

JACKSON COUNTY

Elected and appointed officials

**Prepared by
League of Women Voters
of Jackson County Illinois**

Last Edited June 2019

INTRODUCTION

YOUR COUNTY OFFICIALS

has been prepared as a service by the League of Women Voters of Jackson County Illinois. This document will be updated and supplemented from time to time.

Those finding errors may contact the League of Women Voters of Jackson County, as shown on the website, jacksoncounty.il.lwvnet.org, to advise of errors.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization whose purpose is to encourage citizen participation in government. The League does not endorse candidates nor does it help or support any political party.

Membership in the League is open to men and women who are U.S. citizens. For more information, see jacksoncounty.il.lwvnet.org

To contact the state League of Women Voters of Illinois office, call 312-939-5935

TO SEE OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF JACKSON COUNTY, LOOK ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE -

www.facebook.com/LWVJC

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Jackson County Government: History

Jackson County is two years older than the state of Illinois. It was created in 1816 in response to a petition of settlers, in particular Conrad Will and William Boon, to the Territorial Government. Most of the county was originally part of Randolph County. The first county seat was Brownsville, but after a disastrous fire in 1843, the county seat was moved about three miles east where the new town of Murphysboro was built.

In the beginning, the county was governed by a County Commissioners Court with executive and judicial responsibilities. The first members were appointed by the Territorial Governor. The county's elected officials included the county clerk, treasurer, sheriff, tax assessor, and justice of the peace. Other county officials were appointed by the court, including jurors for the grand and traverse juries. The county clerk received a salary. The sheriff, who also served as tax collector, received a percentage of tax monies collected. The treasurer received a percentage of his disbursements; while the commissioners received a per diem fee for attendance at meetings.

In 1785, federal law had established the congressional township system as a means of establishing exact property descriptions. In 1848, Illinois law facilitated the use of this system as the basis of local government, and it was adopted by Jackson County. The county was divided into four townships: Degognia (NW), Brownsville (SW and central), Crab Orchard (SE), and Beaucoup (NE). Road supervisors, fence viewers (who settled property boundary disputes), and overseers of the poor were appointed in each township. In addition, magistrate districts, which served also as election districts, were set up; but these districts did not necessarily correspond with the townships. As the population of the county grew, the four original townships were expanded to seven. Currently there are 16 townships in Jackson County.

An excellent summary of the development of county government is contained in the Jackson County Historical Society publication, Jackson County-- Formation and Early Settlers. For information about early towns and villages in Jackson County, Ghost Towns of Southern Illinois by Glenn J. Sneed, Johnston City, IL, 62951, provides a short statement about sixty-two towns in Jackson County.

Federal Officials

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Donald J. Trump

Term expires: Jan. 2021

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
(202) 456-1414

<http://www.whitehouse.gov> -- on bottom of page see "get involved" for contact info
(202) 456-1111, press 1, then 1, then 0, leave message

Leader of the executive branch of government; commander in chief of the armed forces; head of state. Term: 4 years.

U.S. CONGRESS

U. S. Senate

Two senators are elected from each state. The two senators from Illinois represent all the citizens of Illinois.

Functions: Legislates on federal level, ratifies treaties, confirms or vetoes presidential appointments, acts as court of impeachment. Term: 6 years.

Richard Durbin (Democrat)

711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
(202) 224-2152; Fax (202) 228-0400

www.durbin.senate.gov

Use web address to e-mail

Term expires: Jan. 2021

Local Office:
250 W Cherry Room 115D
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 351-1122
FAX: (618) 351-1124

Tammy Duckworth (Democrat)

SD-G12 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
(202) 224-2854; Fax: (202) 228-0618

www.duckworth.senate.gov

Use web address to e-mail

Term expires: Jan. 2023

Local Office:
Eurma Hayes Center
441 E Willow St
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 677-7000
FAX: (618) 351-1551

U. S. House of Representatives

One representative is elected from each of 18 Congressional Districts in Illinois. Jackson County is located the 12th Congressional District. Congressional Districts are adjusted every 10 years following the US Census. To see the current district map go to

<http://elections.il.gov/votinginformation/2011congressionaldistricts.aspx>

If you do not live in Jackson County and you wish to find the name of the representative for your district or to determine your district, go to www.vote-smart.org or to www.elections.state.il.us and enter your zip code. You will learn your district and your representative.

Functions: Legislates on federal level, originates all revenue measures, votes on impeachment charges. Term: 2 years.

Mike Bost (12) Republican

1440 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

(202) 225-5661; Fax: (202) 225-0285

www.bost.house.gov

Use web address to e-mail

Term expires: Jan. 2021

Local:

300 E Main, Suite 4

Carbondale, IL 62901

(618) 457-5787

State Officials

GOVERNOR

J.B. Pritzker (Democrat)
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-0244

Term expires: Jan. 2023
Term: 4 years.
www.illinois.gov/gov

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Juliana Stratton (Democrat)
214 State House
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 558-3085

Term expires: Jan. 2023
Term: 4 years
www.illinois.gov/lgov

SECRETARY OF STATE

Jesse White (Democrat)
213 State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706
(800) 252-8980

Term expires: Jan. 2023
Term: 4 years
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Kwame Raoul (Democrat)
500 S. Second St.
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-1090
Local office: 1001 E Main St, Carbondale (618) 529-6400

Term expires: Jan. 2023
Term: 4 years
www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov

TREASURER

Michael Frerichs (Democrat)
219 Statehouse Capital Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-2211

Term expires: Jan. 2023
Term: 4 years
www.state.il.us/treas

COMPTROLLER

Susana Mendoza (Democrat)
201 State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706-0001
(217) 782-6000

Term expires: Jan. 2023
Term: 2 years
www.ioc.state.il.us

To e-mail state elected officials, visit their webpage for instructions.

ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Annual session begins the second Wednesday of January.

To e-mail any member of the General Assembly (senator or representative), send to webmaster@ilga.gov.

Live audio and video links are available on-line when the Illinois General Assembly is in session. Check availability at www.ilga.gov. To learn the status of Illinois legislation, the schedule of hearings or a legislator's webpage, or information about a legislator, consult www.ilga.gov

Illinois Senate

There are 59 Senate Districts with one senator elected in each district. Jackson County is now in the **58th** and **59th** Senatorial District. Illinois Senate District boundaries are adjusted every 10 years following a US Census. To see district boundaries go to <http://elections.il.gov/votinginformation/2011senatedistricts.aspx>

If you do not live in Jackson County and you wish to check on the senator for your district or to determine your district, go to www.vote-smart.org or to www.elections.state.il.us

Functions: Legislates on state level; confirms or vetoes appointments of Governor; and acts as court of impeachment. Term: Staggered 4 years.

Paul Schimpf (58) (Republican)
103A State House
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-8137
senschimpf58@gmail.com

Term expires: Jan 2021
1032 W Industrial Park Rd
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-1100

Dale Fowler (59) Republican
M103-C Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-5509
www.senatorfowler.com

Term expires: Jan 2021
2 North Vine, Suite 600
Harrisburg, IL 62948
(618) 294-8951
FAX: (618) 294-8950

Illinois House of Representatives

There are 118 House Districts with one representative elected in each district. Jackson County is now in the **115th** and **118th** Representative District. Illinois House District boundaries are adjusted every 10 years following a US Census. To see district boundaries go to <http://elections.il.gov/votinginformation/2011representativedistricts.aspx>

If you do not live in Jackson County and you wish to determine on the representative for your district or to determine your district, go to www.vote-smart.org or to www.elections.state.il.us

Functions: Legislates on state level, has sole power of impeachment. Term: 2 years.

Terri Bryant (115) (Republican)

207 N Stratton Bldg
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-0387

Fax: (217) 782-1141

Email: staterepterribryant@gmail.com

Term expires: Jan. 2021

1032 W Industrial Park Rd
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-1100

Patrick Windhorst (118) (Republican)

214 N Stratton Bldg
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-5131

Fax: (217) 782-1275

Email: windhorst@ilhousegop.org

Term expires: Jan. 2021

2 N Vine St, Suite 5A
Harrisburg, IL 62946
(618) 294-8703

Fax: (618) 253-3136

JACKSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

County Court House
1001 Walnut St.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
Website: www.jacksoncounty-il.gov/

Office Hours
8am – 4pm Monday through Friday

Visit this website for links to most county officials and departments.
All county officials listed below are housed at the courthouse unless otherwise indicated.

Jackson County Elected Officials

CLERK AND RECORDER

Frank Byrd (Democrat) Term expires: Dec. 2022
(618) 687-7360 ex 4
email: frank.byrd@jacksoncounty-il.gov

Handles elections in Jackson County; records deeds and other documents such as birth, death and marriage records, and issues marriage licenses.

CORONER

Dr. Thomas W. Kupferer (Democrat) Term expires: Dec. 2020
(618) 687-2353
Private practice office: 628 N. 14th St.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
Email: tkupferer@jacksoncounty-il.gov

Determines cause of death and works with sheriff, ambulance services, medical facilities, funeral homes, and the families of the deceased.

TREASURER

Sharon Harris-Johnson (Democrat) Term expires: Dec. 2022
(618) 687-7350
email: sharrisjohnson@jacksoncounty-il.gov

Banker for Jackson County: receives taxes, prepares tax bills, distributes tax receipts, handles refunds, manages annual and tax scavenger tax sales, and supervises the accounting and auditing of collections and distributions.

CHIEF COUNTY ASSESSMENT OFFICER

Maureen Berkowitz (Democrat)

Term expires: Dec. 2020

20 S. 10th St. , Craine Annex

Murphysboro, IL 62966

(618) 687-7220

email: mberkowitz@jacksoncounty-il.gov

Provides statistical analysis of sales and assessment data; assists 10 [township assessors](#); maintains current records of billing names and addresses for over 31,000 parcels in Jackson County; compiles the work of the township assessors; responsible for mailing change notices to taxpayers and publishing changes in the local newspaper; maintains records of properties exempt from property taxes; maintains and updates the county cadastral maps; administers the county's subdivision ordinance; and maintains the Parcel Identification Numbering system; and other duties.

REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Cheryl Graff (Democrat)

Term expires: Dec. 2022

Regional Superintendent of Schools, Region #30, Perry, Jackson, Union, Pulaski and Alexander Counties

(618) 687-7290

Fax: (618) 687-7296

Website: www.roe30.org

Offers educational services and support to area teachers, administrators, support staff, parents, and community members in Jackson and Perry Counties. They advocate and promote educational opportunities in order to strengthen the regional learning community for all students and lifelong learners.

STATE'S ATTORNEY

Michael Carr (Democrat)

Term expires: Dec. 2020

(618) 687-7200

Fax: (618) 687-7215

Web Site: jacksoncountystatesattorney.com

Prosecutes alleged violations of the criminal statutes of Illinois and gives legal advice to county officials and defends the county against civil law suits.

CIRCUIT CLERK

Cindy R. Svanda (Democrat)

Term expires: Dec. 2020

(618) 687-7300

Web Site: www.circuitclerk.co.jackson.il.us

Maintains records for the courts; collects fines.

SHERIFF

Robert Burns (Democrat)
(618) 684-2177
1001 Mulberry St. (Jail)
Murphysboro, IL 62966
Emergencies call: 911

Term expires: Dec. 2022

Enforces the law for the county; maintains the county jail.

JUDGES

Jackson County is part of the IL First Judicial Circuit. The first Judicial Circuit Court covers the counties of Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union and Williamson.

Circuit judges are elected by the public for 6 year terms. Associate judges are appointed for 4 year terms by the circuit judges of the circuit. During elections, information on the choices for judges in the First Judicial Circuit can be found at isba.org.

The Presiding Circuit Judge of the 1st Judicial Circuit Court is Christy Solverson.

Jackson County Appointed Officials

AMBULANCE DIRECTOR

Director: Kenton Schafer
520 N. University Ave.
Carbondale, IL
(618) 529-5158
Medical emergency: 911

Provides public education, emergency medical, and rescue services in Jackson County. The ambulance system, a county tax supported system, serves all parts of the county.

Jackson County 911 System

Call this number in case of emergency, needing fire, police, or ambulance.
For more information about the 911 system, citizens may call 457-5911 or check online at www.jc911.org

Patrick Lustig, Director Jackson County 911
303 N. Robinson Circle
Carbondale, IL 62901

ANIMAL AND RABIES CONTROL OFFICER

Lloyd Nelson, Officer
Jackson County Courthouse Basement
(618) 687-7235
Email: animal.control@jacksoncounty-il.gov

Promotes human safety, animal welfare, and responsible pet ownership including animal vaccination clinics; investigates animal bites; enforces animal related laws; traps, confines and quarantines animals; and other duties.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Tammy Ehlers, Board Coordinator/ FOIA Officer
16 S 10th St
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-4907
Email: tehlers@jacksoncounty-il.gov

Hears complaints from county property owners, holds hearings, and determines whether assessments should be altered.

The Board of Review shall consist of 2 members affiliated with the political party polling the highest vote for any county office, and one member not affiliated with that same party.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

County Engineer: Mitch Burdick, P.E.
1200 Enterprise Ave.
Murphysboro, IL. 62966
(618) 684-4141 Fax: (618) 687-1513

Administers, designs, constructs, and maintains all county roads and bridges (including snow and ice control, pothole and surface repair, mowing, traffic control signs and lights, and drainage control). For detailed maps of townships, see Department website.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Public Defender: Peggy Degen
22 So 10th St, Craine Annex
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-7250 Fax: (618) 687-7262

When appointed by the court for indigents, provides legal representation to persons accused of criminal offenses, juveniles charged in delinquency proceedings, and minors and parents involved in abuse and neglect cases.

PROBATION

Edward Tolbert, Director
215 North 14th St.
Murphysboro, IL 62956
(618) 687-7370

Provides supervision to individuals ordered by the court to meet certain conditions as part of a sentence, including counseling, curfews, public service work, restitution, and fines.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Sheriff Robert Burns, Coordinator
Jackson County Courthouse
1001 Walnut St
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-3137

Implements mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery programs for Jackson County.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

??, Administrator
415 Health Dept Rd, Hwy 13 Midway between Carbondale and Murphysboro
P.O. Box 307
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-3143
Website: www.jchdonline.org

Coordinates county-wide recycling efforts, disease surveillance and control and food safety; provides services for individuals (immunization, family planning, teen parents, WIC, and AIDS testing and other services); and provides birth and death certificates for Jackson County.

JCHD is governed by an 8 member [Board of Health](#). These board members are appointed by the Jackson County Board.

JACKSON COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

The Jackson County Mass Transit District was established to provide general public transportation services for county residents. Anyone is eligible to ride on the district's bus system.

Administrative Office: 602 East College, Carbondale 62901
Office number: (618) 549-0304 FAX number: (618) 457-0171

Hours: 7am – 5pm (Monday –Friday)
Managing Director: Ted Gutierrez Web Site: jcmtd.com

Dispatch number (Carbondale) – 549-0304
Dispatch number (Outside Carbondale) – (866) 884-7433

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD

Two representatives are elected from each of seven districts in the county. The districts are of approximately equal population and are reapportioned every 10 years. Term: 4 years.

Functions:

- 1) Considers the budgets and makes appropriations for the county elected officials' offices, the judicial system, and county general
- 2) Authorizes the payment of bills of the county offices and departments
- 3) Enacts the property tax levy ordinance for the taxes it controls
- 4) Builds and maintains roads and bridges
- 5) Supervises county ambulance services
- 6) Appoints members to county commissions, water districts, and special districts
- 7) Passes legislative ordinances affecting country policies and practices

Web Site: <https://www.jacksoncounty-il.gov/government/county-board>

County Administrator Jennifer Huson (618) 687-7240

Administrative Assistant Melanie Aldridge (618) 687-7240

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:00 pm at the County Court House. Special meetings by written request of eight members or by motion upon setting a date of recess.

Board Chairman – Keith Larkin

Chairman: The Chairman of the County Board 1) presides at meetings; 2) appoints committee members and chairs; 3) serves as ex-officio member of all committees; and 4) recommends appointments to county boards and special districts. Term: 2 years.

Committees: The business of the county is conducted through committees. Members of the committees and committee chairmen are appointed by the Chairman of the County Board. Each committee acts on all matters referred to it by the board and reports on its activities to the full board. Each committee is responsible for oversight of those areas assigned to it.

There are currently 7 standing committees of the Jackson County Board. Committee meetings are held at the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, 1001 Mulberry St , Murphysboro, IL 62966. For dates and time for committee meetings, check the county board web site.

Confirm all meetings by calling the County Board office or checking the calendar on the county website.

For more information about the Jackson County Government go to: www.jacksoncounty.il.gov

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

Jackson County operates under the township form of county government. Townships are independent units of local government with limited powers in a few specific areas. This concept is derived from the New England "town" as the general purpose unit of local government.

Until 1972, the 16 township supervisors, along with seven additional representatives from Carbondale Township and three from Murphysboro Township, constituted the 26-member Jackson County Board of Supervisors. To comply with federal court ruling which mandated representation based on the one-man-one vote principle, the county government was reorganized into its present structure. In those Illinois counties that operate under the commission form of government, services provided through our townships may be provided by county or municipal governments.

Within Jackson County there are 16 townships, which are listed in the table below. Each township elects a supervisor, a town clerk, an assessor, a highway commissioner, and a four-member Board of Trustees. The supervisor is the chief administrative officer of the township, serving as treasurer of the road and bridge fund and as administrator of the general assistance fund.

It is the responsibility of township government to levy taxes, build and repair roads and bridges, dispense emergency general assistance, and complete township assessment.

(There are three multi township assessment districts.) Some townships provide fire protection services. Townships are financed by property taxes, motor fuel taxes, and general revenue sharing funds.

TOWNSHIP	SUPERVISOR	TELEPHONE
Bradley	Karla Rathert	(618) 426-3861
Carbondale	Dennis Poshard	(618) 457-3366
Degognia	Herbert Korando	(618) 763-5562
DeSoto	Lola Ann Jones	(618) 867-2483
Elk	Carla Bigham	(618) 568-1843
Fountain Bluff	Kenneth Jarrett	(618) 763-4461
Grand Tower	Bobbie Henson	(618) 614-2797
Kinkaid	Robert Kranawetter	(618) 967-1398
Levan	Daniel Jarrett	(618) 687-2190
Makanda	Sara Beth Lipe	(618) 351-8161
Murphysboro	Sue Givens	(618) 684-6711
Ora	Darla Phoenix	(618) 426-3045
Pomona	Ralph Wilmouth	(618) 549-2669
Sand Ridge	Nancy Fager	(618) 684-2539
Somerset	Larry Reinhardt	(618) 684-5842
Vergennes	Janet Garner	(618) 559-0597

For a listing of all township assessors' offices, go to
<http://www.jacksoncounty-il.gov/index.php/township-assessors>

CARBONDALE TOWNSHIP

Primary functions include property assessment for tax purposes; maintenance of township roads and bridges; provision of fire protection and first-responder services for township residents outside of Carbondale city limits; and provision of Illinois mandated general assistance.

Regular township meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 4:00 at the Township Hall, 217 E Main St. Carbondale, IL Supervisor Dennis Poshard (618) 457-3366
email: info@carbondaletownship.org

For further information on officials or trustees, or township services check on their webpage.
Web page (not a direct link): <https://www.toi.org/township/Jackson-county-Carbondale-township/>

MURPHYSBORO TOWNSHIP

Primary functions include property assessment for tax purposes; maintenance of township roads and bridges; and provision of Illinois mandated general assistance.
The township also operates the Davis-McCann Center for rental to groups.

Township meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 1:00pm at the township office.
1410 Walnut St, Murphysboro, IL 62966 Supervisor: Sue Givens (618) 684-6711
email: msgivens@murphysboro.com

For further information on officials or trustees, or township services check on their webpage
Web page (not a direct link): <https://www.toi.org/township/Jackson-county-Murphysboro-township/>

MAKANDA TOWNSHIP

Primary functions include property assessment for tax purposes; maintenance of township roads and bridges; and provision of Illinois mandated general assistance.

Township meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in the Fire Station #1, 5420 Old US Hwy 51. Supervisor: Sara Lipe (618) 351-8161
Office: 2767 Springer Ridge Rd, Carbondale, IL 62902 ; (618) 351-8161
Email: sblipe@hotmail.com supermakanda@hotmail.com

For further information on officials or trustees, or township services check on their webpage
Web page (not a direct link): <https://www.toi.org/township/Jackson-county-Makanda-township/>

SOMERSET TOWNSHIP

Primary functions include property assessment for tax purposes; maintenance of township roads and bridges; and provision of Illinois mandated general assistance.

Township Office: 33 Palisch Rd, Murphysboro, IL ; PO Box 907, Murphysboro, IL

Township meetings are on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00pm at the township office.

Township Supervisor: Larry Reinhardt 684-5842; Email: somersettownship 1872@gmail.com

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

There are 11 incorporated cities and villages in Jackson County, each with its own elected officials.

Each municipality provides those services demanded by its citizens, which may include fire protection, library services, road repair and construction, and water and sewer services.

Municipalities may levy taxes or charge fees to provide these services. The two largest municipalities are listed here.

City of Carbondale

City Hall/Civic Center

200 S. Illinois Ave.

Carbondale, IL 62901

(618) 549-5302

www.explorecarbondale.com

Carbondale has a council-manager form of government. The council functions as the legislative body, while the city manager is responsible for the administrative organization of the municipality. The council consists of a mayor and six councilmen who run non-partisan and are elected at-large for four-year staggered terms. The mayor is the official head of the city and, with city council consent, is responsible for appointing members to the various boards, commissions, and committees of the city.

Council Meetings: 7:00 pm, the first and third Tuesdays of the month or as established annually by council action. Meetings are posted online on the city's web site.

City Council Chambers, Carbondale City Hall, 200 S. Illinois Ave., Carbondale

Every agenda includes the item "Citizen Questions and Comments" to permit discussion of any topic by any citizen. Elections: spring, odd numbered year.

CITY MANAGER

Gary Williams (618) 457-3226

Appointed (by council). Hired on contractual basis.

CITY CLERK

Jennifer Sorrell (618) 457-3280 E-mail: jsorrell@ci.carbondale.il.us
Appointed (by city manager). Answers to the City Manager.

City Council

Carbondale elects 6 council members on alternating 4 year terms. For contact information on any council member, go to: www.explorekarbondale.com/341/Carbondale-city-council

Mayor Mike Henry
(618) 713-2369
(618) 457-3229
mhenry@ci.carbondale.il.us

Term expires: 2023

City of Murphysboro

Administration Building
1101 Walnut St.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-4961
www.murphysboro.com

The city of Murphysboro has an executive mayor/aldermanic form of government. The elected officials include the mayor, city clerk, and 10 aldermen (two from each of five wards), who constitute the city council. The responsibilities of administering the city are divided among the aldermen, each of whom must report back to the whole council concerning the operations of the assigned department.

The council legislates; and the mayor administers with the help of the city clerk and treasurer. The mayor presides at all council meetings and makes appointments with the approval of the council.

Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 6:00 pm in the City Council Chambers at City Hall - 202 N 11th Street, Murphysboro

MAYOR: term of 4 years

Will Stephens
1101 Walnut
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-4961 (office)

Term expires: 2021

CITY CLERK: term of 4 years

Gina Hunziker
1101 Walnut
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-4961 (office)

Term expires: 2021

To contact any of the 10 aldermen for the city of Murphysboro, reach them on the city's web site: www.murphysboro-il.gov/index.php/our-government/city-officials

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The Illinois Constitution charges the General Assembly to provide a system of free schools whereby "the State shall provide for an efficient system of high quality public educational institutes and services."

Responsibility for the administration of public school education is delegated to local school boards operating in local school districts. School district boundaries may cross county lines and have no relationship to city or township lines.

A local school district may choose to operate as a unit district or as a dual district. The Carbondale High School and 4 feeder schools operate as a dual district. In a dual district, the elementary schools (grades K-8) and the high schools (grades 9-12) are each governed by separate boards. The Murphysboro schools operate as a unit district. In a unit district, all grades (K-12) are governed by a single board of education.

Of the eight school districts in Jackson County, there are three unit districts, four grade school districts, and one high school district.

Each school district has an elected board of education consisting of seven members. The board hires a district superintendent who is responsible for implementing board policy, administering district funds, producing an annual district budget which is used to determine the district tax levy, and overseeing the educational program for the students within the district.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Murphysboro Community Unit School District # 186

Grades: K-12

Schools: Gen. John A. Logan, Carruthers, Murphysboro Middle School, Murphysboro High School

Superintendent: **Christopher Grode**

Unit Office: 593 Ava Rd, Murphysboro, IL 62901

(618) 684-3781

Website: <https://www.cusd186.org/>

Board page: <https://www.cusd186.org/board-of-3ducation-37357f6>

Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. Location varies. Call the office to confirm meetings and location.

Carbondale Community High School District 165

Provides high school education (9-12) for feeder elementary school districts-
Carbondale #95, Giant City #130, Unity Point #160 and DeSoto #86.

Superintendent: **Stephen Murphy**

District Office: 330 S. Giant City Rd., Carbondale, IL 62901

(618) 457-4722

Website: www.cchs.165.jackson.k12.il.us

Board page: <http://www.cchs165.jackson.k112.il.us/cmws/one.aspx?pagelid=620133>

The Board meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm at the Carbondale Community High School Cafeteria. Call the District office to confirm meetings.

Carbondale Elementary District 95

Grades: Pre-K - 8

Schools: Thomas, Lewis, Parrish, Carbondale Middle School

Superintendent: **Daniel Booth**

District Office: 925 S. Giant City Rd, Carbondale, IL, 62901

(618) 457-3591

Website: <http://www.ces95.org/>

Board page: <http://www.ces95.org/domain/30>

The board meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 pm, location varies.
Call the District office to confirm meetings.

Giant City School District # 130

Grades: K-8

Superintendent: **Belina Hill**

1062 Boskydell Rd., Carbondale IL 62901

(618) 457-5391

Website: <https://gcs130.org/>

Board page: <https://gcs130.org/administration/>

The board meets on the third Monday of the month at 7pm at the Giant City School Media Center.
Call the District office to confirm meetings.

Unity Point School District # 140

Grades: Pre K-8

Superintendent: **Lori James Gross**

4033 S. Illinois Ave., Carbondale IL 62903

(618) 529-4151

Website: www.up140.org

Board page: <http://www.up140.org/school-board-ba9b93cc>

Board meets on the second Thursday of the month at 6pm.

Call the district office to confirm meetings and location.

DeSoto Community Consolidated School District # 86

Grades: K-8

Schools: De Soto Elementary School, SIU Pre-kindergarten Classroom

Superintendent: **Nathaniel Wilson**

Office: 311 Hurst Rd, De Soto, IL 62924

(618) 867-2317

Website: desoto86.org

Board page: <https://www.desoto86.com/administration-edfead8a>

Board meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the Desoto School music room.

Call the District office to confirm meetings.

Public Libraries

CARBONDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

History: Established as a project of the Federated Women's Club in the late 1800s and became a tax supported institution in 1925.

405 W. Main St., Carbondale, IL 62901

(618) 457-0354

Website: www.carbondale.lib.il.us

Board page: <http://carbondalepubliclibrary.org/aboutus/board-of-trustees/>

Director: **Diana Brawley Sussman**

Hours: 9:00 am- 8:00 pm Monday through Thursday

9:00 am- 6:00 pm Friday and Saturday

1:00 pm- 6:00 pm Sunday

The library is tax supported by the City of Carbondale.

Non-resident fee: formula based on value of residential property or rental.

Board members (9) are appointed for three year terms expiring on June 30. by the mayor of Carbondale

The board meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 4:30 pm at the library

SALLIE LOGAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

History: Established in 1936 and is tax supported by the City of Murphysboro

1808 Walnut St., Murphysboro IL 62966

(618) 684-3271

Website: www.murphysboro.lib.il.us

Board page: <http://sallieloganlibrary.com/about-us/board-of-directors/>

Director: **Loretta Broomfield**

Hours: 10:00 am-7:00 pm Monday through Thursday

10:00 am- 5:00 pm Friday and Saturday

Board members (9) are appointed for three year terms, expiring June 30, by mayor of Murphysboro.

The board meets on the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm, at the library.

PARK DISTRICTS

CARBONDALE PARK DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE LOCATION: Hickory Lodge, 1115 W Sycamore St, Carbondale
PO Box 1326, Carbondale, IL 62903-1326
(618) 529-4147
Website: www.cpkd.org

Executive Director: **Kathy Renfro**

Established: 1940

Boundaries: City of Carbondale plus some adjacent areas.

Purpose: To enhance the quality of community life by providing outstanding recreational and leisure opportunities.

Facilities include: Attucks Park, Doug Lee Park, Evergreen Park, Turley Park, Oakdale Park, Parrish Park, Tatum Heights Park, Greenway/Bike Trail, Hickory Lodge, Marberry Arboretum, Life Community Center, Hickory Ridge Golf Course, Kids Corner After School program; and Alice Wright Daycare Center.

The board is composed of five members, elected to alternative four year terms.

Board meetings are held on the second and fifth Monday at the Carbondale Civic Center at 6:00pm

MURPHYSBORO PARK DISTRICT

Riverside Park Recreation Center
710 South 24th St. , PO Box 795, Murphysboro IL 62966
(618) 684-3333

Executive Director: **Joe Fry**

Established: 1907

Boundaries: City of Murphysboro

Purpose: to provide recreational and leisure time activities to our community and the surrounding area

The board is composed of five members elected to alternating six-year terms.

Board Meetings are held on the third Thursday at 7pm at the Riverside Park Recreational Center.

Special Purpose Districts

A special purpose district is a form of local government authorized by state statute. (Ill. Const., Art VII; Ill Rev. Stat., Ch. 1, Sec. 1029ff; Ch. 12, 1; and Index under specific types of districts.) Each special purpose district is administratively independent from all other units of local government, usually provides a single service, and is authorized to levy taxes or fees in support of that service. Special districts provide services by taxing only the residents of a specific geographical region, are governed by boards appointed from among residents of that area by the county board, and provide services that are primarily beneficial to those residing in the district.

There are multiple special districts in Jackson County. No one lives in all districts; how many you are in depends on where you live.

Special districts in Jackson County include the following:

Carbondale Mosquito Abatement District	457-8976
Southern Illinois Airport Authority	529-1721
Jackson County Extension Service District	687-1727
Jackson/Union Regional Port District	684-2673
Kinkaid-Reed Conservancy District	687-1722
Jackson County Mass Transit District	351-1836

Murphysboro, Pomona, Somerset Fire Protection District	687-1344
Tower Rock Fire District	565-2070
DeSoto Township Fire District	867-2019

Grand Tower Levee and Drainage District	967-3629
Degognia/ Fountain Bluff Levee and Drainage District	763-4732

Water Districts were established under the authority of statute – 70 ILCS 3705/ .01 et. Seq. Board members are appointed by the County Chairman with the consent of the board for terms of 5 years; appointments made the first Monday in May.

Duties: Maintain/ operate water facilities, issue revenue bonds, control affairs of the district, levy taxes, has power of eminent domain.

Alto Pass Water District	
Blairsville Water District	987-2075
Buncombe Water District	549-0432
Devil's Kitchen Water District	549-5141
Elverado Water District	542-5411
Gorham Sanitary District	565-2417
Lakeside Water District	457-5547
Murdale Water District	684-8039
Oraville Water District	684-2170

KINKAID-REED'S CREEK LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Established by referendum in 1962

Boundary: Jackson County except parts of the townships of Carbondale, Makanda and Pomona .

Purpose: Create a viable water source for the county and provide a recreational source for area residents

Board: Five board members , 3 appointed by the County Chairman with the consent of the board and 2 appointed by the city of Murphysboro, for a term of 5 years.

District Manager –Ryan Gofman 687-1722 Rt 4, Murphysboro, IL 62966

JACKSON/UNION REGIONAL PORT AUTHORITY DISTRICT

Authorized by statue 70 ILCS 1820/3

District: Jackson and Union Counties

Purpose: Provide a public depot for receiving goods or persons for transport by water, land or air.

Contact: 684-2673

CARBONDALE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

Established: 1927.

Purpose: To control the mosquito population within the district. Utilizes aerial fogging, larvaeciding, and weed control.

Boundaries: Charles Road, Giant City Road, Makanda Township line, Murphysboro Township line.

Board: Five members, appointed by Carbondale Township

District Manager: William Kelley, (618) 457-8976

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Established: By referendum in 1946

Purpose: To promote industrial development by the establishment of an airport

Boundaries: Carbondale, Murphysboro townships and part of DeSoto Township

Board: Five members, 3 appointed by the County Board, 1 by the city of Carbondale and 1 by the city of Murphysboro for a term of 5 years. All of whom must reside within the airport district and must not be serving on an another local government board.

District Manager: Greg Shafer (618) 529-1721

POLICE SERVICES

Police Services in Jackson County are organized on several levels. The entire county is under the jurisdiction of the Jackson County Sheriff's Department. The municipalities of Carbondale and Murphysboro both have full-time police forces which function within their respective city limits.

DeSoto

has a small part-time police force, as do Grand Tower, Ava, and Elkhville/Dowell. In addition, Southern Illinois University, a state-funded institution, maintains a full-time security force which has jurisdictional authority on the SIU campus.

Cooperation between the various police departments and the sheriff's department has been very good in recent years, which greatly facilitates the solving of crimes throughout the county.

The Jackson County Sheriff's Department maintains jail facilities which serve the entire county. The Carbondale Police Department has a temporary detention facility where a person may be held a maximum of four hours. All other police departments transfer prisoners immediately to the county jail for housing.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff: Robert Burns
1001 Mulberry St.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 684-2177

Term expires: Jan. 2022

Municipal Police

Carbondale City Police Department

501 S Washington
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 457-3200 Website: carbondalepolice.com
Chief: Jeff Grubbs

Murphysboro City Police Department

202 N. 11th St.
Murphysboro IL 62966
(618) 684-2121
Chief: Brian Hollo

University Police

Southern Illinois University Security Police
Washington Square A
S. Washington St.
Carbondale IL 62901
(618) 453-2381
Chief: Ben Newman

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

In Jackson County, there are 3 forms of fire protection: Municipal fire departments, township fire departments and fire protection districts. Not all of the county residents are covered by one of the organized fire departments; coverage depends on where a resident lives. Some Jackson County residents may be able to obtain out-of-town fire coverage from the fire department of an adjoining county.

MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Carbondale Fire Department

Station 1: 600 E. College St.
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 457-3298

Station 2: 401 N Glenview
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 457-3299

Fire Chief: John Michalesko (618) 457-3234

Boundaries: Carbondale City limits; will not make out-of-town fire runs

Financing: City taxes; i.e. property taxes, sales taxes, etc.

ISO Fire Rating: Class 4

Murphysboro Fire Department

219 N. 10th St.
Murphysboro IL 62966
(618) 684-3991

Fire Chief (acting): Steve Swafford

Boundaries: Murphysboro City limits; will make a limited number of out-of-town fire runs

Financing: City taxes, i.e. property taxes, sales taxes, etc.

ISO Fire Rating: Class 6

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Makanda Township Fire Department

Station 1: 5420 Old US Highway 51
Carbondale, IL 62903
(618) 549-0213

Station 2: 5975 Giant City Rd
Makanda, IL 62958
(618) 549-0213

Fire Chief: Jim Bilderback
420 Rowan Rd
Makanda, IL 62958
Home: (618) 549-7252

Batt. Chief: Jesse Riechman
Makanda, IL 62958

Carbondale Township Fire Department

Fire Station: 1125 E. Park St
Carbondale, IL 62901-5851
(618) 549-4621 (non-emergency), emergency 911

Fire Chief: Michael Bilderback

There are three full-time paid firefighters plus volunteers

Murphysboro Pomona Somerset Fire Protection District

Station: 322 S Williams St
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-1344 (non-emergency), emergency 911

Fire Chief: Bill Bateman

Other Fire Departments in Jackson County:

Ava Volunteer Fire Department	684-2177
Dowell Volunteer Fire Department	568-1013
Vergennes Fire Department	684-2177
Campell Hill Volunteer Fire Department	426-3012
Elkville Fire Department	684-2177
Gorham Fire Department	684-2177
Tower Rock Fire Protection District	565-2400

JACKSON COUNTY CITIZEN INFORMATION

VOTER REGISTRATION

WHO MAY REGISTER:

Any U.S. citizen of who will be 18 years of age or greater by the next election day, and who has resided in his election precinct for 30 days prior to election day, and who is not disqualified by insanity or criminal record.

Note: Two pieces of identification that verify your name and address are required at the time of registration.

WHERE TO REGISTER:

Voter registration is conducted at all of the following locations:

1. County Clerk's office, Court House, Murphysboro, 9 am- 4 pm weekdays
2. City Clerk's office, Carbondale, 9 am - 4 pm weekdays
3. Dowell and DeSoto Village Hall- working hours.
4. Temporary locations where deputy registrars are on duty
5. At home registration by deputy registrars at large or party precinct committeemen.
6. For the physically disabled: request home visit by registration team.

WHEN TO REGISTER:

For the deadline for registering to vote, check the deadline at

www.co.jackson.il.us

<http://www.elections.state.il.us/>

GRACE PERIOD REGISTRATION

Grace period registration is an extension of the period of time for a voter to register to vote, or to update their registration information. This extends registration from the normal close of registration up through the 3rd day before the election. This is normally done at the County Clerk's office. The newly registered voter may then also complete early voting.

RE-REGISTRATION:

Re-registration is required to maintain voter eligibility, if you:

1. Move to another county
2. Move within county. Report change of address by filling out reverse side of Voter Identification Card and sending it to the County Clerk's office.
3. Change of name by marriage or other means.
4. Change of mailing address.
5. Failure to vote in a four-year period.

ELECTIONS

Polls are open 6:00 am - 7:00 pm

General Primary Election

Even-numbered years, 3rd Tuesday in **March**

General Election

Even-numbered years, 1st Tuesday after 1st Monday in **November**.

Elections (2018, 2022, 2026, etc) for candidates for IL State offices (i.e. Governor, Secretary of State, etc) and US Representative, US Senator, IL Representative, County board and County officials

Elections (2020, 2024, 2028, etc.) for candidates for Federal offices (President, US Senate, US congressmen) and IL Representative, Il Senate, County board, County officers

Consolidated Primary Election

Odd-numbered years, last Tuesday in **February**.

Consolidated Election

Odd-numbered years, 1st Tuesday in **April**.

Elections for candidates for local governments- City council, Park District, School boards, JA Logan College Board, Township government

For dates of elections, check:

www.co.jackson.il.us

www.elections.state.il.us

VOTING LOCATION

Precinct number is indicated on Voter Identification Card issued at the time of registration. Consult local newspaper prior to election, or call County, City, or Village Clerk for precinct voting place. Or check

www.co.jackson.il.us

www.elections.state.il.us

MANNER OF VOTING

Jackson County uses a scan card method of voting, in which voters darken the bubble next to the name of the candidate selected by the voter. Accessible voting machines are available for those with disabilities.

ABSENTEE VOTING

The state of Illinois has instituted a policy of no excuse required absentee voting. The time period begins 40 days prior to election day and ends the day before the election. A voter may apply for an absentee ballot by contacting the Jackson County Clerk by mail or in person.

EARLY VOTING

The period for early voting begins 22 days before the election and ends the Saturday before the election. Early voting is available at the County Courthouse during normal office hours. Other locations may be established throughout the county for early voting, such as Carbondale city hall. Check with the County Clerk for exact schedule and/or locations.

HOW TO SELECT CANDIDATES

Many citizens find the following websites useful in deciding which candidate to select:

www.votesmart.org

for positions submitted by candidates.

www.ilcampaigns.org

for information on campaign finance disclosure.

www.lwvil.org

for information about the election calendar, how to vote, how to contact representatives, etc.

www.elections.state.il.us

for election calendar, how to register to vote, how to vote, who is running, and for campaign finance disclosure.

COMMUNICATING WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS

In communicating with public officials, the best means is a short telephone message, e-mail or letter, sent by U.S. mail or telefax, that is clear as to what you want and the reason. If a piece of legislation is the subject of your communication, it is helpful to include the bill number and subject matter.

E.g., You might write:

"I urge you to oppose S.B. 230, which proposes to make roses the national flower of Illinois. I oppose the bill because I prefer lilacs that are found throughout Illinois."

Threats and insulting language are not effective.

Many citizens find telephone calls, e-mails, or faxes to be effective. Telephone numbers and websites where you can find e-mail addresses are listed above for federal and state representatives and for many county officials.

Communications, including e-mail and letters sent by telefax or by mail to the President of the United States should be sent to THE PRESIDENT without inclusion of the office holder's name. Letters should begin: MR. PRESIDENT:

Communications, including e-mail and letters sent to other office holders should be sent to THE HONORABLE <name> with the office itself as the second line of the address (e.g. U.S. Senator, Governor of Illinois). Letters should begin: DEAR (SENATOR, GOVERNOR, etc.)

MONITORING LEGISLATION

You may monitor federal legislation through this website:

www.thomas.loc.gov

You may monitor state legislation through this website:

www.ilga.gov

You may also locate public acts through those same websites.