

**EMBRACE
OPPORTUNITY**



**HONOR
TRADITION**

NOV/DEC 2025

Village Manager Mary Jo Seehausen

With more than 30 years of experience in municipal government, Mary Jo Seehausen has held a variety of leadership roles including Village Administrator, Assistant Village Administrator and Human Resources Director, along with extensive management experience in public safety and general government operations.

She is recognized for her ability to navigate complex challenges, foster strong relationships, and develop solutions that balance the needs of residents, staff and elected officials.

Mary Jo's leadership style combines strategic vision with a hands-on approach, ensuring that both daily operations and long-term goals are achieved with excellence.

Guided by a commitment to transparency, collaboration and community service, Mary Jo's work reflects her belief that effective local government begins with responsiveness and trust.

The Village Manager serves as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Village. The Village Manager is responsible for day-to-day operations of Village services, provides leadership and guidance to the several departments of the Village, and executes the policies and directives set by the Village Board.



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Local Attractions

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HOLIDAYS ON STATE

Holidays on State will be here once again!

Visit with Santa in his workshop at Guardian Angel Basset Rescue, meet the Grinch and play some BINGO at the Ella Johnson Library, dance to the music of DJ Jeff Bemos, enjoy the performances of young artists from Musical Owl, snap a photo with Olaf, take a ride on the horse drawn carriage for a free will donation, shop dozens of craft and cottage goods vendors, enjoy food from all our local restaurants and food trucks, and so much more!

The event takes place in downtown Hampshire on Saturday, November 8th, on State Street and Washington Avenue from 10am to 4pm.



A MESSAGE FROM MIKE REID President,
Village of Hampshire

The Backbone of Local Economy

Dear Residents,

I can't believe that we were in shorts last week, and as I write this, I am trying to convince myself that I do not need a coat when I leave the house this morning. As we enter the winter months, I'd like to invite everyone to come out and enjoy the many activities planned by various organizations during November and December.

Join the Hampshire Area Chamber of Commerce for Holidays on State, where you can meet Santa and Olaf. Take time to make and decorate an ornament at the Ella Johnson Memorial Library. Last but not least, join us for our famous lighted parade down State Street and light up the Holiday Tree with some hot chocolate and cookies.

I also invite you to think and #ShopSmall by partaking in Small Business Saturday, November 29th. Small Business Saturday is a way to support our many small businesses in the Village, many of which are located downtown on State St. Small businesses are the backbone of local economies and create many local jobs.

Lastly, as we look towards the new year, on behalf of myself and all of us at the Village, I wish you and yours a very happy and healthy holiday season!

Sincerely,

Mayor Mike

Questions? Please visit:
hampshireil.org



In observation of the holidays,
Village Hall will be closed:

Thursday, November 27
Friday, November 28
Wednesday, December 24
Thursday, December 25
Wednesday, December 31
Thursday, January 1, 2026

150TH BIRTHDAY/CELEBRATION UPDATE

The Village of Hampshire will be celebrating its 150th Birthday in 2025-2026, and planning is already underway to make it a year residents will not forget. Events are starting to be planned and scheduled. To kick off Hampshire's 150th Birthday will be the unearthing of the time capsule on November 10th at Seyller Park. Watch the Hampshire Community page for further information.

This year's Hampshire Area Chamber of Commerce's Holidays on State will have a 150th Birthday spin to it. Holidays on State will happen in Downtown Hampshire on November 8th from 10 AM – 4 PM.

The annual Jingle Fest Parade and Tree Lighting sponsored by the Village of Hampshire will take place on Friday, December 12th at 6:30 PM. Musical Owls will be caroling by the tree at 6 PM.

Cookies and hot chocolate will be provided. If you would like to participate in the parade, please go to www.hampshireil.org/san-taparade to register.

The Hampshire 150 Celebration Committee is seeking donations to help make this celebration one our community will not forget. Donations can be sent to:

Hampshire 150
PO Box 220
Hampshire, IL 60140

Additional donation and sponsorship options are available such as having squares on the Hampshire-opoly (think Monopoly!) Board or having your business logo on street banners, please contact hampshire150@hampshireil.org for more information.

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



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
Holidays On State
Downtown Hampshire
State and Washington Ave
Saturday, Nov 8th
10am to 4 pm
Rain Date Sun, Nov 9th

Hampshire Chamber of Commerce
Chocolate Walk
Thurs, Dec 4th
4pm to 8pm
Details at <http://HampshireChamber.org>

Illinois Railway Museum
Happy Holiday Railway
Saturdays & Sundays
Nov 29th thru Dec 21st
also Fri, Nov 28th & Mon, Dec 22nd
IRM.ORG for tickets and times

Hampshire Township Park District
1st Annual Reindeer Dash
1 Mile
Saturday, Dec 6th
8am to 12pm
400 E. Jefferson

Village of Hampshire
Jingle Fest Parade
Friday, Dec 12th
6:30pm

Hampshire Township
Seniors On The Go
Free to join

Small Business Saturday
Saturday, Nov 29th
Support Hampshire's
Local Businesses

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

FIRE SAFETY TIPS

The Hampshire Fire Protection District would like to share some Fire Safety Tips for your home and safety.

On November 2nd we switch to daylight savings time. Make sure to change your batteries in your smoke detectors and test them to make sure the detectors still work. The average life span of a smoke detector is 5-10 years.

With the winter months arriving check and/or change your furnace filters and have your furnace inspected. Keep your family safe from carbon monoxide, which is a odorless and colorless gas.

When using space heaters make sure to plug heaters directly into an outlet rather than a power strip.

Winter months is when the oven is utilized a lot for cooking and baking. Help prevent oven and stove fires by cleaning the oven and stove surfaces of any grease or drippings.

The Hampshire Fire Protection District wishes everyone safe and happy holidays.



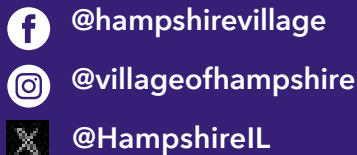
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

National Wreaths Across America Day is December 13, 2025. Fox River Valley Chapter, NSDAR will be placing wreaths locally in all four of the cemeteries within Hampshire Township and holding ceremonies at two: Hampshire Center at 11am and St. Charles Borromeo at 2pm. Our goal is to ensure that each of the more than 450 veterans buried locally have a remembrance wreath placed on their grave. Please help us further the mission of Wreaths Across America to Remember, Honor, and Teach by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you. To sponsor a wreath or volunteer at one of the cemeteries, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera or go to www.wreathscrossamerica.org/IL0212P

Thank you so much for supporting the Fox River Valley Chapter NSDAR and Wreaths Across America! If you have any questions, please email us at frvdar@gmail.com



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PREP YOUR HOUSE FOR WINTER

How to prep your house for winter?

Whether you are going on vacation or staying at home this winter, it is a good idea to prep your house for the cold winter weather that we are accustomed to in Northern Illinois. Single-digit temperatures and freezing water can cause significant damage to your house and property. Most insurance claims during the winter are due to freezing and burst pipes, especially when you are away on vacation or visiting family and friends for an extended period. Here are some tips to prep your house for the winter:

- 1. Insulate Indoor Pipes:** Use insulation to protect indoor pipes especially under sinks, attics and crawl spaces, pipes along exterior walls, and in basements, where more than 35% of all burst pipes occur.
- 2. Service your fireplaces, chimneys, and furnaces:** We all use these to keep ourselves warm during the cold winter days. Make sure to service your fireplace, chimneys, and furnaces at least annually. This will make sure your fireplace, chimneys, and furnaces are working effectively and safely.
- 3. Remove dead and damaged tree limbs:** When heavy and wet snow comes to the area in can cause dead and damaged tree limbs to break away and potentially damage your house if in close proximity. Take the time during November to remove any dead and damaged tree limbs.
- 4. Drain and protect outdoor spigots:** For hose bibs, shut off the water-supply valve inside your house or basement that feeds the line, then open the outdoor spigot (any water trapped inside will drain out). If you simply shut off the spigot itself, trapped water can freeze and cause a burst pipe inside.

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

As we all take time shop for gifts for our loved ones, champion small businesses in Hampshire and #ShopSmall on Saturday, November 29, 2025. Small businesses make large contributions to a community and its local economy. In 2023, approximately \$17 billion was spent at small businesses on Small Business Saturday throughout the nation. Continue supporting our Hampshire small businesses, many of which are conveniently located along State Street in Downtown Hampshire.



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.



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