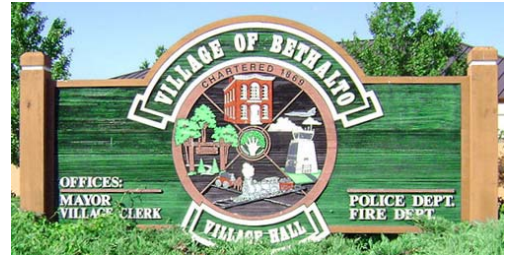


Perched upon the edge of the rolling Illinois prairie is the Village of Bethalto. Low green hills and picturesque farms frame this attractive community of nearly 10,000 residents, one of the three fastest-growing communities in Madison County.



The peaceful setting and relaxed lifestyle make Bethalto an ideal place to raise a family. Yet, its close proximity to the rest of the St. Louis metropolitan area means that your family will never exhaust the tremendous variety of cultural opportunities and entertainment nearby.

Bethalto is home to the St. Louis Regional Airport, a beautiful arboretum containing trees and plants from around the world, an extensive public library housing more than 30,000 volumes, a community senior citizens center, several parks - the largest of which is located on Culp Lane complete with a three-quarter-mile walking path, stocked fishing lake, children's playground and pavilion and ample green space.



Behind the Village Hall rests the Village Park where weddings take place at the gazebo, summer concerts are performed at the bandstand, the Jaycees play host to the annual Country Fair, the Rotary Club holds its annual Easter Egg Hunt, and the Homecoming Association holds its annual Labor Day Homecoming. Additionally, a municipal swimming pool, lighted tennis courts, skateboard park, a soccer field, newly remodeled basketball court and a number of ball diamonds provide activities for more than 2,000 boys and girls who participate each year in summer games.

Bethalto's Public Schools are second to none. From pre-school to a four-year comprehensive university, our region offers a multitude of educational opportunities. The local school district offers an excellent high school, middle school, and neighborhood grade schools. In addition, there are two parochial schools. Nearby is Lewis and Clark Community College, a two-year junior college, and



Southern Illinois University, a four-year institution offering bachelor, master and doctorate degrees. Within a 15-minute drive, you can learn dentistry, become a beautician, learn to dance or take flying lessons.

The spiritual needs of our community are served by churches of varying denominations. A listing is found in this publication.

Bethalto was founded in 1834, incorporated April 19, 1869 under a special charter and again in 1873 under the State of Illinois' general law. It is governed by a Village President and six (6) trustees elected at large.