



VILLAGE OF DEERFIELD

# D-Tales

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025

VOLUME 47, NO. 5

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9th  
Harvest Fest

13  
Food Trucks

1,000+  
Attendees

2nd  
Cruise into Harvest Fest car show

## Harvest Fest Back Sept. 20 for a Day Full of Fun

**Downtown Deerfield will be buzzing with food, music, cars and community on Saturday, September 20!**

Start the day at the Farmers Market from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., featuring fresh produce, live music, and the popular touch-a-truck event. In the afternoon, from 2:30 to 5 p.m., enjoy the Cruise into Harvest Fest car show brought to you in partnership with the Deerfield Lions Club. The event will showcase vintage, classic and unique modern vehicles. During the car show, enjoy live music by local bands Roger That from 3 to 4 p.m. and Delta Pines from 4 to 5 p.m.

From 5 to 10 p.m. Harvest Fest offers 13 food vendors, a beer and wine tent, a bags tournament hosted by the Deerfield Park District and live music all evening. Catch Blooze Brothers from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Sixteen Candles from 8 to 10 p.m. Parking is available at the Downtown Deerfield Metra Lot and the Lindemann Lot.

Thank you to Platinum Sponsors Alpha Graphics, PVOLVE, K9 Resorts and Fortune Brands Innovations.

*For more information, including how to win free apple cider donuts for pedaling your bike to Harvest Fest, please visit [deerfield.il.us/harvestfest](http://deerfield.il.us/harvestfest)*





**Healthy Hedges & BUCKTHORN REMOVAL**

**Saturday, October 4**  
**10 - 11 a.m.**  
**Deerfield Library**  
**920 Waukegan Rd, Deerfield**

VILLAGE OF DEERFIELD

The poster features a green background with a circular inset showing a branch with black buckthorn berries and green leaves. A logo of a deer is in the top right corner.



## Healthy Lifestyles Expo October 11

Explore local resources, services and activities that support a healthier lifestyle for all ages! Join the DBR Chamber of Commerce at the Patty Turner Center on Saturday, October 11, from 9 a.m. to noon, for a morning dedicated to promoting health and wellness.

This free community event brings together local health, wellness and lifestyle experts to help you and your family live your best life.

Discover exhibitors offering fitness, nutrition, medical care, mental health support, safety tips and more. Enjoy interactive demonstrations, health screenings and family-friendly activities designed to engage all ages. Whether you're looking for new workout ideas, healthy eating tips or ways to improve your overall well-being, you'll find plenty of resources and inspiration.

This is also a great opportunity to connect with community organizations, meet local business owners and learn about services available in the Deerfield, Bannockburn and Riverwoods area.

## Sustainability Commission Presents: Healthy Hedges and Buckthorn Removal

Learn how to remove invasive buckthorn and replace it with beautiful, eco-friendly native plants.

Want to make your yard healthier and more beautiful? Join the Village of Deerfield Sustainability Commission at the Deerfield Public Library for an informative presentation on Saturday, October 4, from 10 to 11 a.m. by Lake County Forest Preserves experts Matt Ueltzen, Manager of Restoration Ecology, and Brett Peto, Environmental Communications Specialist.

Learn practical techniques for removing invasive buckthorn and discover native plants you can use instead to boost biodiversity, support pollinators, and create a more resilient landscape.

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just getting started, you'll leave with tools and inspiration to improve your own outdoor space while helping the environment.

## SAVE THE DATE: FIELD OF HONOR NOVEMBER 7-11



**FIELD OF HONOR**

NOVEMBER 7, 2025 - NOVEMBER 11, 2025  
836 JEWETT PARK DRIVE, DEERFIELD, IL

QR code: [billy](#)

The poster features a large American flag on the left side. At the bottom, there are several logos including the Village of Deerfield, Lake County Forest Preserves, and others.

## SPECIAL WATER SYSTEM NOTIFICATION

The Village is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. As part of the 2025 water system testing, the Village is providing public notice of violation for not collecting TTHM and HAA5 samples within the newly set timeline. The collection due date was January 19, 2025. However, due to January 19, 2025, being a Sunday and January 20, 2025, being a federal holiday, samples were collected and sent to the lab on the next business day on January 21, 2025. Samples were tested and were within parameters set forth by the IEPA and the Village remains in compliance. In the future, the Village will work to meet all testing windows. Therefore, due to this two-day delay during January 12 - January 19, it was established by the Illinois EPA that we did not complete all monitoring or testing for TTHM and HAA5 contaminants, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

## Mayor's Message

**As summer winds down and we start to usher in another school year, I want to take a moment to speak to the families, the students, the teachers, the drivers and the residents who make this community a truly special place to call home.**

Heading back to school brings a mix of emotions. Some are excited, eager to see friends and their favorite teachers. Others may be nervous, starting something new, entering a new grade, maybe even a new school. And for the parents? Well, I know it's a lot. Packing lunches, catching the bus, making sure everyone has the right supplies, the right clothes and that first-day-of-school photo ready to go.

But this season, while full of anticipation, also calls for awareness, responsibility and a shared commitment to safety. Deerfield is growing and with that growth comes change, development and construction that commuters should familiarize themselves with.

Right now, there are significant projects underway across our village. On Wilmot Road and just north of Lake Cook Road, Pulte Homes is in the process of building 42 new single-family homes. These are homes that will welcome new families and new neighbors. Down the road, also on Lake Cook Road, we're making room for our seniors, those who have spent their lives working hard, raising families and contributing to the fabric of our society. The new senior living facility is far more than just a building. It's a promise. A promise that we value every chapter of life, and that we are committed to dignity, to care, and to inclusion for all.

Also, six office buildings along Lake Cook Road are in the process of being demolished. In demolition, there lies the opportunity for renewal, for revitalization and for a stronger, more vibrant Deerfield.

Hazel Avenue is now undergoing a full reconstruction. It's a project we've planned with great care and it's one we'll carry out with meticulous attention to detail to get it done right.

With change comes challenges, and as our students board those

buses, as they walk to school or ride their bikes across town, it is on all of us — every driver, every contractor and every pedestrian — to be vigilant, to be cautious and to be patient. Nothing is more important than the safety of our children. With that in mind, I'm asking each of you to put down the phone, slow down, pay attention, follow posted signs and detours and obey speed limits, especially in school zones. And when you see a school bus with its arm out — stop! Take that extra moment, because that pause could save a life.

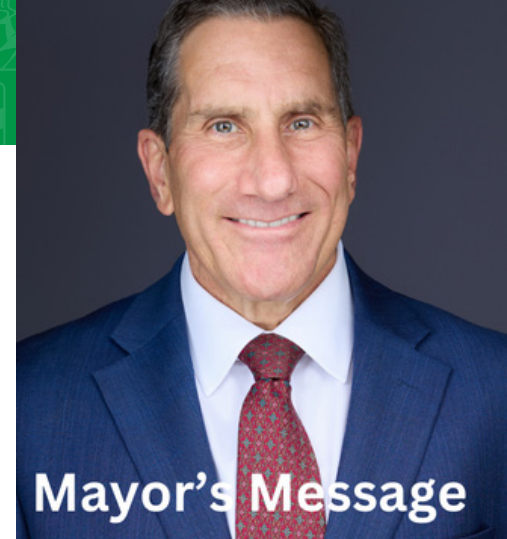
I also want to recognize our Public Works Department, our Police and Fire Departments, and all those who are working tirelessly to coordinate these projects while protecting our residents. Their dedication is unmatched, and their service is a testament to what government, at its best, is capable of.

Now, I know we live in busy times. But in Deerfield, we take the time to do things with intention. We plan, prepare and move forward, together. So, as we begin this new school year, let us renew our commitment to our kids, embrace growth while prioritizing safety and recognize that progress is not just about the construction of new roads and buildings, but about people — the people who drive on them, walk past them and live beside them.

Thank you, may your families be safe, may our students thrive, and may we continue building a community we're proud to call home.

Thank you,

Mayor Daniel C. Shapiro



## Board Report

**For complete sets of minutes for Village Board meetings or to watch meetings on demand, please visit [deerfield.il.us](http://deerfield.il.us).**

### VILLAGE BOARD ACTION

Approved an ordinance implementing a municipal grocery retailers' occupation tax and a municipal grocery service occupation tax

Approved an ordinance amending chapter 3 of the municipal code of the Village of Deerfield of 1975 to increase the number of class E liquor licenses to ten for FH Restaurant Inc. (Field House)

Approved a resolution approving a building and construction fee exemption and rebate agreement with Fortune Brands Innovations Inc.

Approved a resolution waiving competitive bidding and approving an

agreement with Veregy Central LLC for the purchase and installation of a solar array

Approved a resolution authorizing a grant to the Lake County Convention and Visitor Bureau

Approved a resolution authorizing a grant to the Chamber of Commerce of Deerfield, Bannockburn and Riverwoods

Approved an ordinance authorizing an amendment to a sign plan including necessary exceptions – Amgen and Fortune Brands

Approved a resolution approving a revised native planting license agreement with the Regional Transport Authority (Metra)

Approved a resolution to award the contract for native vegetation maintenance and restoration along Waukegan Road

## PUBLIC WORKS BY THE NUMBERS

7,422 cubic yards of leaves collected in 2024

8,060 cubic yards of leaves collected in 2023

7,763 cubic yards of leaves collected in 2022

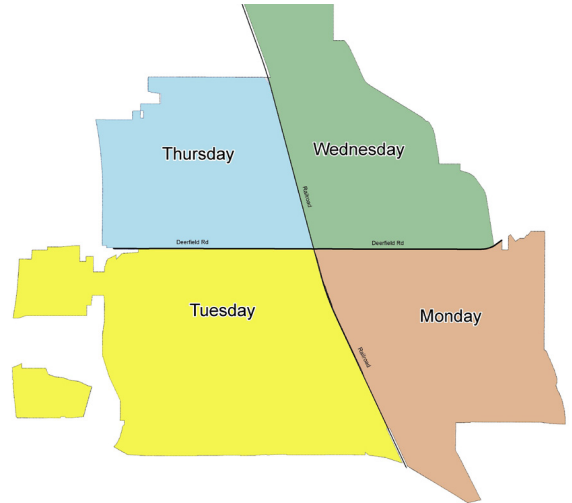
## Leaf Collection Starts October 27

The Village's annual leaf collection program provides residents with an alternate way to dispose of their leaves. Residents who do not mulch or bag their leaves may rake them to the curb or carriage walk edge the night before their scheduled pickup.

Beginning the week of October 27 and continuing through November 26, Public Works Department crews will make one pass by each house in the Village every week during the five-week program.

See the following guidelines and reminders for leaf pickup:

- Rake leaves into piles no greater than five feet in width.
- Do not rake leaves into the streets, sidewalks or carriage walks.
- Do not put out leaves more than one day prior to pickup day.
- Do not park on the street the day of your pickup.
- Do not rake grass clippings, sticks, rocks, branches or mud to the curb with your leaves.
- Inclement weather may delay pickups, but crews will make at least five trips through each neighborhood.
- Any leaves remaining after the program has ended can be placed in the compost bin through December 15 for collection.



Public Works crews collecting leaves.

## Help Burst Those Flood Insurance Myths

An important component of promoting flood insurance is dispelling the myths that persist about it. Below are a few of the most salient misunderstandings about flood insurance and some straightforward explanations of what is really true.

### MYTH: My homeowner's insurance covers flooding.

Almost no homeowner's insurance policies cover flood damage. That is why the federal government

created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Flood insurance is sold as a separate policy. *To find an agent, contact the NFIP call center at 800-427-4661 or [www.FloodSmart.gov](http://www.FloodSmart.gov).*

### MYTH: I don't need flood insurance because I'm not in a high-risk zone.

It can flood almost anywhere, and it doesn't take much water to cause expensive damage. About a third of all flood disaster assistance goes to people outside the high-risk zone. With a changing climate, extreme weather events will be more likely in the future.

### MYTH: I can't get flood insurance because I'm not in a high-risk zone.

Virtually anyone who lives in or owns property in an NFIP-participating community can buy flood insurance for a residential building, business, condo, or apartment, and the contents can be insured as well.

### MYTH: Even if my house floods, it wouldn't be much.

There may not be very much water, but that doesn't mean there won't be much damage. Only one inch of water in an average home can cause more than \$25,000 in damage.

### MYTH: I don't need flood insurance because FEMA gives disaster assistance.

FEMA can only provide disaster assistance when the President issues a disaster declaration — this happens for less than half of all floods.

*If you need more information on floods, please visit the [Additional Flood Information page on the Village website](#).*

## Hazel Avenue Reconstruction

The Hazel Avenue Reconstruction Project includes a complete water main replacement, full roadway reconstruction and sidewalk improvements along Hazel Avenue between Waukegan Road and Wilmot Road. Designed to meet federal funding requirements, the project was awarded nearly \$5 million in federal funding.

The project is expected to be completed by Thanksgiving 2025. In accordance with state regulations, some tree plantings may take place in spring 2026. To keep residents up to date, Village staff are maintaining a dedicated project blog. Interested residents are encouraged to subscribe via the Village website for updates.

*For more information, contact Tyler Dickinson, Assistant Director of Public Works & Engineering, at 847.719.7463 or [tdickinson@deerfield.il.us](mailto:tdickinson@deerfield.il.us).*

# Police Department News

## Back to School Safety Tips

The Deerfield Police Department wishes everyone a very happy and safe school year ahead. Here are some tips to keep drivers and students safe while we all transition into the new school year.

For drivers:

- Stop and yield to pedestrians crossing at crosswalks and intersections
- Never go around a school bus that has its lights activated and stop arm extended
- Always stop for crossing guards
- Obey posted speed limits
- Watch out for children

For students:

- Never walk or cross the street while distracted by your electronic device
- Look both ways before crossing the street
- Be sure to use designated crosswalks
- Stay alert and be vigilant
- Adopt a safe route home and walk with others

## Lock – Take – Hide

Deerfield Police along with surrounding communities regularly respond to reports from residents who wake up to discover their cars were rummaged through and personal items were taken overnight — or worse, the car was stolen. In most cases, these incidents involve vehicles that were left unlocked.

Please remember to always:

- LOCK your vehicle and take your keys. Even in your driveway and even during the day. It's easy to forget to lock up in the evening, so make sure your car is locked at all times.
- TAKE your valuables out of the car. Laptops, headphones, purses and shoes are valuable and lightweight, making them easy for criminals to steal.
- HIDE your belongings. If you must leave items in your locked car, make sure they are in the trunk or out of view from the window to avoid a "smash and grab."

Multiple burglaries can happen in just minutes. Criminals will approach a group of vehicles and pull on door handles looking for unlocked doors before quickly moving on to the next car. Be smart and stay safe. If you see any suspicious behavior, do not approach a potential criminal, instead dial 9-1-1.



## Pink Patch Patrol Returns This October

October 1 marks the start of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the return of the Deerfield Police Department's Pink Patch Patrol fundraiser. The Department is proud to once again partner with the Cancer Wellness Center of Northbrook — an organization chosen by officers for the meaningful and lasting impact it has on those affected by cancer. The Cancer Wellness Center provides free counseling, support groups, health and nutrition programs, and many other essential services to individuals and families navigating a cancer diagnosis.

To show their support, officers and civilian staff will wear uniforms featuring pink shoulder patches throughout the month. You can join them in supporting this cause. With a minimum donation of \$10, you'll receive your very own limited-edition Deerfield Police Pink Patch.

## Deerfield Social Services

The Deerfield Police Department has two full-time social workers to provide residents with a wide range of resources, regardless of the nature or severity of their struggles. Whether an individual is struggling with a personal crisis or seeking assistance in navigating the complexities of daily life, Village social workers are available to assist. Social Services offer crisis intervention services including short-term, solution-focused counseling and referrals to community resources for those in need. You can reach the Social Services Department at 847.945.3120.

## In 2024, Deerfield Police employees completed 9,442 training hours.

**2,183 hours**

Police Officer Ongoing Training

**1,164 hours**

Supervisor Training

**453 hours**

Civilian Training

**700 hours**

Firearms Training

**4,756 hours**

New Officer Training (Basic Academy/Field Training)

**186 hours**

Other/Misc. Training

## THE GREEN LINE

### Join the Deerfield Energy Saver Sweepstakes

The Village of Deerfield's Sustainability Commission is pleased to announce the launch of the Deerfield Energy Saver Sweepstakes to encourage residents to save money on their ComEd bills while also helping the environment.

Not only will participants save an average of \$377 per year in electricity costs, but they will also have a chance to win fun, local prizes including a \$100 gift card to a local restaurant just for taking part in this no-cost program. To participate, households need to sign up for a free ComEd Energy Efficiency Program home assessment and submit their assessment confirmation to [sweepstakes@deerfield.il.us](mailto:sweepstakes@deerfield.il.us) to be entered into the drawing.

With a free, in-home or virtual ComEd Energy Efficiency Program assessment, certified professionals will install energy-saving items like LED bulbs, energy-efficient shower heads, programmable thermostats, pipe insulation and a personalized energy savings report tailored to your home — all for free. It's simple and already paid for through your ComEd bill.

Scan the QR code to sign up today.



Rendering of new solar array at Water Reclamation Facility.

Approximate Array Footprint: 450' x 150'  
Area: 67,500'

### Solar Array on Its Way

The Village is moving forward with the installation of a new ground-mounted solar array behind the Water Reclamation Facility, marking an important milestone in advancing the goals of the Village's Climate Action Report. Adopted by the Village Board in 2022, the Climate Action Report sets ambitious targets to reduce emissions by 45% by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. Among its objectives are converting 100% of electricity to renewable sources by 2030.

The new 574 kW solar system will directly support these goals by supplying

approximately 20% of the Water Reclamation Facility's annual electricity needs with clean, renewable power. The total project cost is \$2,248,297 with a net project cost of \$642,306 after incentives. This equates to an 11-year return on investment and a 20-year net positive cash flow of \$1,101,678.

Construction is expected to begin in September and be completed by the end of the year.

The Village selected Veregy LLC as its project partner under a 20-year performance contract. This model provides guaranteed solar production levels,

revenue assurances, and ongoing system monitoring and maintenance. If production falls short, Veregy is contractually obligated to cover the difference, significantly reducing financial risk for the Village.

By investing in renewable energy infrastructure, the Village is not only making a fiscally responsible decision but also demonstrating leadership in sustainability.

The solar array will play a critical role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, lowering operating costs, and moving Deerfield closer to the vision laid out in the Climate Action Report.



Project Financials	
System Capacity (kW-DC)	574.6 kW-DC
System Type	Ground Mount
Total Turnkey Project Cost	\$2,248,297
Total Project Incentives	\$1,605,991
Total Project Cost after Incentives	\$642,306
Annual Revenue	\$69,841
20 Year Solar Revenue	\$2,214,470
20 Year Positive Net Cashflow	\$1,101,678
ROI	Year 11
20 Year Solar Service Cost	\$438,336

## District 109 Explores Possible Referendum

Deerfield Public School District 109 is exploring a long-term plan to address aging school facilities. After convening a representative Referendum Task Force to review needs and provide input, the Board of Education is considering placing a capital referendum on the March 2026 ballot.



Awareness of the issues and your input on the plan is essential. The District 109 School Board will not make a decision without extensive community input.

Community members are invited to learn more about the proposed plan, view building challenges and renderings, and share feedback at upcoming information sessions and online.

Visit [www.dps109.org/redefine](http://www.dps109.org/redefine) for information, and a schedule of information sessions held throughout the fall.

## Deerfield Area Historical Society Events

The Deerfield Historic Village is open every Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. through September.

### Everything Bee Day

Sunday, September 14, 2 to 4 p.m.

Beekeeper demonstrations, local honey and fun for all.

### Scout Fun for Everyone

Sunday, September 28, 1 to 4 p.m.

Wall climbing, monkey bridge, s'mores and classic scouting activities.

## Celebrate Local Creativity: Deerfield Fine Arts Commission Presents 2025 Public Art Program

The Deerfield Fine Arts Commission welcomed the community to an open house on Wednesday, August 13, at the Deerfield Public Library to showcase the pieces selected for the ninth year of the Village's Public Art Program. Guests enjoyed light refreshments while meeting the artists and learning more about their creative processes during a new "Meet the Artist" forum.

This year's featured artists include Tracy Jones, John Calderon, Diane Paserba, Janet Poppe, Leslie Outten, Charlotte Kaplan, Alexis Brandenburg, Matt Plofsky, Linda Trytek, Sharon Straus

and Karen Grage. Their works, chosen through a competitive jury process, will be on display at public buildings throughout Deerfield for one year, providing residents with new opportunities to experience and enjoy local art during visits to Village facilities.

Residents are encouraged to take a moment to discover these unique works of art the next time they visit a public building and see the incredible talent within our community.

For more information about the Public Art Program, contact the Village Manager's Office at 847.719.7400.



Resident and artist John Calderon presents his piece "Get Movin Cowboy!"



Resident and artist Leslie Outten discusses her piece "S.D. 109."



VILLAGE OF DEERFIELD

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Deerfield, Illinois 60015  
847.945.5000 | deerfield.il.us



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dshapiro@deerfield.il.us

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kstreet@deerfield.il.us

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850 Waukegan Road  
Deerfield, Illinois 60015

**Switchboard and Finance**  
847.945.5000

**Community Development**  
847.719.7484

**Police non-emergency**  
847.945.8636

**Public Works and Engineering**  
465 Elm Street  
847.317.7245  
847.317.2490 (Engineering)

**CRUISE INTO HARVEST FEST**

**CAR SHOW**

**SEPTEMBER 20**

PARK AVENUE, DEERFIELD

**CAR SHOW 2:30 - 5 P.M.**

**HARVEST FEST 5 - 10 P.M.**

WANT TO SHOW YOUR CAR? SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [WWW.DEERFIELD.IL.US/HARVESTFEST](http://WWW.DEERFIELD.IL.US/HARVESTFEST)




**MEETING SCHEDULE**

For a complete list of meetings, please visit [deerfield.il.us](http://deerfield.il.us). *Times/dates subject to change.*

**September**

- Board of Trustees*  
Sept. 2 & 15, 7:30 p.m.
- Community Relations Commission*  
Sept. 9, 6:30 p.m.
- Plan Commission*  
Sept. 11 & 25, 7:30 p.m.
- Appearance Review Commission*  
Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m.

**October**

- Board of Trustees*  
Oct. 6 & 20, 7:30 p.m.
- Plan Commission*  
Oct. 9 & 23, 7:30 p.m.
- Community Relations Commission*  
Oct. 14, 6:30 p.m.
- Appearance Review Commission*  
Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m.