

Who We Are

History and Tradition

The Hillsboro Fire Department dates back to 1871. The volunteer fire department was organized in 1888. The Hillsboro Fire Department, as presently constituted, was organized in 1931, following the disastrous St. Agnes Church Fire of 1930.

Today, the Hillsboro Fire Department is comprised of 5 full-time engineers, who man the fire station 24/7, and approximately 30 volunteers. 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 programs. Our firefighters train constantly throughout the year to maintain the highest possible levels of training and certification.

The volunteer members of the department are from the Hillsboro community and various occupational backgrounds. Many of our volunteers have followed parents or other family members who were also volunteers. We are your neighbors and friends. The City pays Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the not-for-profit corporation to which all volunteers belong) only \$14 per volunteer per response, regardless of the number of hours that the volunteers are on the job, and regardless of the weather. A substantial portion of these funds are then used by the volunteers to help the City pay for new equipment and repairs.



Hillsboro Fire Department
101 South Broad Street
Hillsboro, IL 62049
Business Line: (217) 532-2417
Emergency Line: (217) 532-2345
Fax: (217) 532-2365
Email: hillsborofire@consolidated.net

Joe Lyerla, Chief
Vernon Durbin, Lead Engineer

Chris Sherer, Commissioner
of Public Health and Safety

City of Hillsboro
John A. Downs, Mayor
447 South Main Street
Hillsboro, IL 62049
Phone: (217) 532-5566
Fax: (217) 532-5567

Hillsboro Fire Department

Rural Fire Service Program

For Residents Of:
Schram City
Butler
and
Rural Montgomery
County



I.S.O. Class 5

Rural Subscriptions

The business of operating a fire department, even a mainly volunteer department, is an expensive undertaking. The services provided by our dedicated volunteers help keep personnel and other operating expenses to a bare minimum.

Unfortunately, equipment, apparatus, supplies, training, and facility maintenance cost more and more each year.

The Hillsboro Fire Department receives most of its budgeted monies from the City. This money adequately supports the essential functions of the department. However, in order to keep our department well-equipped and up-to-date, we offer subscription-based fire protection services for customers who reside outside the corporate limits of the City of Hillsboro. Our subscription plan supports the efforts of our volunteer fire department, saves our subscribers money when they need our services, and supplements the department's revenues for providing service outside of the city limits. If you have a rural fire subscription, you will receive our services at a specified rate. Non-subscribers will be billed for the various services that the fire department provides at higher rates.

It is the policy and practice of the Hillsboro Fire Department to respond to ALL calls for service, regardless of whether you have subscribed or not. Our job is to handle emergencies and worry about any service fees later. Never hesitate to ask for our help; we will always respond. Whether you're a subscriber or not will not play a factor. Any fees to be charged are handled separately, well after the incident. We'll be there when you need us!



Charges For Subscribers

A fire run to subscribed property will cost \$500, which is billed directly to the subscriber.

The Hillsboro Fire Department presently has 597 rural subscribers. Subscription income during the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year totaled

\$34,260. An additional \$4,690 was collected from fire runs to properties outside of the City limits.

The Hillsboro Fire Department currently has an I.S.O. rating of "5". Please check with your insurance agent to see how your insurance rates benefit by subscribing with us, and, if you like what you hear, please share that information with your neighbors.

All fire runs not covered by a subscription are billed the annual membership fee of \$75, plus a response fee of \$350, plus a fee of \$500 per hour.

Please note, however, that the handling of hazardous materials incidents may be billed differently.

We'll Be There Regardless

Our job is to handle emergencies and worry about any service fees later. Never hesitate to ask for our help by calling us directly at **532-2345** or by dialing 9-1-1. We will always respond (even if another fire department has turned you down). Whether you're a subscriber or not will not play a factor. Any fees to be charged are handled separately, well after the incident.



Referrals

We are pleased to have you as a subscriber. In any business, there is no greater compliment than to get a new customer thanks to an existing one. Please feel free to refer a friend or neighbor.

Please write your name in the box below and have your friend or neighbor complete and return the following informational form to us. Help us get the word out about the valuable and professional services that we provide.

Your Name:

Name of Person Being Referred:

911 Address of Person Being Referred:

Phone Number(s) of Person Being Referred:

RETURN TO:
Hillsboro Fire Department
101 South Broad Street
Hillsboro, IL 62049
Fax: (217) 532-2365