



Interested in joining?  
Want to make a difference?  
**BECOME A VOLUNTEER!**

**Eligibility:**

In order to become a Hillsboro volunteer firefighter, you must:

- Be at least nineteen (19) years of age;
- Have a high school diploma/GED;
- Have a valid driver's license; and
- Be a resident of Hillsboro Fire Department service area.

For those under 19, please contact us about our Boy Scout Venture crew program.

**Contact Information:**

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Hillsboro Fire Department at 532-2417.



*Helping to provide  
a safer community*

**The Fire Department will:**

- Provide training from the very basics to the most advanced levels available in fire science at NO cost to the volunteer.
- Supply all specialized clothing and gear needed.
- Provide worker's compensation coverage.

Volunteers are also paid for each response to any situation that they respond to.

**The Volunteer will:**

- Gain valuable experience, training, and skills in fire science.
- Obtain satisfaction from serving your community and making a difference.
- Provide an indispensable life saving and property protection service to neighbors.
- Become a member of a well-respected team of well-trained firefighters.



**Membership Inquiry**

Just mail, email, or fax your name and contact information to the Hillsboro Fire Department, and someone will contact you to provide more information about the application process.

Fire Station No. 1  
**101 South Broad Street**

Phone: **532-2417**  
Fax: **532-2365**

Email: **[hillsborofire@consolidated.net](mailto:hillsborofire@consolidated.net)**

## Mission Statement

The Hillsboro Fire Department is dedicated to the saving of life and property through training and education. Our members strive to provide the highest levels of fire suppression, fire prevention, and hazard mitigation to our community in a most cost effective manner.

## Who We Are

The Hillsboro Fire Department dates back to 1871. The volunteer fire department was organized in 1888 as the Hillsboro Fire Company, at a time when the city was building a water tower, a pump house, and new water mains to hydrants. These water works provided the pressure needed by the hoses on the hook and ladder wagon and the hose carts. Before that time, neighborhood bucket brigades were the only method Hillsboro had for fighting fires.

The City's first horse-drawn fire wagon was housed on the northwest corner of Courthouse Square. Plans for a fire department engine house were approved on March 5, 1888.

The Fire Department, as presently constituted, was organized in 1931 following the disastrous St. Agnes Fire in 1930.

The volunteer members of the department are from the community and from various occupations. We are your neighbors, friends, and relatives.

The Hillsboro Fire Department is comprised of 5 full-time and 30 volunteer members. They handle daily fire service requirements, man the firefighting apparatus when called upon to extinguish fires, perform extrication for accident victims, and conduct fire prevention education.

## Focus On Training

Hillsboro firefighters train constantly throughout the year to maintain the highest possible levels of training and certifications. In 2010, the department recorded a total of more than 1,400 hours of training.

## Focus On The Community

The volunteers have saved the city much money by purchasing or assisting in the purchase of some of the Fire Department's equipment with their own money earned for responses and through fundraisers. Currently, volunteers receive only \$14 for each response, regardless of the number of hours (or even days) that they are on the job, or the inclemency of the weather. Since 1999, the volunteers have contributed more than \$150,000 toward the purchase of equipment for the Fire Department.

The holiday season is brighter in Hillsboro because of the efforts of the volunteers as well. With the help of school children who collect canned goods, the volunteers package and distribute a large number of food baskets to residents in need who might otherwise have little reason to celebrate Christmas.

The volunteers are very visible during Fire Prevention Week each year, giving talks, coloring books, and plastic fire helmets to school children.

The department also includes a Dive Team, consisting of members with specialized training and diving certifications. The Dive Team's equipment includes side-imaging sonar, which is used to search for anything from vehicles and bodies to guns or other objects. These services are provided at no additional charge to the community or to neighboring jurisdictions.



**I.S.O. Class 5**

**JOIN OUR TEAM**

**YOU COULD BE A  
LIFESAVER!**

**Hillsboro Fire Department  
101 South Broad Street  
Hillsboro, Illinois 62049**

**(217) 532-2417**