



# POINT OF VIEW

## JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

March-April 2025

Home Sweet Jerome:  
from the Mayor's Desk

### WELCOME SPRING!

Greetings neighbors! Now that the holiday season has come to an end, we are going to see the trees, flowers, birds, & creepy crawlies coming back.

With new growth, comes overgrowth, and the risk of fuels building up. I hate to say it, but we had another dry year, and we may see higher than normal fire risk this season.

Not to worry! The Town of Jerome has a small but dedicated team of Firefighters and Fuel Abatement Crew who can help. Contact the Fire Department, or stop by Town Hall to fill out a Firewise Form.

Please remember that if you need assistance with Firewise activities you must fill out a Firewise application and submit it to the Fire Department before work can be approved. Applications can be obtained at Town Hall or the Fire Department.



With everyone working together, Jerome can continue to be a shining example of a Firewise Community, and we can keep our beautiful historic neighborhoods safe.

And, as always, reach out to a neighbor if you are concerned that they may need assistance. Be kind, be helpful, Be Jerome!



### Scheduled Meeting Dates for March to May 2025\*

All of the regularly scheduled meetings will take place on Tuesdays; Council on the 2nd, P&Z on the 3rd, & DRB on the 4th.

**Regular Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, March 11th at 7pm

**Regular Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, April 8th at 7 pm

**Regular Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, May 13th at 7 pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
Tuesday, March 18th at 6pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
Tuesday, April 15th at 6 pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
Tuesday, May 20th at 6 pm

**Design Review Board**  
Tuesday, March 25th at 6pm

**Design Review Board**  
Tuesday, April 22nd at 6 pm

**Design Review Board**  
Tuesday, May 27th at 6 pm

\* Dates may be subject to date/time change due to holidays

## TNR...

which stands for "Trap-Neuter-Return," is a method of managing feral cat populations by humanely trapping them, taking them to a veterinarian to be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and then returning them to their original outdoor location, often with a visible ear-tip as a sign that they have been through the TNR process; this practice aims to gradually reduce the cat population by preventing further breeding while allowing the cats to live out their lives where they are already established.

### Key points about TNR:

- **Trapping:** Feral cats are caught using live traps designed to safely contain them.
- **Neutering/Spaying:** The captured cats are taken to a vet to be surgically sterilized.
- **Vaccination:** Cats are typically vaccinated against rabies and other common feline diseases during the TNR process.
- **Ear-tipping:** A small part of one ear is removed as a visual indicator that the cat has been through TNR.

**Returning to the colony:** After recovering from surgery, the cats are returned to their original outdoor area.

### Benefits of TNR:

- **Reduces cat population:** By preventing breeding, TNR can help to gradually reduce the number of feral cats in a given area over time.
- **Humane approach:** TNR is considered a more humane alternative to euthanasia for feral cats.
- **Improves cat health:** TNR allows for basic veterinary care like vaccinations and sterilization, improving the overall health of the cat population.

### Important considerations:

- **Community support:** Successful TNR programs require support from local communities and authorities.
- **Monitoring and management:** TNR programs often involve ongoing monitoring of cat colonies to ensure their well-being and address any issues.
- **Socialization potential:** If a kitten or young, friendly cat is found during a TNR effort, they may be considered for adoption into a home environment.

\*Information provided by Google Generative AI & The Jerome Humane Society



### **The Thrill of Adventure Tinged with the Heartbreak of Fear and Homelessness**

Here's Sally heading out to trap feral cats. She's got her quad, traps, enticing food and headlamp. (Trapping jaunts often included alcohol - just to keep warm, of course!)

Trapping feral cats involves heading out before dark, setting the traps, and hoping to catch a feral cat and not a skunk. Return early the next morning and ferry the agitated cat to clinic in a car because the quad is too loud and scary.

Once at clinic we set up a lovely condo in a secure room. We provide places to hide because the cats are invariably terrified. We offer plenty of food and water. The cat is then scheduled to be spayed or neutered by Dr. Virginia Kennaway. Once fixed the cat is returned to their colony.



Whoa! What just happened???

**If you'd like to join the trapping team, please call the JHS voicemail at 928-235-5960.**

**If you have a JHS trap, please return it to the clinic. Thanks for trapping!**



**JEROME FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
P.O. BOX 1025 \* JEROME AZ 86331  
(928) 649-3034 [blair@jeromefire.us](mailto:blair@jeromefire.us)

**March 2025 Newsletter  
Outlook/Conditions**

This winter has been extremely dry. So far, we have not seen any real amount of moisture throughout the State. This is creating a very hazardous situation in the southwest region. With spring coming we hope we will see some much-needed precipitation.

With Arizona not receiving winter moisture the threat of large to very large wildland fires are becoming a concern for us. There has already been one fire in Yavapai county that required evacuations.

Locally, Jerome is mid slope on a mountain that has no real fire history. We have had a few smaller fires in the area, but no large-scale Wildland fires have been recorded since the 1950s.

Like the rest of the state, we have a large amount of leftover grass and small vegetation that is already dry, with the live fuel moisture being well below the normal ranges.

We at the fire department are trying to keep the roadside fuels in check, this is a difficult task as it can take away from other departmental duties.

We know it is not just trailer chains dragging or the occasional cigarette thrown from a window of a passing car starting a fire, it can be an overheated vehicle, a flat tire or a random act of nature.

We are expecting your Fire Departments Wildland truck and crew to be busy on wildland fire assignments this year. With our truck and crew out on assignment it will bring in additional concerns for the Fire Department. Without the wildland crew out on assignment the fire department will have fewer qualified wildland personnel to respond. The benefit of sending our Wildland crew out is the revenue. This revenue is used to supplement the Fire budget allowing us to better serve the Town of Jerome residents and visitors.

As a community we need to do our part and create a defensible space. We need to clear the grass and other fire receptive fuels from around our homes and other areas around town.

Please do what you can to remove any dead fuel within 30 feet of your house and clean all dead and down debris out to 100 feet. Remove all debris, trim grass, and other vegetation from the downhill side of your house as well as any receptive fuels that are on your house. Doing this will help make your property safer in the event of a fire and give the fire department a chance to stop the fire before it reaches your house.

Please call the Fire department if you need into the brush/slash pile to drop off your trimmings. The Fire Department records all the loads put in the pile; this is a large part of the town of Jerome's recognition of being a Firewise community.

For any resident that would like to receive a Firewise assessment on their property please contact the Fire Department, we have a certified Firewise adviser on staff. This assessment would give recommendations on helping with your house being a little more fire resistant to vegetation fires.

Insurance companies are getting stricter with homeowners that live in an area that has a high potential for devastating vegetation fires. A Firewise assessment and mitigating the areas of concern might help with your homeowner's insurance.

Please contact the fire department when you drop anything off. There is also an area for large logs that will not be consumed when the pile is burned. If the logs are larger than 4 inches in diameter, we ask that you drop them off in that area, these logs will then be cut into firewood for anyone that needs it for winter heat.

Remember, if you have any hot ash, charcoal or partially burned firewood, place a metal container with water on a gravel or non-flammable surface outside for at least one day before disposal. Please do not dump hot ash in a trash receptacle.

**With the weather warming up, we are entering the snake season. If you encounter a snake, stay a safe distance away, call 911 and note the location or the direction it was moving. We will come out and relocate the snake to a safe location away from town. Remember not all snakes are dangerous and they do help minimize the small rodent population in town.**

**Fire extinguishers:**

Jerome Fire Department would like to thank all the residents and businesses that took advantage of this year’s Fire Department’s annual fire extinguisher maintenance program with Life, Safety and Property company for a small fee. We provide this service every February to ensure that your fire extinguishers function properly in the event you might need to use them. Please take advantage of this program each year.



We would like to remind our residents to check the batteries in their smoke detectors. Also, if the smoke detector is over 10 years old, we recommend that you replace it. If you need assistance with your smoke detector batteries or replacement, please contact the fire department.

**The Fire Department is always looking for new members for Fire, EMS, and/or both. Free training, cool t-shirts, drive big trucks with red lights... 5 PM, every Thursday. Come on down and see what we do. Everybody is welcome.**

**If Fire and EMS don’t interest you, but you would still like to help your fire department, the Jerome Fire Department Auxiliary is always welcoming new members as well! Come join us!**

**Thank you for your continued support.  
Rusty Blair, Fire Chief JVFD**

**File of Life and “Rescue Pet” Stickers**

The Fire Department has Magnetic **Files of Life** envelopes available at the fire station. These envelopes will inform emergency personnel of medical data, such as medications, allergies, and medical history. They will also provide emergency contacts. These are to be placed on the refrigerator so that emergency personnel can easily find them. If you have any questions or need one of these **Files of Life** cards, contact the Fire Department.

- ◆ Easy to Peel & Stick
- ◆ Long Lasting
- ◆ Sticks Well to Most Surfaces
- ◆ Leaves No Glue or Residue



Also, we have “Rescue Pet” stickers. These are used to alert First Responders of pets in the house. These stickers are to be placed on

your front door. This will provide firefighters with the knowledge that there are potential rescues inside the building. It also lets responders know what potential pets are on the premises that will need to be secured and cared for, in the event they will be left unattended. Please stop by the Fire Station if you would like one of these stickers.



**LCRI Water Line Update**



Springtime is near and we have updates regarding our water service line inventory. According to the most recent update, the EPA and ADEQ have advised that annual notices continue to be sent to residents and businesses with unknown service lines. The new deadline to identify all “unknown” lines is now January 2027, but with community effort I think we can collect all necessary data well before that deadline!

You may recall in November there was a letter sent out for each meter with “unknown” service lines. Again “unknown” means the Town of Jerome does not know what kind of pipe/material leaves your side of the meter and enters your home or business. We have received several of the water line surveys back, and we’d like to thank those residents and business owners for your time, cooperation and prompt response. To reiterate, anyone who has not sent in or dropped off their service line survey, you will continue to receive annual notices regarding your “unknown” status, until such a time as the service line material has been updated. Inventory survey and scratch test information, like what was sent with the November letter, will be included with the annual notice which is due to be mailed out in June.

Clarifying the check boxes on the survey...the Town only needs to know the material/type of pipe that enters your home or business. For example, if you look under a kitchen or bathroom sink and you see plastic or other metal pipes, but the pipe that comes from the water meter outside, to the water heater inside, is Copper then you’ll check the box for copper on the Survey. This is the most important piece of information the Town needs to submit. If you are unsure of date of installation, or if installation was after the lead ban, leave those areas blank, they are additional information and not required to complete our inventory for ADEQ. If you are still unsure, please reach out to Town Hall and we will make arrangements for someone to verify your service material in the meter pit. As we receive any additional updates or requirements those will be communicated to residents and business owners as promptly as possible.



A joint press release by the Jerome Historical Society and Verde Exploration relative to the Audrey Headframe Park closure is posted on our website and facebook page. Verde Exploration hired an engineer to inspect the headframe structure, who determined that the park should be closed for safety reasons, until restoration work is completed. Unfortunately, decades of exposure to the elements has taken its toll on the wooden structure. As you can imagine, this will be a costly undertaking which will require obtaining grant support, so it's impossible to predict how long the park will be closed. We'll keep you posted on any developments as they arise.

Here are the election results for the JHS Board of Directors for the next two year term:

- President - MaryBeth Barr
- Vice President - Carol Anne Teague
- Secretary - Crystal Smith
- Treasurer - Jay Kinsella

Directors - Don Feher, Becca Miller, & Wendy Olson. Tracy Weisel has resigned from the board after almost four decades of service. We can't thank him enough for his dedication to JHS and our history, and we plan to visit him in his La Victoria studio to continue to hear his entertaining bad jokes!

For Jerome residents who may not know this: Tracy is the one who came up with the idea for a coin toss at the Bartlett Hotel. If you see Tracy, be sure and thank him for his contributions to our Jerome community.

### **Blessings from Haven,**

We are nearing 100 years in our church building. We acknowledge the many acts of service and kindness the church members and town residents of the past and present have done. With this in mind, we look to our year-long celebration of Haven and would like to encourage everyone to participate in the 100 Acts of Kindness and Service challenge. Take this opportunity to make this world a more loving and kinder place as we continue with Haven's tradition of "Sharing God's love and joy through acts of kindness" Here are just a few to get us going!

1. Pray for people continuously.
  2. Donate food, hygiene products, household wares, clothing, blankets, socks to the Haven Food Pantry.
  3. Give an unexpected compliment.
  4. Think only positive thoughts, try not to complain.
  5. Slow down so someone can merge in front of you in traffic.
  6. Be the first to smile at someone.
  7. Let someone else take that primo parking spot.
  8. Buy a warm meal for someone in need.
  9. Help someone carry their grocery bags.
  10. Simply listening to someone who needs to talk.
- Practice active listening instead of focusing on what you

will say next, make eye contact and truly hear what they say.

11. Write a card or text a note of encouragement.
12. Offer to return a stranger's grocery cart to the front of the store.
13. Pick up a piece of litter on the street and throw it out.
14. Pass along a compliment to a service worker's boss.
15. Take the time to write a great online review for a restaurant you love.
16. Give an extra tip and write an encouraging note along with it.
17. Support local youth for example: buy Girl Scout cookies, car washes, purchase tickets for school events.
18. Visit a nursing home — read books or play board games with residents.
19. Send a care package to a service member.
20. Thank First Responders, bring treats to your local fire station, police station.
21. Thank a Service person.
22. Visit an elderly neighbor and offer help.
23. Offer to walk a dog for a neighbor.
24. Make a dinner for a family.



# UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Note: None of these holidays will affect trash pick-up

**Ash Wednesday**

Wednesday, March 5th

**First Day of Spring**

Thursday, March 20th

**Easter Sunday**

Sunday, April 20th

**Earth Day**

Tuesday, April 22nd

**St. Patrick's Day**

Monday, March 17th

**Good Friday**

Friday, April 18th

**Cinco de Mayo**

Monday, May 5th

Town of Jerome Shuttle's trips to Cottonwood, a service for Jerome locals to provide transportation for the purposes of shopping, banking, and more, runs every Wednesday at 9 A.M. and a 2nd run at 1 P.M. by appointment. Meet the Shuttle at Town Hall, 600 Clark Street, or call ahead to make arrangements at: **928-821-0133**

## 'Tis no blarney ... 'Tis The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. PETrick's Day Party!

LIVE IRISH MUSIC!

50/50 and PRIZE RAFFLE

POTLUCK! (Bring a dish)

Proceeds benefit the Jerome Humane Society

**SUNDAY**  
**March 16**  
**6 - 9 PM**  
Nellie Bly Party Room



There was a tipsy young man from Jerome,  
Who thought sure he had found his way home.  
As he crawled into bed,  
Sue screamed,  
"You're not my Fred!"  
And so he continued to roam.

### Public Service & Public Works

Please remember if you have a water or sewer leak, contact **Public Works: 928-634-7943**

or if you have a traffic related event, please call **Jerome PD at: 928-634-8992**

For all other matters, contact us at the **Jerome Fire Department: 928-649-3034**

### Jerome Chamber of Commerce

Special Event celebrating local businesses



Join us every **FIRST SATURDAY** of the Month from 5 to 8 PM

Town of Jerome  
P.O. Box 335  
Jerome, AZ 86331

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US POSTAGE PAID  
MAILED FROM 86331  
PERMIT NO. 5

BOXHOLDER