

MAIN OFFICE: Menard County Courthouse, 102 S.7th Street, Petersburg, Illinois, 62675

PURPOSE:

Menard County was established in the winter of 1839 by action of the Illinois State Legislature, being one of three counties split off from Sangamon County. At the time, Abraham Lincoln was a Representative to the State Legislature and Chairman of the Committee on Counties. The bill to separate Menard from Sangamon was written and presented by Lincoln on January 16, 1839 and passed the legislature on February 15, 1839. The action defined the boundaries of Menard County and provided for an election on the first Monday in April 1839 to elect public officials and three county commissioners. Over one hundred sixty years later, on November 7, 2000 the voters passed the proposition to be represented by five commissioners elected from single member districts.

Menard County is located slightly west of the center of the state and contains approximately 314 square miles. Petersburg, the county seat, is about 20 miles northwest of Springfield. A large number of settlers from Southern states and European immigrants came to Menard County to farm. The county continues to be known for agriculture and its rural character, while also providing a diversity of residential living options, quality schools and a service-based economy that caters to area residents and businesses.

Menard County is a non-home rule county and governed by the Illinois County Code, Chapter 55 ILCS 5/1-1001, et. seq., and related acts. Menard County's government consists of thirteen departments, six elected officials, the judiciary and a five member County Board elected from single member districts.

Menard County provides a full range of services including law enforcement, construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, property assessment and collection of taxes, official records, elections, document recordings, comprehensive planning and growth management, a court system and related support functions, public health and home health services, animal control, emergency disaster planning and response, employment and training, senior transport, emergency public relief and emergency medical services.

In addition to the above general government activities, the County owns and operates a skilled care nursing home. Sunny Acres accepts private pay, Medicaid and Medicare patients. Countryside Estates, situated next door to Sunny Acres, opened in 2000 and is an independent living facility.

BUDGET & EMPLOYEES:

The Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget is as shown in Menard County, Illinois Annual Budget Document, year ending November 30, 2026. Menard County, including Sunny Acres Nursing Home, has approximately 176 full-time employees & 75 part-time employees.

BOARD IDENTIFICATION & MEMBERSHIP:

Board of Commissioners: Troy Cummings, Rich Brauer, Ed Whitcomb, Dalton Whitley and Rodney Riech

Board of Review: Leigh Holliday, Dan Stephenson and Jared Williams

Farmland Assessment Review Committee: Robert Winkelmann, Dale Evers and Paul Rice

Planning Commission: Donald Fritz, John Dixon, Dan Haynes, Jack Knuppel, Julie Wankel, Mark Churchill

Public Building Study Group: Steve Ozella, Joe Hemberger and Dan Ortgessen

Sunny Acres Advisory Board: Board of Commissioners, Tim Hurie, John Whitehurst, Marsha Satorius, Angie Fletcher, Josh Gronewold, Steve Territo

Zoning Board of Appeals: Steve Wilken, Dan Robertson, Karen Stott, Steve Ozella, and Chris Becker

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOIA) OFFICERS: The head official of each department under the control of the Menard County Board of Commissioners acts as the Freedom of Information officer for that department. Independently elected county officials shall act as the Freedom of Information officer for the department under their control.

FOIA PROCEDURES & FEES:

Interested parties can request information in-person, mailed, emailed or faxed. Requests should be made to the appropriate FOIA officer, at the appropriate department. It is preferred that requests be made in writing.

No fees shall be charged for the first 50 pages of black and white, letter or legal sized copies requested by a requester. The fee for black and white, letter or legal sized copies shall not exceed 15 cents per page. The fee for color, letter or legal sized copies shall not exceed 25 cents per page.

TELEPHONE & ADDRESS DIRECTORY:

Animal Shelter (217) 632-7302

19376 Sunny Acres Road
PO Box 163
Petersburg, IL 62675
FOIA contact: Administrator

Board of Commissioners/County Coordinator (217) 632-4412

102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL
1st floor, Menard County Courthouse
FOIA contact: County Coordinator

Community Services (217) 632-4412

102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675
1st floor, Menard County Courthouse
FOIA contact: Director

County Clerk/Recorder (217) 632-3201

102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675
1st floor, Menard County Courthouse
FOIA contact: Menard County County Clerk

Emergency Medical Services (217) 632-7700

19072 State Highway 123
Petersburg, IL 62675
FOIA contact: EMA/EMA Chief

Treasurer/Collector (217) 632-2333

102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675
1st floor, Menard County Courthouse
FOIA contact: Menard County Treasurer

Sheriff's Office (217) 632-4458

102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675
2nd floor, Menard County Courthouse
FOIA contact: Menard County Sheriff

State Attorney's Office (217) 632-2524
102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675
3rd floor, Menard County Courthouse
FOIA contact: Menard County State's Attorney

Sunny Acres Nursing Home (217) 632-2334
19130 Sunny Acres Road
Petersburg, IL 62675
FOIA contact: Administrator

Superintendent of Highways (217) 632-2722
15620 Chautauqua Road
Petersburg, IL 62675
FOIA contact: Menard County Engineer

Supervisor of Assessments (217) 632-4461
101 E. Jefferson
Petersburg, IL 62675
Menard County Annex
FOIA contact: Menard County Supervisor of Assessments

Zoning/GIS (217)632-5123
101 E. Jefferson Street
Petersburg, IL 62675
FOIA contact: Zoning Administrator

OTHER COUNTY OFFICE INFORMATION (These offices should not be contacted for FOIA requests):

Circuit Clerk (217) 632-2615
102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL
2nd floor, Menard County Courthouse

Circuit Judge (217) 632-2107
102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675
3rd floor, Menard County Courthouse

Coroner
102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675

(217) 632-2273

Jail
315 S. 6th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675

(217) 632-2273

Probation Office
102 S. 7th Street
Petersburg, IL 62675
3rd floor, Menard County Courthouse

(217) 632-4438