

EMBRACE
OPPORTUNITY



HONOR
TRADITION

SEP/OCT 2025

Sesquicentennial Celebration

The Village of Hampshire will be celebrating its 150th Birthday in 2026 and planning is already underway to make it a year residents will not forget. The Village of Hampshire was founded on November 9, 1876 by Samuel C. Rowell. As part of the sesquicentennial celebration a group of Hampshire volunteers have formed a committee to organize several events throughout the year to celebrate the Village and its residents. The committee is excited to celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime event with all of those that make the Village.

Several events will be held throughout 2025-2026 to celebrate the 150th Birthday of the Village. Many of the events will highlight the 150-year celebration. The Ella Johnson Public Memorial Library will be kicking off the events in October 2025 with their annual Hampshire Cemetery Scavenger Hunt. This will be followed by Holidays on State on November 8, 2025 hosted by the Hampshire Area Chamber of Commerce. The Hampshire Historical Society will be hosting a throwback of Old Fashion Days. The Hampshire Township Park District, Hampshire Township, and the Village of Hampshire will also be hosting events to be announced.



If you are interested in supporting the efforts for the 150th Birthday, donation/funding opportunities will be available. Please look out for additional information in the future.

We hope to have all of residents join us in 2025-2026 to celebrate Hampshire!

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HUNGER WALK

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO FRIENDS OF THE POOR AND BURLINGTON-HAMPSHIRE CROP HUNGER WALK

NEIGHBORS WALKING TOGETHER TO RAISE AWARENESS TO COMBAT POVERTY

Choose to support either the St.Charles Borromeo St. Vincent de Paul Friends of the Poor Walk or the CROP Hunger Walk.

Seyller Park Pavilion
400 E. Jefferson, Hampshire
Saturday, September 27th, 9:30am
Registration: 10:30am
1, 3, or 5 mile walk
11:15am Snacks, Raffle, Games

Questions: Call Sara, Friends of the Poor
(773) 972-3915
Call Barb, CROP
(847) 815-5242

<https://events.idonate.com/HampshireFOP-Walk2025> <https://walkingtogetherhampshire.weebly.com>





A MESSAGE FROM MIKE REID President,
Village of Hampshire

New Village Manager

Dear Residents,

As always, the summer went by so fast. I hope you all had time to enjoy the summer with family, friends, and vacations! As we enter into the fall season, I am excited to share with you all some updates regarding happenings in the Village.

First, a committee of volunteers from many local organizations has been formed to plan the celebration of the Village of Hampshire's 150th Birthday in 2026. I am excited and grateful for the volunteers who have banded together and are giving their time to make the 150th Birthday a once-in-a-lifetime event that will be cherished, and not forgotten, by our residents. Watch for more information from the 150th Birthday Committee and local organizations for events that will be celebrating the Village's birthday through 2025-2026.

Second, the Village's Special Census is underway with the Internet Self-Response (ISR) portion of the Special Census. The U.S. Census Bureau mailed out letters with a unique code for each household to respond to the Special Census questionnaire online. It is important that we get as many Internet Self-Responses as possible as this tends to be the most accurate information collected by the U.S. Census Bureau. It will also help the Special Census to be completed more quickly, since fewer door-to-door visits will be required after the Internet Self-Response period. By doing this Special Census, the Village expects to receive a larger amount of State Funding to fund programs and services.

Last but not least, the Village is excited to announce the hiring of its new Village Manager, Mary Jo Seehausen. Our current Village Manager, Jay Hedges, will be retiring from public service at the end of September 2025. The Village Board and I are thrilled to welcome Mary Jo to the Village. We look forward to working alongside to help Hampshire reach its fullest potential as the thriving community it has come to be.

On the same token, I'd like to express a heartfelt "thank you" to Jay Hedges for the work he has accomplished as Village Manager for the past 6 years with us. Jay's career spans multiple years in public service with different communities, as well as working in the private sector. Jay's work with the Village has seen multiple projects started or completed during his tenure - the Downtown/State Street improvements, construction of the Village's new Public Works Facility, and the creation and implementation of the MyHampshire app to name a few. Please join me in wishing Jay a happy and healthy retirement!

Sincerely,

Mayor Mike

Questions? Please visit:
hampshireil.org

The Hampshire Police Department is excited to announce and share that the Department has launched a new Frontline Public Access Portal, a simple and convenient way for residents and businesses to connect with the Police Department online.

Residents and businesses can use the portal to submit vacation watch requests, so police officers can keep an extra eye on your home while you are away. To help you stay in compliance with local ordinances, users can also access the overnight parking portal, which allows you to request permission to park overnight on Village streets when needed. The portal is designed to make it easier for users to reach the Police Department for non-emergency matters without needing to call or stop by the Police Station.

The portal also offers several practical features to help residents stay connected. Users can register their bicycles, making it easier for us to identify and return them if they are ever lost or stolen. The Pet Management section lets you upload important details about your pets, which helps us reunite them with you more quickly if they ever go missing. There is also an At-Risk Resident registry, allowing families to provide helpful details about individuals who may need special assistance in emergencies. In addition, there is now a Compliment and Complaint submission portal, giving residents a direct and transparent way to share feedback about their experiences with police officers and services.



The portal is part of our ongoing effort to be more accessible and responsive to the community the Police Department serves. Every submission is routed to the right officer or supervisor so the Police Department can follow up quickly and effectively. Whether you are heading out of town, registering a pet, or submitting feedback, this system gives you a direct line to the Police Department.

The portal can be accessed online at any time at www.hampshireil.org/frontlinepss

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

The Village of Hampshire and the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce are promoting Hampshire as a great local tourism destination – with an array of local businesses, family activities and outdoor recreation. Explore the list below and help spread the word about a charming weekend getaway in Hampshire.

Mark your calendar for these local attractions

Hampshire Chamber of Commerce
Breakfast With The Mayors
and Senator Dave Syverson
Wed, Sept 10th
8:30am - 10am
Hampshire Township Building
Register online
www.hampshirechamber.org

Hampshire Chamber of Commerce
Outdoor Market
3rd Saturday of the month
June thru October
113 W Oak Knoll Dr.
9am to 1pm

Hampshire Historical Society
The Amazing Baseball Banquets: 1919-1999
September 25th, 7pm
Hampshire Township Building
170 Mill Ave.
also Live Streamed on Facebook

Hampshire Township Park District
Haunted Trail
Fri, Oct 24th & Sat, Oct 25th
7pm - 10:30pm at Rackow Park
must purchase tickets online
www.hampshireparkdistrict.org

Hampshire Township
Seniors On The Go
Free to join

Hampshire Historical Society
Favorite Memories, Lessons Learned and
Best Advice from Hampshire Seniors
October 23rd, 7pm
Hampshire Township Building
170 Mill Ave.
also Live Streamed on Facebook

For a full list of activities for
Seniors call 847 683-9464, X-5 or visit
hampshiretownship.org or email
Seniors@hampshiretownship.org

GIRLS IN SCOUTING

GIRLS, come join the Scouts BSA Troop 22!!!!

Joining Scouts BSA is a great opportunity for girls who want to challenge themselves, build new skills, and become part of a supportive and fun community.

Whether you're interested in outdoor adventures like hiking and camping, learning to lead, or just trying something new, Scouts BSA offers something for everyone. It's a place where you can grow your confidence, make lasting friendships, and earn rewards for your hard work, like merit badges, and the chance to earn the esteemed Eagle Scout rank!

You'll get the chance to explore your passions, discover hidden talents, and learn important life skills that will benefit you no matter what you want to do in the future. Plus, it's a space where girls can take on leadership roles, make decisions, and have a real impact.



Why not give it a shot and see what you can achieve? Registration is always open to boys AND girls.

Please email hampshiretroop22@gmail.com for more details.

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

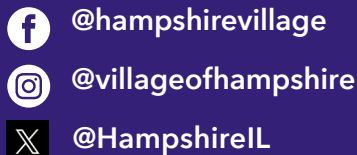
Hampshire kids went back to school Tuesday, August 13th. It is time to be aware of the safety of our students. Here are some safety tips for motorists to be cognizant of when driving:

1. Plan ahead and leave home earlier than normal to allow enough time to reach your destination.
2. Always come to a complete stop at stop signs, and be sure to check carefully for children on sidewalks or at crosswalks before proceeding and obey directions of crossing guards.
3. Slowdown in school zones, and reduce speed to 20 mph and be extra alert for children walking and on bicycles.
4. Be cautious when approaching a school bus. It is illegal to proceed around or past a school bus when the stop sign is engaged. Be extra alert for students crossing the street after getting off a bus.
5. Eliminate distractions while driving. Illinois bans the use of all hand-held devices while driving.
6. Follow street signage for traffic control and parking restrictions on streets near and around the school.

By following these tips, we can help our students get to and from school safely each and every day!



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Receive Village E-Newsletters in Your Email Inbox: www.hampshireil.org/news-letter

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

Native seed mix envelopes will be available in the Village Hall Lobby beginning October 1st while supplies last!

Native plants provide essential habitat and food sources for local wildlife and pollinators. They are drought tolerant once established, and are low maintenance. These seed mixes are specific for local climate and soil conditions. They include staggered bloom times - spring through fall - as well as ornamental grasses and sedges.

Each envelope covers 10sq ft. and includes a full species list. Fall/winter seed sowing, after the first frost, is recommended for spring growth.

Have a question? Need native gardening advice? Please contact Community Sustainability Coordinator, Meg Dongarra sustainability@hampshireil.org

3rd Annual Pumpkin Smash Collection Event will be held Saturday, November 8th from 9 am to 12 pm at Henpeck Park - Rain Or Shine!

Save your pumpkins, squash and gourds! Experience the sensory satisfaction of smashing your pumpkins without the cleanup! Volunteers will be available as well to assist in unloading.

We are proud to announce that this year's collection will be donated to Cailou's Animal Rescue in Hampshire to provide nutritious feed and enrichment for their animals.

Pumpkins, gourds and squash of all shapes and sizes will be accepted - whole or carved. Acrylic paints are accepted only.

Not accepted: stickers, plastic embellishments, candles, permanent marker decorations, oil paint or spray paint.

Together we can reduce landfill greenhouse gas emissions from decomposing organics.

Fun Facts:

- landfills are the 3rd largest producers of methane the USA
- pumpkins are 90% water
- Illinois is the #1 grower of pumpkins in the USA

Interested in volunteering? Youth groups welcome! Please contact Community Sustainability Coordinator, Meg Dongarra sustainability@hampshireil.org



KANE COUNTY SMART SPRINKLER PILOT PROGRAM

Kane County is launching a pilot program to help residents conserve water, reduce their utility bills, and protect the county's long-term groundwater supply. The project focuses on promoting the use of smart sprinkler systems, which can reduce outdoor water use by up to 47% while still maintaining a healthy lawn.

As part of this initiative, Kane County is partnering with high water users, providing smart irrigation systems at no cost in exchange for participation in a study. The goal is to evaluate how smart irrigation technologies like the Orbit B-hive Smart Indoor/Outdoor Sprinkler Timer can help reduce water consumption. "This is a chance for residents to take meaningful action toward sustainability while also saving money," said Sarra Hinshaw, Kane County Sustainability Manager. "We're especially looking for participants with monthly water bills over \$400 who are willing to share their usage data."

With area aquifers steadily declining over the past century, Kane County is calling on residents to conserve water for the benefit of future generations. According to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), Kane County needs to reduce water usage by 12.2 million gallons per day to maintain a sustainable supply. This pilot aligns with Kane County's broader 2040 Energy Plan, which commits the county to:

- Lead by example in water and energy efficiency across the region
- Encourage municipalities, residents, and businesses to reduce consumption
- Cut energy use in county buildings by 10-25%

Residents interested in participating in the smart irrigation pilot program should contact Sarra Hinshaw at (630) 208-8665 or hinshawsarra@kane-countyil.gov. Participants must reside in Kane County, have high monthly water usage and be willing to share data as part of the conservation study.

For more information, please go to <https://www.kanecountyil.gov/FDER/Pages/environmentalResources/energy.aspx>



The Village Board meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month at 7 pm at Village Hall, 234 S. State Street in Hampshire. Village Board Meetings are public, and residents are welcome to attend.



EMBRACE OPPORTUNITY
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Village of Hampshire
234 S. State Street
P.O. Box 457
Hampshire, IL 60140-0457
(847) 683-2181
hampshireil.org

Village Hall	(847) 683-2181
Building Department - SAFEbuilt....	(847) 510-4104
Police Department	(847) 683-2240
Hampshire Township	(847) 683-9464
Hampshire Fire Protection District...	(847) 683-2629
Hampshire Township Park District...	(847) 683-2690