunities, ensuring Jefferson County remains vibrant for both current and future residents.



Watch the State of the County presentation on the [Jefferson County Growth Association website](#).

New Jefferson County Facilities Building

In February, the grand unveiling of the new 7,500-square-foot Facilities building marked a significant milestone, signaling the end of an era for the old location at 739 Maple Street.

The new facility, which includes 6,400 square feet of built space and a 1,100-square-foot workshop, replaces the old building's 4,700 square feet.



Featuring a sleek, modern, single-floor layout, the new building stands as a remarkable upgrade, replacing the outdated two-story office and fragmented maintenance spaces of the old facility. This design dramatically enhances operational efficiency by eliminating the need to move between floors, fostering a more streamlined work environment.



The new building offers secure storage for equipment and supplies. It also features a spacious drive-in vehicle bay that enhances safety and speeds up loading and unloading, improving overall efficiency.

With its state-of-the-art, code-compliant design, the facility provides a functional space equipped with the latest technology to support the department's needs for years to come.

Visualize Jefferson County Master Plan Open House

Two open houses for the Jefferson County Master Plan were held on March 5 and March 6. These events gave the public a chance to review the draft plan, ask questions, and share their thoughts, concerns, and ideas directly with the consultants.

The open houses allowed for a comprehensive discussion of the Master Plan. The subject areas included Vision and Guiding Principles, which outlined the overall goals and values; Land Use and Development, focusing on how land will be utilized and developed in the future; Housing and Neighborhoods, addressing growth and the needs of residential areas; and Commercial and Industrial Areas, exploring opportunities for business and industry.



Other areas of discussion included Transportation and Mobility, which discussed future infrastructure and accessibility; Community Facilities, which focused on public spaces and services; Natural Areas, highlighting the importance of conservation and green spaces; and Implementation, which outlined how the plan will be executed.

For more information, news and updates, please visit the [Visualize Jefferson County Master Plan](#) website.

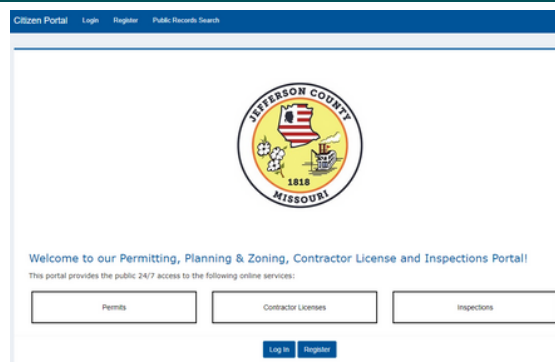
Online Permitting and Licenses

We are excited to announce that the new Community Development software will go LIVE in Q2! This online service allows citizens to easily access permits and licensing.

Previously known as CivicGov, Community Development is a comprehensive platform that includes modules for permitting, licensing, Code Enforcement, and Planning & Zoning. The first modules to be implemented will focus on permitting and licensing, enabling citizens to create an account and apply for liquor licenses, contractor licenses, and various permits.

Additionally, the system allows citizens to conveniently pay for and receive licenses and permits online, as well as track the progress of their applications. These improvements will help streamline processing, provide citizens with more transparency, and reduce human error.

Permits and Contractors Licenses can be applied for on our [Citizen Dashboard](#). Liquor Licenses can be applied for on our Liquor License [Citizen Dashboard](#).



Staying Up to Date with Community News

Stay up-to-date with the latest local news, events, and important updates from authorities—all in one place on our website.

To access the latest local news, just visit our [website](#) and navigate to the "Community News" section. Hover over the "Community" drop-down menu, and you'll find "Community News" right at your fingertips.



Gravois Northwest School Road Improvement Project



Gravois Northwest School Road has a rich history, dating back to the 1920s when it was first built by the State of Missouri as “The Original Highway 30.” After the construction of the new Highway 30, Jefferson County Public Works took over the road, which is now home to the Northwest Valley Middle & Elementary School. This section of road sees heavy foot traffic from students and pedestrians, making it a vital corridor for the community.

Due to being so well-traveled, this road is in need of improvements. Thanks to both Federal and local funding, the County is launching an exciting project to enhance Gravois Northwest School Road. The plan includes the construction of a 10-foot concrete shared-use path from Green Street to Fawn Hollow Drive, ensuring safer walking routes for pedestrians.

In addition, the project will introduce a new underground storm sewer system, a Two-Way-Left Turn Lane along the entire stretch, and the installation of curb and gutter. To further improve safety, Rapid Flashing Pedestrian Push Button beacons will be placed at key crossings, while new pedestrian street lighting will brighten the corridor at night.

Once completed, the entire project area will be resurfaced with fresh asphalt, giving the road a much-needed upgrade. The construction is set to begin in the Summer of 2025 and is expected to wrap up by the Summer of 2026, with an investment of \$3.46 million.

This project will not only preserve the road’s legacy but also make it safer and more accessible for years to come.



Old Lemay Ferry Road Improvements

Old Lemay Ferry Road stands as one of Jefferson County’s longest-served public roadways, with continuous maintenance dating back to the 1840s. While it has seen significant improvements over the years, including a modern paved surface, much of the road still retains its original hilly terrain and sharp curves.

Historical crash data has highlighted the need for safety upgrades along this 13-mile corridor. To address these concerns, the County has secured nearly \$15 million in dedicated funding through six safety improvement grants. These enhancements are being carried out in phases, with Phases 1 and 2 already completed. Phases 3 and 4 are set to begin construction in the first quarter of 2025, with completion expected by the end of the year. These phases will focus on the stretch of road from Kneff Road to 0.4 miles south of Regency Woods Place.

The improvements planned for Phases 3 and 4 include the installation of higher visibility curve signs and double chevron signs, widening of the inside curves, and enhancing the radius curvature of the road. Additionally, centerline rumble strips, 4-foot safety shoulders with edge line rumble strips, and guardrails along the inside curve north of East Four Ridge Road/Frisco Hill Road will be added. Dense foliage will also be cleared to improve both intersection sight distance and stopping sight distance. Finally, the 0.73-mile section will be overlaid with a high friction surface treatment to further increase safety.

To keep up with all updates, please visit the Projects section on the [Public Works website](#).

Stormwater Task Force

The Jefferson County Stormwater Seminar is an event that takes place once every two years, aimed at educating key stakeholders about stormwater management. This seminar is specifically designed for developers, contractors, engineers, and homeowners' associations (HOAs), ensuring that these groups are well-versed in stormwater codes and their connection to the federal Clean Water Act.



The Clean Water Act serves as the primary reason for Jefferson County's Stormwater Codes, requiring public entities to comply with regulations under what is known as the MS4 Permit. This permit, issued by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR), mandates that counties and cities to implement stormwater programs to protect water quality. Within Jefferson County, the MS4 Permit is a shared responsibility, with co-permittees including Pevely, Herculaneum, Crystal City, Festus, and Byrnes Mill.



The seminar provides a platform to delve into these codes, emphasizing their role in safeguarding water resources and promoting sustainable development. It offers participants an opportunity to gain valuable insights into compliance requirements and best practices, fostering a collaborative approach to stormwater management throughout Jefferson County.

By bringing together local, state, and federal government, the Jefferson County Stormwater Seminar reinforces the importance of adhering to stormwater regulations and highlights the collective responsibility of protecting local waterways and ensuring county growth and development is smooth and designed and built to Stormwater Codes.

The Stormwater Task Force meets every two months, to learn more, please visit the [Stormwater Task Force page](#).

Stormwater Task Force and Co-Permittees

The Jefferson County Stormwater Task Force plays a pivotal role in ensuring effective stormwater management through collaboration and shared responsibility with co-permittees. As the permit holder for the MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) under the Clean Water Act, Jefferson County is committed to fostering education, supporting compliance, and implementing necessary measures to protect water quality.

The Stormwater Task Force members work closely with co-permittees—including municipalities such as Pevely, Herculaneum, Crystal City, Festus, and Byrnes Mill—by convening six times a year, once every two months. These meetings are designed as a platform for co-permittees to discuss concerns, address challenges, and seek guidance from Jefferson County's Stormwater Division.

Through these regular engagements, the Stormwater Task Force reinforces its commitment to education, learning, and proactive implementation of stormwater management measures. By aligning efforts and sharing insights, Jefferson County and its co-permittees uphold their shared responsibility to safeguard the region's waterways.

Unlike public meetings, Task Force meetings are not open to the public and are structured to provide a focused environment for co-permittees to collaborate directly with the Stormwater Division. This format ensures open and constructive dialogue on stormwater codes, compliance requirements, and program enhancements, fostering a cooperative approach to meeting MS4 permit obligations.

Crime Lab Updates

Construction of the county crime laboratory is now halfway complete. Once finished, the lab will expand the Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation Division's capabilities, adding DNA, controlled substances, and eventually toxicology testing. Existing disciplines like crime scene processing, latent print technology, and computer forensics will also be enhanced, improving investigators' ability to identify suspects and strengthen cases for prosecution.



The need for a new lab arose from challenges with the state lab's capacity, as Jefferson County competes with over 100 other counties for analysis services. Additionally, there is insufficient space for growing fields like computer forensics, where digital evidence from devices like cell phones and vehicles is increasing. With all disciplines under one roof, cases can be prioritized more efficiently.

Once the building is complete, the County will hire staff, acquire equipment, and develop procedures. Accreditation is a top priority, as it is required for state funding, grants, and access to the national DNA database.

This project reflects strong collaboration across various County departments, including the Executive, Council, Sheriff's Office, Public Works, and IT. The 11,650-square-foot crime lab, awarded to K&S Associates, Inc. for \$6,130,000 (adjusted to \$6,357,288), is scheduled for completion by June 4, 2025.



County Council Elects New Chair and Vice Chair



At the Jefferson County Council Meeting on January 13, 2025, Councilman Bob Tullock was appointed as the new Chair, with Councilman Tim Brown as Vice Chair. Their appointments met with a 6 in favor and 0 oppose vote. Bob Tullock, elected in 2023, represents District 7, which includes the central and western areas of Jefferson County.

Tim Brown, appointed as District 6 Councilman in October 2024 to fill a vacancy, was later elected in November 2024 for a four-year term, representing the southern part of the county. This year marks a milestone for both Tullock and Brown, as they begin their first terms as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.

Learn more about the County Council by visiting the [County Council webpage](#). View County Council meeting agendas, videos, minutes and live stream at [Jefferson County, MO Agenda & Minutes Portal](#).



Billy Crow Becomes District 2's New Councilman



In August 2024, Billy Crow won the election for the District 2 Council seat, succeeding Gene Barbagallo, who chose not to seek reelection after serving the district. Billy's victory marked an exciting new chapter for the community, as his campaign resonated with voters and promised a fresh perspective and commitment to positive change.

Billy began his official journey as councilmember in January 2025, attending his first council meeting with a strong desire to make an immediate impact. Eager to serve, he is now poised for a four-year term from 2025 to 2028. With his passion, experience, and vision, Billy is ready to bring energy and innovation to the council, driving meaningful change for the community.

Parks & Recreation

JEFFERSON COUNTY

REGISTER FOR EVENTS
JEFFCOMO.ORG/PARKS

PARKS PHONE NUMBER
636-797-5334

CANCELLATION/INFORMATION HOTLINE:
636-797-6101

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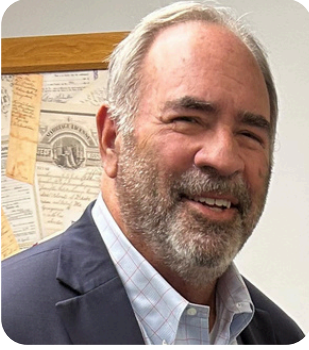
DID YOU KNOW?

Discover the serenity of Pleasant Valley Nature Preserve, a perfect destination for those who enjoy seclusion among acres of untouched land, towering old-growth trees, vibrant wildflowers, and scenic walking trails. Spanning 40 acres of preserved natural beauty, this haven is dedicated to maintaining the wild charm of Jefferson County.

The preserve features a pavilion, picnic tables, walking trails, and restrooms for your convenience. If you're a nature enthusiast, keep an eye out for local wildlife such as turkeys, white-tailed deer, hawks, and even the occasional bald eagle.

The more fun you're having, the harder we're working!

WORDS FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE



I'm excited to share some of the great progress happening here in Jefferson County!

We've made some fantastic improvements, starting with the Kimmswick Landing and park area, where we've added a new pavilion, playground, restrooms, and enhanced security to make the space more welcoming and safer for everyone.

The Jefferson County Port Authority has also made a big move by purchasing the Port Terminal in Herculaneum. This is just the beginning with plans to expand and improve the area to bring even more growth and opportunities to our community. We've also started work on the James Hardie project and continued with road and bridge upgrades, including the upcoming I-55 expansion.

We're committed to investing in our county's future—spending \$5 million on building renovations, bringing the total to \$17.8 million since 2013, all without raising taxes or taking on new debt. We've also made it easier for everyone to stay informed with our new Agenda and Meeting Management system, and we're proud to be recognized as a Purple Heart Community.

Looking ahead, we're excited about the new Crime Lab under construction, as well as ongoing upgrades to our technology and the Visualize Jefferson County Master Plan, which will guide our future growth.

Our financial outlook is strong, with a balanced budget for 2025. While we're talking about some bigger projects, like a new jail or courthouse, we're focused on making sure we have the right funding and community support before moving forward.

Together, we're working to build a safer, stronger, and more vibrant Jefferson County for everyone.

Regards,
Dennis J Gannon
County Executive

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COUNTY COUNCIL CORNER



Welcome Spring!

In the past year there have been great strides in your county government for improved transparency of operations. The new Civic Plus Platform for the posting of meeting information, recordings of meetings, and voting has given the voters the opportunity to see firsthand the actions of their government. The system should be completed this spring, and full functionality will be implemented.

The Council recently approved a balanced budget submitted by our County Executive, and while there was a great deal of conversation about the different funds included in the budget, I am convinced that there will be improvements in the budget process for the Council in the upcoming year.

The Master Plan draft for Development was released at the end of February, and public comment meetings were held. More information about those meetings are on the County Website www.jeffcomo.org.

Hopefully this spring we will open the new playground, pavilion and rest room facilities at Kimmswick Park. This County Park on the Mississippi River allows access to view the river and offers other recreational opportunities. The area already is one of the most popular parks in our County with high traffic counts recorded from visits.

More road improvements are planned for District 4, and the Department of Public Works will be out working to improve safety on your county roads. Road improvement notices are posted on the County website under Public Works.

Charles Groeteke
District 4
636-535-3352
cgroeteke@jeffcomo.org

We're Hiring!

Animal Control Officer (**Animal Control**)
Deputy Juvenile Officer (**Child Protection Services**)
Construction Inspector (**Planning & Zoning**)
Driver/Laborer II (**Public Works**)

Great benefits. Career growth. Close to home.

APPLY AT JEFFCOMO.ORG/HUMANRESOURCES



EARTH DAY

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

**JEFFCO THINK 6
Recycling locations:**



Hillsboro Manned Recycling Center

55 Elm Street, Hillsboro, MO 63050

Drop off hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8 AM - 12 PM

Wednesday: 1 PM - 5 PM

Saturdays & Sundays: Closed

Animal Resource Center

4848 State Road 30, House Springs, MO

Drop off hours:

Monday - Friday: 10 AM - 4 PM

Saturdays & Sundays: Closed

High Ridge Civic Center

2700 Community Lane, High Ridge, MO

Drop off hours:

24/7

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

Paper

Glass Bottles & Jars

Flattened Cardboard

Food & Beverage Cartons

Plastic Bottles & Containers

Metal Food & Beverage Cans



WHY SHOULD I RECYCLE?

Recycling is important for several key reasons:

- **Conserves Natural Resources:** Recycling reduces the need for raw materials, easing pressure on habitats and minimizing environmental harm.
- **Reduces Waste:** Recycling prevents waste from reaching landfills and incinerators, cutting pollution and environmental damage.
- **Saves Energy:** Recycling uses less energy than making products from raw materials, like aluminum, which saves 95% more energy.
- **Fights Climate Change:** Recycling cuts energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, helping combat climate change.
- **Supports the Economy:** Recycling creates jobs and boosts local economies.
- **Promotes Sustainable Living:** Recycling supports sustainability and protects the planet for future generations.

UPCOMING RECYCLING EVENTS

APRIL 5, 2025: 9 AM - 12 PM

DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

MAY 1, 2025: 11 AM - 1 PM

JEFFERSON COLLEGE

JUNE 7, 2025: 9 AM - 12 PM

BYRNES MILL CITY HALL

JUNE 28, 2025: 9 AM - 12 PM

HERCULANEUM HIGH SCHOOL

Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories

Thunderstorms (no label)

No severe storms expected

Lightning/flooding threats exist with all storms



Enhanced (ENH)

Numerous severe storms possible

More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense

Marginal (MRGL)

Isolated severe storms possible

Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity



Moderate (MDT)

Widespread severe storms likely

Long-lived, widespread and intense

Slight (SLGT)

Scattered severe storms possible

Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms



High (HIGH)

Widespread severe storms expected

Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense

The **Everbridge App**, local media, and NOAA weather radios are all excellent sources of weather notifications. The Jefferson County 911 Dispatch operates the reverse 911 service Everbridge, which enables locals to sign up for free alerts concerning severe weather in their area.

Be Prepared for Nighttime Tornadoes



- Make sure your NOAA weather radio is tuned to your local station by testing it on a regular basis.
- Keep shoes and flashlights close at hand.
- Make sure your phone is charged, turned on, and equipped with wireless emergency notifications.

REGISTER FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY, MO

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JEFFERSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

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