

Hoffman Estates Citizen

November-December 2024

Community Resource Center opening at the Police Department

This space is designed to promote better mental health and crisis management assistance to the community.



The Hoffman Estates Police Department is celebrating the opening of its new Community Resource Center, designed to serve as a vital hub for residents in need of mental health resources, crisis management assistance and other social services. An open house will be held in the Community Resource Center at the Police Department, 411 W. Higgins Rd., on Monday, Nov. 4, from 12 to 6 p.m., with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 5:45 p.m., to introduce this renovated space. The center will be staffed to help bridge gaps in social services, particularly for families facing barriers to mental health care or other critical resources.

This new resource is designed to have a dedicated space for hosting police-sponsored community events and meetings, and for offering referral services. Events such as Police Beat meetings and teen empowerment groups for middle and high school students designed to help build stronger relationships between the Police Department and the community are scheduled to be hosted

there. The Police Department is also working with local schools to receive referrals for at-risk students to receive mentorship, tutoring, and life skills support.

The Community Resource Center will be staffed for walk-in services, including crisis management, mental health support, and access to community resources. Service referrals will be available in English and in Spanish during walk-in hours.

Walk-in Service Schedule

- Tuesday & Thursday: 9 a.m. to noon & 3 to 8 p.m.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. to noon.

The center will be available 24/7, with shift sergeants having access to its resources at all times.

The Hoffman Estates Police Charitable Foundation and various community partners, such as local churches, the Hoffman Estates

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Keep fire hydrants visible

To assist our first responders, residents are asked to keep hydrants clear of snow for easier accessibility in case of an emergency. Please keep a path from the street to each hydrant and for three feet around the hydrant. If you see a damaged or leaking hydrant, call Public Works at 847-490-6800.

Historian's Notebook

By Pat Barch, Hoffman Estates Village Historian



I remember back in 1965 when my family moved to Hoffman Estates, the rest of the family thought that we'd have a nice big house for Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations. I am glad that it worked out that way, because that was my plan also. There's nothing like getting the relatives together to eat and catch up on family news.

There are two things that come to mind about the holidays: turkeys and Christmas trees.

I always prepared a 20 lb. turkey for Thanksgiving, and that was the plan for the holiday in 1965. Now in 2024, you don't always find a whole turkey on the table anymore. You have pieces and parts with and without bones as well as some without skin. If there's no whole bird, what do you do with the stuffing? Having the whole bird to prepare, and after reading about the possible health issues with stuffing at the wrong temperature if it's cooked in the turkey, my stuffing went into a casserole dish. I had one less thing to worry about. When grandma heard my story, she just shook her head and said, "Things sure have changed."

The memories of shopping for our Christmas tree from back in 1965 are of a cold winter day at Slattery's Nursery on Golf Rd., just east of the Higgins Rd. intersection. We never put the tree up until Dec. 15 because it would dry out if you

put it up earlier. After walking around until our feet were numb, we'd finally find something not too tall, not too wide and no needles that rained to the ground when shaken. After many years of use, our tree stand started to rust and the look of the artificial trees wasn't so bad. The time had come: we finally made the tough decision to go with the artificial tree.

Once we got the new tree home, we knew there were new lessons to learn about putting the artificial tree together. There was an instruction sheet, which we followed for many years. When the tree parts wore out, we had to undergo another decorating change with a new pre-lit tree. There was no more struggling with the tangled strings of lights that had the older large bulbs, but we had to get used to the new tiny lights. Having an artificial tree also has other challenges. I was having trouble finding storage space for the tree, and then it became the issue of new color choices for the lights and problems with lights not working on the pre-lit tree.

So much has changed since moving to Hoffman Estates in 1965. All of the changes to turkeys and trees make me want to go back to grandma's advice of whole turkeys and fresh green trees.

Email Pat Barch at eagle2064@comcast.net

Friendship Tree Lighting Kicks off the Holiday Season in Hoffman Estates

The Village's annual Friendship Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Saturday, Nov. 23, at 5 p.m. in front of the main entrance of Village Hall, 1900 Hassell Road.

Mayor McLeod and Village Trustees will be joined by Cub Scout Packs 297 and 100 to light the tree and kick off a festive fireworks display. Following the fireworks, Santa will arrive by fire truck to visit with children. Light refreshments will follow Santa's arrival as participants gather inside Village Hall.

The Village's annual Friendship Tree Lighting Ceremony features a large, living pine tree outside of Village Hall adorned with lights and more than 700 red bows. The growing tree serves as a reminder of our community's continuing commitment to friendship and the environment. Non-perishable food and personal care item donations will be accepted for local food pantries during this event. For information on food pantries serving Hoffman Estates residents, visit hoffmanestates.org/foodpantry.

This free, family-friendly event fills up quickly, so plan to arrive early for a good view. For more information, call 847-781-2606.





Veterans Memorial Commission hosting annual Veterans Day Ceremony

The Veterans Memorial Commission invites the community to join them on Monday, Nov. 11, at 10:45 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial site located at the Hoffman Estates Police Department, 411 W. Higgins Road, for the annual Veterans Day Ceremony. Light refreshments will be served at the Police Department following the ceremony.

Veterans Day is set aside to thank and honor all those who served honorably in the military, both in wartime and peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is intended to thank living veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated and to underscore the fact that all those who served have sacrificed and done their duty.

Community Resource Center

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Park District, and the Kenneth Young Center will play a key role in supporting this initiative. For more information about the Community Resource Center, email Police Social Worker Nataly Correa at Nataly.Correa@vohe.org or call 847- 781-2852.

Hemos abierto un centro de recursos comunitarios, para ofrecer servicios de salud mental, servicios de intervención en crisis y referencias a otras agencias. Para obtener más información sobre los servicios que brindamos llame Nataly Correa, la trabajadora social del departamento de policía de Hoffman Estates, al 847- 781-2852.



A Message from Mayor McLeod



A big thank you to our Fire Department personnel for hosting Fire Station Open Houses in October, educating families about fire safety and introducing the community to our dedicated firefighters and paramedics. Additionally, I'd like to thank Village Historian Pat Barch for organizing the Village's 65th birthday party and sharing photos of the Village throughout the years. Here's to another 65 years of "Growing to Greatness"!

Looking ahead, don't forget to join us in recycling pumpkins at the annual Public Works Open House and Pumpkin Smash event on Nov. 2. The event includes meet and greet with Public Works personnel as well as rides on the plow truck! The event this year will be held at the Village Hall at 1900 Hassell Road and will run from 10 am to noon.

On Nov. 11, the Veterans Memorial Commission invites everyone to a Veterans Day Ceremony. Veterans Day is set aside to thank all those who served honorably in the military, both in wartime and peacetime. The event is set to begin at 10:45 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial site located at the Hoffman Estates Police Department, 411 W. Higgins Road. All are welcome to attend.



Also, mark your calendars for Saturday, Nov. 23, as the Village hosts its annual Friendship Tree Lighting Ceremony at 5 p.m.! This beloved community tradition promises to be a memorable evening filled with fireworks, hot cocoa and cookies, a visit with Santa and a firetruck appearance. Everyone is welcome to attend – don't miss out on this festive experience!



For any questions, feel free to email me at bill.mcleod@vohe.org or call 847-781-2604. Wishing everyone a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving!

Bill McLeod



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Meet Marie Antoinette

The Hoffman Estates Sister Cities Commission is pleased to host a luncheon and program, "Meet Marie Antoinette" on Saturday, Nov. 16 at Village Hall, 1900 Hassell Rd. The program will begin at 11 a.m., followed by a luncheon at noon with a menu prepared by Chef Jeff Howard featuring Croque-Monsieur, Spring Mix Salad tossed with French Vinaigrette, and Chocolate Mousse for dessert.

Dramatist Martina Mathisen will bring to life the famous French Queen Marie Antoinette, who reigned as Queen from 1774 to 1792 as the wife of King Louis XVI. The Palace of Versailles was her royal home, but another residence captured her heart. Come and learn the truth behind this very much misunderstood queen, from a teen bride enveloped in pure opulence to the most hated woman in France. What actually happened? Shall she live or shall she die? This time you will help decide her fate!

Ticket price for the program and luncheon is \$25. Reservations will close on Monday, Nov. 11, so call Hallie at 847-781-2606 to make your reservation today.

Economic Development **engagement** promoted through recent **Business Blitz**

During the Village's recent business blitz, Economic Development Commissioners and staff visited over 40 businesses to engage in meaningful conversations that provided valuable insights into current market conditions and local business needs.

The fall Business Blitz provided the opportunity to provide several business resources to ensure that local businesses have access to the latest support, including:

- **Next Level Northwest:** A not-for-profit business accelerator program offering free coaching to qualified businesses in the Northwest Chicagoland region. Next Level Northwest has supported businesses across Elk Grove Village, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Rolling Meadows, and Schaumburg. Graduates of the program have achieved significant growth in revenue, job creation, and facility expansion. More information is available at nextlevelnorthwest.org.
- **Cook County Source Grant:** The Cook County Small Business Source offers resources to help small businesses and entrepreneurs succeed at every stage. Whether you're just getting started or need support in managing or growing your business, the Source provides the information your business needs to thrive. More information is available at cookcountysmallbiz.org.

As the Economic Development team expands outreach efforts, new Business Blitz events will be planned to connect with the Village's diverse business landscape, ensuring that the unique needs of the business community are addressed. Find out more about Economic Development efforts on the Village's website at hoffmanestates.org/ED.



Healthy body, healthy mind ... news from Health and Human Services

Health and Human Services offers affordable physical and mental health services to the community. To schedule health screenings, preventative tests, affordable vaccines and tuberculosis testing, call 847-781-4850. Vaccination appointments can be made online at portal.hoffmanestates.org.

Adult services and immunizations

- Blood pressure and pulse check: free.
- Diabetes (blood sugar): \$2
- Hemoglobin (anemia): \$3
- Bone Density \$5

Cholesterol screening

This FASTING test measures total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides and glucose levels. It requires a small drop of blood. Results are immediate, and include consultation with a nurse. The cost is \$22.

Hemoglobin A1C screening

The Hemoglobin A1C test is a simple finger stick to find out if you are at risk for or have diabetes by measuring your average blood sugar levels over the past three months. The test takes 6 minutes and the cost is only \$15.



November is Diabetes Awareness Month

According to the American Diabetes Association, approximately 11 percent of the population in Illinois has diabetes, a condition that develops when blood glucose levels are too high. This happens when your body is not producing enough insulin or is not able to use it properly.

The Department of Health and Human Services offers two different low-cost diabetes screenings. During the month of November, glucose screenings are free and hemoglobin A1C screenings are \$15. To schedule an appointment, call 847-781-4850. To learn more, visit Diabetes.org and take the Risk Test at diabetes.org/diabetes-risk-test.

Children and baby clinics

Health and Human Services offers several vaccination clinics for babies and children. Please visit our website at hoffmanestates.org/HHS to learn about program requirements and our practice and philosophies.

Vaccine Appointment Portal

Visit our appointment scheduling portal at portal.hoffmanestates.org to schedule vaccinations for babies, children and adults. For child appointments, please take a picture of your child's vaccine record and upload it where it is indicated in the portal.



Join Wits Workout!

Mild memory loss can be a normal part of aging. Fortunately, there are things that older adults can do to improve memory and concentration, and to increase focus.

Wits Workout is a new program in Hoffman Estates that was started by researchers at the University of Illinois to promote brain health and provide opportunities for older adults to engage intellectually with others. Older adults are invited to join us for a free Wits Workout class at Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon, including upcoming sessions on Nov. 21 and Dec. 19. For more information or to register, call Health and Human Services at 847-781-4850.



Time to get your flu vaccination

Flu vaccination is your best defense to reduce flu related illness and the risk of developing serious complications.



It can also decrease the spread of flu to others. It's not too late in the season to get your flu shot if you haven't gotten one yet, since flu activity can last as late as May.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that everyone ages 6 months and older receive a flu vaccine. Health & Human Services has flu vaccines for those 6 months and older, as well as high dose flu vaccines for adults 65 years and older. Shots are \$25 or free with Medicaid and Medicare.

National Influenza Vaccination Week is December 2-6 and is recognized as a reminder to protect yourself and loved ones against flu. Call HHS at 847-781-4850 for questions or visit portal.hoffmanestates.org/Vaccine/ to request an appointment. For more information about influenza, visit cdc.gov/flu.

Seminar: Learning About Your Aging Brain

Changes in memory, recollection or cognitive abilities may

be the result of normal aging or could be signs of dementia or Alzheimer's disease. Explore the differences in memory changes during the Learning About Your Aging Brain seminar on Saturday Nov. 9 at Village Hall from 10 a.m. to noon.

Lynne O'Malley, Community Liaison and Certified Dementia Practitioner from Right at Home In Home Care and Assistance will discuss the 10 most common warning signs on dementia in this informative, educational and interactive session. Local support resources will also be shared. Registration is encouraged, walk-ins are welcome. To register, or for more information, email Health and Human Services at hhs@vohe.org or call (847) 781-4850.





Prevent fires from spreading: Close Before You Doze

Smoke detector requirements changing for rental properties

Smoke detector requirements are changing for rental properties in the Village effective January 1, 2025. The new policy requires all battery-operated smoke alarms that are over 10 years old to be changed to 10-year sealed battery units, regardless of their functionality. Previously, smoke detectors older than 10 years that were properly functioning were allowed to remain in operation. This updated requirement will be enforced during annual inspections throughout 2025.

This is consistent with requirements under the Illinois Smoke Detector Act that went into effect in 2023 mandating smoke detectors to be replaced with the 10-year sealed battery units. This regulation reflects advancements in alarm technology and aims to improve safety by eliminating the need for frequent battery replacements.

Battery operated smoke alarm units must be replaced with 10-year sealed battery units in rental properties to pass the annual rental inspection in 2025. Exemptions include homes built after 1988 that already have hardwired smoke alarms and homes with wireless integrated Wi-Fi alarms.

Holiday cooking safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. Cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries. By following a few safety tips, you can prevent these fires.

- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

The Hoffman Estates Fire Department is committed to educating the public on fire safety and prevention. One critical way to reduce the spread of fire and stay safe during an emergency is by following the principle of Close Before You Doze—a simple but effective measure that can save lives.

In today's world, fires spread faster than ever due to the use of synthetic materials in furniture, home construction, and other common household items. In the case of a fire, closing bedroom doors helps slow down this rapid spread by cutting off the fire's oxygen supply, giving you extra valuable time to evacuate.

Key Research Findings:

- **Temperature Difference:** A closed door can make a significant difference in the event of a fire. Research shows that a closed door can reduce the temperature from 1,000°F to just 100°F, offering a safer environment.
- **Carbon Monoxide Levels:** During a fire, a closed door can keep carbon monoxide levels at approximately 1,000 parts per million (PPM). In contrast, leaving a door open can lead to carbon monoxide levels reaching 10,000 PPM, a much more dangerous scenario.
- **Nighttime Fire Safety:** Statistics reveal that 50% of fire-related fatalities occur between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Closing your door before you sleep could be a life-saving decision.

Illinois Fire Safety Regulations:

It is important to remember that smoke detectors are required by law in Illinois. Each home must have:

- A smoke detector on every level of the home and within 15 feet of each sleeping area.
- In Hoffman Estates, rental properties are required to have smoke detectors in every sleeping area, and a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm should be installed within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping.
- Single-family homes are also required to have a smoke detector on every story, including basements, though attics that are not occupied are excluded.

Fire Safety Tips:

- Test your smoke detectors and CO alarms at least once a month.
- For detectors without 10-year sealed batteries, replace the batteries twice a year to ensure they are functioning properly.

By following these simple steps, you can drastically improve your safety in the event of a fire. Always remember to Close Before You Doze and ensure your smoke detectors and CO alarms are working. These actions can make a world of difference in protecting you and your loved ones.



Cram the Cruiser

Donations accepted through November 21

The Hoffman Estates Police Department is hosting its 4th Annual “Cram the Cruiser” Thanksgiving food drive on Friday Nov. 8 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the front parking lot of the Police Department., 411 W. Higgins Rd.

Donations for “Cram the Cruiser” will also be collected in special drop boxes at the Police Department, all four Fire Stations, and at Village Hall starting Nov. 8 through Nov. 21. Donations from last year were used to provide full Thanksgiving meals to 44 families in our community. This is 17 more families than were fed in 2022. We hope to feed even more families this year with all your donations!

Monetary donations will also be accepted. For additional information or to nominate a family to receive a Thanksgiving dinner this year, please email Community Service Officer Angela Tribuzio at Angela.Tribuzio@vohe.org.



List of items needed:

- Turkey
- Boxed/bagged mashed potatoes
- Jars/packets of gravy
- Boxed/bagged stuffing
- Canned green beans, corn, cranberry, sweet potatoes, cream of mushroom soup.
- French fried onions
- Boxed corn bread
- Marshmallows
- Canned pumpkin
- Pie crust
- Boxed desserts

Shop with a Cop tradition continues for the 25th year

The Hoffman Estates Police Department continues their Shop With a Cop holiday tradition on Saturday, Dec. 14. During the annual event, HEPD personnel volunteer their time to be paired up with a child and shop with them at our local Target for holiday gifts for them and their families. These children and families are referred for the program through local schools, community centers, and through Police Department personnel.

In addition to having officers help children purchase gifts, this event provides an opportunity for the participants to become familiar with local police officers who chaperone them at Target. The one-on-one time while shopping provides opportunities to show that police officers are individuals who have unique interests, goals, and families of their own, and that they are here to help.

In 2023, this program supported 68 families from our area. To nominate a family to participate in this program, please email Police Social Worker Nataly Correa at Nataly.Correa@vohe.org. For more information or to make a donation, please email Sergeant Phillip Giacone at Phillip.Giacone@vohe.org or call 847-781-2870.

A photograph showing a police officer in a grey uniform with a name tag and an American flag patch on the sleeve. The officer is standing at a checkout counter in a Target store, interacting with a young child. The child is holding a gift box. In the background, other people and store displays are visible.



Holiday tree and wreath disposal

Living holiday trees (including flocked trees) and other greenery may be dropped off at no charge anytime between Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024, and Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025, at the following locations:

- Public Works Fleet Maintenance Facility, 2405 Pembroke Ave.
- The field next to Fire Station 23, 1300 Westbury Drive
- The field next to Fire Station 24, 5775 Beacon Pointe Drive

All lights, ornaments, garland and artificial decorations must be removed from the tree, and plastic bags are prohibited. For more information, call Public Works at 847-490-6800.

Groot will also have a curbside pickup on regular service days for the first two weeks in January. Look for more information about curbside pickup in the January/February 2025 edition of the Citizen.

Free holiday light recycling

Keep non-working holiday lights out of landfills by recycling them! All string lighting and extension cords can be dropped off in the special drop boxes in the Village Hall lobby during normal business hours Monday, Dec. 2, 2024, through Friday, Jan. 31, 2025.

This free program runs through a partnership between the Village and the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC). For more information, call Public Works at 847-490-6800.



Floodplain information and services

Flooding can happen to anyone. Even if you do not live near a body of water or have ever previously experienced flooding, a flooding risk may still exist. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) identify areas at higher risk of flooding, known as the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) (or commonly “floodplain”). FIRMs are prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to identify flood zones and determine risk. The Village can assist homeowners, renters and business owners in determining if your home or business is located within a SFHA.

The Village offers a service that is free to anyone interested in obtaining information regarding the Village’s FIRMs. Available information includes:

- Whether a property is in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and if there may be a requirement to purchase flood insurance.
- FIRM flood zone, panel number, suffix, panel date and regulatory base flood elevation for a property.
- A map of the property with the flood zone overlaid.
- Additional flood map information including floodways and regulatory requirements for development in a floodway.
- Local drainage issues or flooding sources not identified on the FIRM.
- Information regarding wetland and open space areas within the Village and regulations prohibiting development.

The goal of the map information service is to educate the community about the potential flood risk on a designated property, to improve floodplain management, and to provide information about steps that can be taken to reduce losses as a result of potential flooding events.

As a participating community in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), property owners within the Village are eligible for flood insurance policies at a discounted rate. Only a specific flood insurance policy will cover damage related to flooding. Policy details and rate information can be obtained through most insurance agents.

Please call the Engineering Division at 847-252-5800 or email roadconstruction@vohe.org with any questions about flood risk. The FIRM panels are available for review at Village Hall or online at the FEMA Map Service Center at msc.fema.gov. Additional resources are also provided on the official NFIP website at floodsmart.gov.



Public Works prepares for winter

As cooler weather approaches, our Public Works team is already preparing for the upcoming winter season. They're busy stocking up on salt and de-icing liquids, thoroughly checking and maintaining equipment, and training staff on new machinery and updated procedures to improve our response capabilities.

To further enhance winter readiness, Public Works is installing seven new Road Weather Information System (RWIS) stations throughout the Village. These stations will provide real-time data on weather conditions and road surface temperatures, helping us respond swiftly to unforeseen issues like black ice.

As winter arrives, please remember that major streets are plowed first, followed by side streets and cul-de-sacs. To ensure efficient snow removal, avoid shoveling or blowing snow into the streets or onto fire hydrants. Also, note that parking on Village streets is prohibited for eight hours after a snowfall of two inches or more, or until the street has been cleared. For safety, remind children to stay away from streets while playing in the snow.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we work to keep our Village safe and accessible all winter long.



Plow Routes

The Village's Public Works Department does NOT plow IDOT or Cook County roads.

IDOT

- Higgins Road (Route 72)
- Golf Road (Route 58)
- Algonquin Road (Route 62)
- Sutton Road (Route 59)
- Barrington Road
- Palatine Road

Cook County Highway Department

- Bartlett Road
- Bode Road (Barrington Road to N. Sutton Road)
- Bradwell Road
- Central Road
- Ela Road
- Mundhank Road
- Freeman Road (between Mundhank Road and Algonquin Road)
- Plum Grove Road
- Schaumburg Road
- Old Sutton Road (north of Higgins Road/Route 72)
- Roselle Road
- Shoe Factory Road



Winter road problems? Know who to call

The Village's Public Works Department maintains and plows certain roads, while others are under the jurisdiction of either the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) or the Cook County Highway Department. Below is a list of contact information for where to direct questions or concerns related to different roadways in the Village.

Hoffman Estates Snow Command: 847-490-6800

Call this number to report a problem on Village maintained roads. Unfortunately, it is not possible to provide a specific time when streets will be plowed.

IDOT: 800-452-4368

Call this number for conditions regarding IDOT roads. To report an incident on IDOT roads, call 847-705-4612.

Cook County Highway Department: 312-603-1600

Call this number for conditions regarding county roads.

Illinois Tollway Information Line: 800-865-5394

Call this number for Tollway information, including problems with fog, snow, ice, high winds and trailer bans.

Community briefs

Holiday observances

Village Hall will be closed Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. There will be no change in the garbage and recycling pickup schedule the week of Thanksgiving.

Village Hall will also be closed on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24; on Christmas, Wednesday, Dec. 25; and on New Year's Day, Wednesday Jan. 1. Garbage and recycling pickup will be delayed by one day during these holiday weeks.

Daylight saving time ends

Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 3. In addition to rolling clocks back one hour, the Fire Department reminds residents to also replace the batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends placement of at least one smoke alarm on every level of the home (including basements), and within 15 feet of all sleeping areas. CO alarms are required on each level of the home and are recommended near sleeping areas.

Keep leaves off the street

Raking or blowing yard waste into the street is a violation of the Village's Municipal Code. When yard waste is pushed into the street, it can wash away to cover and clog storm water grates, which can contribute to flooding. Be sure that grass clippings, garden debris and raked leaves end up in brown paper yard waste bags with yard waste stickers affixed to them.

The yard waste collection program through Groot will end Monday, Nov. 25 for residents north of I-90, and Wednesday, Nov. 27, for those south of I-90 (including households west of Bartlett Road). To access information about yard waste and to purchase stickers, visit Groot's website at groot.com.



Upcoming programs for seniors

The Commission for Senior Citizens is hosting several fun events in November and December!

- **Thursday, Nov. 21:** Luncheon with historical presentation, noon at Village Hall. Historian Jim Gibbons will present on holiday TV specials and more, so join us to learn the history and some fun facts about your favorite entertainment specials! Cost is \$10, registration is required.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 18:** Holiday themed luncheon with a fun filled afternoon of great music, food, and holiday spirit, noon at Village Hall. Cost is \$10, registration is required

To register for senior programs, call Hallie Karle at 847-781-2606 and send a check payable to "Village of Hoffman Estates" to 1900 Hassell Rd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169. Payment must be received before a reservation can be confirmed.

First Friday events

The Commission for People with Disabilities is hosting two First Friday events for adolescents and adults with disabilities ages 14 and over in November and December.

- **Friday, Nov. 1:** Fall Dance with DJ, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Village Hall. Admission is free! Pizza will be served for \$2 a slice. Non-perishable food items for donation to local food pantries will be accepted at the door.
- **Friday, Dec. 6:** Winter Holiday Party, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Village Hall. Admission is free! Pizza will be served for \$2 a slice.

For more information about First Friday events, please call 847-781-2606.

Holiday Giving Tree

Health and Human Services is proud to host the annual Holiday Giving Tree program, assisting families with children in need and adults age 60+ who are experiencing hardship with gifts for the holiday season. Those interested in purchasing gifts for the Giving Tree Program can stop by the Health and Human Services Department at Village Hall, 1900 Hassell Rd, starting Nov. 11 to select gift request ornaments from the Giving Tree. Gift request ornaments will also be available at the Health and Human Services table at the Friendship Tree Lighting on Nov. 23.



Arts Commission hosting photography seminar Nov. 9

The Village of Hoffman Estates Arts Commission is hosting a photography seminar on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9 to 11 a.m. at Village Hall, 1900 Hassell Rd. Led by professional photographer Jim Hojnacki, this free seminar is for those who have a DSLR camera or would like to purchase one and would like basic camera use instructions. Topics will include basic features, menus, file formats, the lens, flash and photo software.



Participants should bring their cameras, manuals and questions.



By Patty Richter
Hoffman Estates Village Clerk

Contact the Village Clerk's office at 847-781-2625 or email Patty.Richter@vohe.org.

Clerk's corner

The Village's annual Friendship Tree Lighting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23, at 5 p.m. After the fireworks display, we will be moving inside for a visit with Santa and light refreshments. We once again ask that people attending bring non-perishable food or toiletries to help replenish the area food pantries. Come join us for an evening of fun and donate to someone in need.

November & December calendar

All meetings are at Village Hall unless otherwise noted. For up-to-date information, visit hoffmanestates.org/calendar.

PD: Police Department, 411 W Higgins Rd.

📍: See Page 8 for Christmas Tree and Wreath Drop-off Locations

November

Friday, November 1

- First Friday, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 2

- Public Works Open House, 10 a.m.

*Sunday, November 3

- Daylight Saving Time Ends, 2 a.m.
- Veteran's Flag 35, Pfc. Robert J. Kalas, Army, WWII

Monday, November 4

- Electronic Recycling at Village Hall, 10 a.m.
- Community Resource Room Open House, 12 to 6 p.m., PD
- Village Board, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, November 5

- Election Day
- Sustainability Commission, 6 p.m.
- Cultural Awareness Commission, 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, November 6

- Utility Commission, 12 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 7

- Special Finance Committee Meeting, Budget Workshop, 6 p.m.

Friday, November 8

- Cram the Cruiser Food Drive, 5-8 p.m., PD

Saturday, November 9

- Arts Commission Photography Seminar, 9 a.m.
- Learning About Your Aging Brain Seminar, 10 a.m.

*Sunday, November 10

- Veteran's Flag 36, Capt. Frank S. Carter Jr., ASAAF, WWII

Monday, November 11

- Last Electronic Recycling for the season at Village Hall, 10 a.m.
- Veterans Day Ceremony, 10:45 a.m., PD
- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, November 12

- Commission for Senior Citizens, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 16

- Sister Cities Commission Presents Meet Marie Antoinette, 11 a.m.

*Sunday, November 17

- Veteran's Flag 37, Sgt John M. Kmetz, USMC, WWII

Monday, November 18

- Arts Commission, 5 p.m.
- Commission for People with Disabilities, 6 p.m.
- Emerging Technology Advisory Commission, 6 p.m.
- Village Board, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 20

- Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Sister Cities Commission, 7 p.m.

Thursday, November 21

- Wits Workout, 10 a.m.
- Commission for Senior Citizens Lunch, 12 p.m.
- Youth Commission, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 23

- Friendship Tree Lighting Ceremony, 5 p.m.

*Sunday, November 24

- Veteran's Flag 38, Robert Scholl, Navy, Korea

Monday, November 25

- Last Yard Waste Pick-up with Groot North of I-90
- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 27

- Last Yard Waste Pick-up with Groot South of I-90

Thursday, November 28

- HOLIDAY - Village Hall Closed

Friday, November 29

- Village Hall Closed

December

*Sunday, December 1

- Veteran's Flag 39, Sgt. WM R. Dreher, Army, WWII

Monday, December 2

- Holiday Light Recycling Begins, 8:30 a.m.
- Village Board, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, December 3

- Sustainability Commission, 6 p.m.
- Cultural Awareness Commission, 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, December 4

- Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 6

- First Friday, 6:30 p.m.

*Sunday, December 8

- Veteran's Flag 40, Cpl. Thomas W. Christian, USAF, WWII

Monday, December 9

- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, December 10

- Commission for Senior Citizens, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 14

- Shop With a Cop, 8:30 a.m., Hoffman Estates Target

*Sunday, December 15

- Veteran's Flag 41, PFC. Henry W. Dietz, Army, WWII

Monday, December 16

- Commission for People with Disabilities, 6 p.m.
- Village Board, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18

- Commission for Senior Citizens Lunch, 12 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Sister Cities Commission, 7 p.m.

Thursday, December 19

- Wits Workout, 10 a.m.
- Youth Commission, 6:30 p.m.

*Sunday, December 22

- Veteran's Flag 42, PFC. Arthur Richoz, Army, WWII

Tuesday, December 24

- HOLIDAY - Village Hall Closed

Wednesday, December 25

- HOLIDAY - Village Hall Closed

Thursday, December 26

- Christmas Tree and Wreath Drop off Begins 📍

*Sunday, December 29

- Veteran's Flag 43, SRA Sumner L. Cowan, USAF, Iraq

View Village website calendar for event updates and details!



*The flag-rotation ceremonies are held at the Veterans' Memorial every Sunday at 1 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Those wishing to make a donation for the perpetual maintenance of the Memorial may do so at the Village Hall, or by mailing a check to the Veterans' Memorial c/o the Village of Hoffman Estates, 1900 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169. The casket flags of deceased veterans listed on the calendar above will be flying at the Veterans' Memorial in the coming months. The Veterans' Memorial is located outside the Hoffman Estates Police Department at 411 W. Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169.

Seasonal electronics recycling drop-off ends Nov. 11

The last day for the seasonal electronics recycling drop-off program at Village Hall, sponsored by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), is Monday, Nov. 11, from 10 a.m. to noon. This service will resume in the spring.

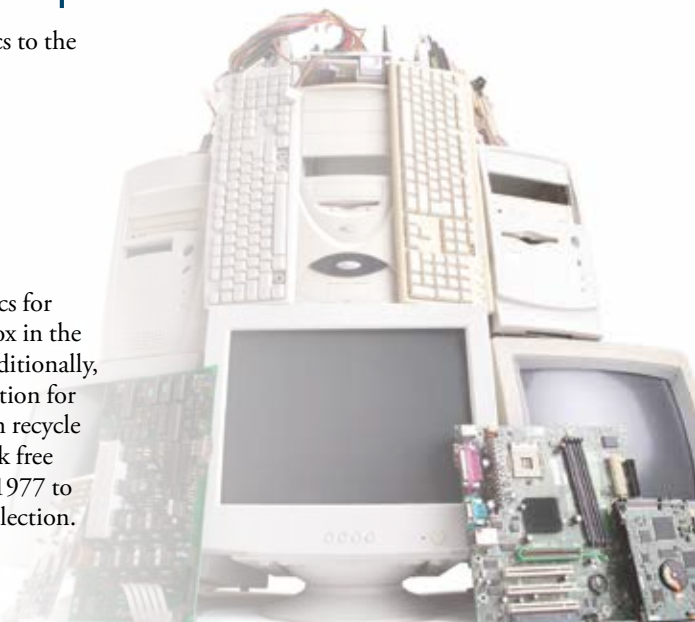
Residents still have a couple of weeks to drop off old computers (PCs and laptops) and computer components (monitors, keyboards, mouse devices, drives, etc.), DVD players, fax machines, MP3 players, printers, scanners, TVs, VHS players, and video game consoles. Visit swancc.org for a full list of acceptable items.

After Nov. 11, take large electronics to the following location for recycling:

Glenview Transfer Station

3 Providence Way, Des Plaines
Across from Maryville Academy
Saturdays year-round from
9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Holiday closings: Nov. 30, Dec. 28

The Village accepts small electronics for recycling through a special drop box in the Village Hall lobby year-round. Additionally, Groot offers a curbside pick-up option for recycling electronics. Residents can recycle up to two electronic items per week free of charge. Call Groot at 800-244-1977 to arrange for a special electronics collection.



Various photos courtesy Mona S. Morrison

Village of Hoffman Estates

1900 Hassell Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
hoffmanestates.org



PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 24
Schaumburg, IL

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER
Hoffman Estates, IL

Printed on recycled paper

Important phone numbers

Main847-882-9100
Police and Fire911
Police Administration847-781-2800
Fire Administration847-843-4825
Public Works847-490-6800
Health and
Human Services847-781-4850
Event Hotline847-252-5443

Village officials

Mayor
William D. McLeod

Trustees
Karen J. Arnet
Patrick Kinnane
Karen V. Mills
Anna Newell
Gary J. Pilafas
Gary G. Stanton

Village Clerk
Patty Richter

Village Manager
Eric J. Palm

Municipal facilities

*Visit our website for
online services.*

Village Hall
1900 Hassell Road

Police Department
411 W. Higgins Road

Fire Administration
1900 Hassell Road

Fire Station 21 — Carl W. Selke
225 Flagstaff Lane

Fire Station 22 — Michael J. O'Malley
1700 Moon Lake Boulevard

Fire Station 23 — Richard G. Cordova
1300 Westbury Drive

Fire Station 24 — Jerome Danowski
5775 Beacon Pointe Drive

**Susan H. Kenley-Rupnow
Public Works Center**
2305 Pembroke Avenue

Winter Weather Preparedness Pointers from the Hoffman Estates Police Department

Power Outage Preparedness:

About 80% of power outages in the United States are weather-related. Power outages can happen anytime throughout the year and are always inconvenient. For some, a power outage can be a simple annoyance, and for others it could mean a fridge full of spoiled food to be replaced, loss of medications, or the inability to use medical devices.

Consider trimming trees on your property to reduce damage during wind, ice and snowstorms. If you have any tree growth near power lines, consider contacting ComEd to trim the branches to protect power lines from potential tree limb damage.

In the winter months, a power outage can be much more impactful to your household. Here are some reminders:

- Make sure you use generators outdoors only to prevent carbon monoxide exposure.
- Do not use a gas stove or oven to heat your home!
- The Village of Hoffman Estates Police Department is open 24/7 and is a designated Warming Center for the community.

Winter Storm Preparedness:

Living in Hoffman Estates, we know the weather related challenges that arise during the winter months. Heavy snowstorms, ice storms and even the occasional polar vortex have impacted our community. This year, consider winterizing your vehicle and adding a Winter Survival Kit to your car.

For a simple Winter Survival Kit, items could include:

- Windshield Scraper
- Cat Litter or Sand
- Blankets
- Small Shovel
- Non-perishable food items
- Bottled Water
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Cellphone Charger

To prepare your vehicle for the winter, follow this checklist provided by the US National Weather Service:

Car Winterization Checklist

<input type="checkbox"/> Check Engine Fluid Levels Oil, Coolant, Washer Fluid, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspect Tire Tread Replace if Near Wear Limit
<input type="checkbox"/> Test Battery Replace if Necessary	<input type="checkbox"/> Install Snow Tires if You Own a Set
<input type="checkbox"/> Use Deicing Washer Fluid Clean Windshield at Low Temps	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Headlights & Taillights
<input type="checkbox"/> Switch to Synthetic Oil Handles the Cold Better	<input type="checkbox"/> Add & Inspect Winter Survival Kit