



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

**James O. Langfelder
Mayor**

Springfield, Illinois - Starting Monday, December 3, people who want to shop downtown during the holiday season won't have to put coins in designated parking meters. Thanks to a partnership with the City of Springfield and Downtown Springfield Inc. residents and visitors who choose to shop downtown can park for free Monday through Friday, 10 am – 5 pm, through the end of DSI's Old Capitol Holiday Walks that conclude on December 22. As a reminder, meter parking on Saturdays and Sundays is already free all year long.

The area where shoppers can park for free at meters is 4th Street to 7th Street, Monroe Street to Washington Street. However, parking illegally or in an unlawful areas including bus or loading zones, yellow curb, no parking, and accessible spaces is not allowed at any time.

Shoppers simply need to get a parking permit labeled "Shoppers" from one of the participating businesses and put it on their car's dashboard nearest the curb to enjoy this holiday parking perk. Merchants will date and sign the permit, which is only good for that day.

"Downtown is an important shopping destination in our community," said Mayor Jim Langfelder. "We hope this program results in increased visits to our local businesses during the holiday season, and residents and visitors use this opportunity to come explore all that downtown has to offer."

DSI Executive Director Lisa Clemmons Stott stresses that the "free" meters are for customers only, not for downtown employees. "We know that some people consider parking to be difficult in the downtown area, and this program is designed to make it more convenient for customers during the gift-buying season to visit all of our shops, including the many new establishments that have opened this year."

If a shopper should mistakenly receive a parking ticket within the designated free parking area, the tag may be enclosed with the ticket and mailed back to the city, with no fine imposed.

Shoppers may obtain parking tags at these DSI member shops:

- Urban Sassafras at 6th and Washington
- Springfield Vintage at 215 S 5th
- Itty Bitty Fashion Trunk at 403 E Adams
- Willow & Birch at 521 E Washington
- Springfield Clock Shop at 629 E Washington
- The Card*ologist at 627 E Adams
- Wild Rose at 115 N Sixth
- Daisy Jane's at 424 E Monroe
- Recycled Records at 625 E Adams
- Corrine's Closet at 223 S Sixth

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