Bloomington
INDIANA

NEW RESIDENTS GUIDE

WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY!

We're glad you've chosen to live in Bloomington. In this guide, you'll find all kinds of information to help get you started. From where to find a realtor to enrolling kids in the local school system, the New Resident's Guide is your source for information on relocating to the Bloomington area. If you have any questions or comments, or need additional information on any topic, please don't hesitate to call or visit us on the web or in person.

BLOOMINGTON

is a modern, thriving city that has earned its reputation as a wonderful place to live. Bloomington has been recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a "Tree City USA" for the last 25 years. Indiana University is considered one of the five most beautiful college campuses in the nation by author Thomas Gaines. Bloomington is rated one of the best places to cycle in the United States by Bicycling Magazine and also hosts the "Little 500" known as one of the "world's greatest college weekends."

- Bloomington was ranked one of the top 10 best places to live in the United States by Money Magazine. The eighth best place in the nation to retire, according to Rand McNally's Retirement Places.

- Bloomington has twice been designated an All American City based on its high quality of living.

- Bloomington has the charm of small town life and at the same time offers many Big City pleasures like a world-class opera theater, touring Broadway shows, and Big Ten athletic events.

- For nature lovers: three lakes, two state forests, three nearby state parks and Indiana's only National Forest surround the Bloomington community.

MONROE COUNTY

is one of Indiana's loveliest areas with rolling hills, spectacular fall foliage, a beautiful blooming spring and an abundance of outdoor recreational opportunities available at little or no cost.

- Monroe County's rolling hills climb from 700 feet above sea level to 850 feet above sea level.

- The U.S. census bureau estimated in 2010 that the area's total population was 218,379 people. (city/county combined, including Indiana University students) The county covers 394 sq. miles.

- Monroe County residents are well educated. Over 87% of our work force has at least a high school diploma, and over 55% has some college education.

- There are three municipalities in Monroe County: Bloomington, Ellettsville and Stinesville. All other towns are unincorporated.

- Bloomington is the heart of Indiana's Limestone Country.

- The County's 11 townships are Bean Blossom, Benton, Bloomington, Clear Creek, Indian Creek, Perry, Polk, Richland, Salt Creek, Van Buren, and Washington.

Realtor and Apartment Information

Board of Realtors
320 W 8th St., #121
P.O. Box 1478
(812) 339-1301
www.homefinder.org

Monroe County Apartment Assoc.
(812) 331-7368
director@mcaaonline.org
www.mcaaonline.org

Utilities Information

Water/Sewer:
City of Bloomington
600 E. Miller Dr.
(812) 349-3930
www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities

Electricity:
Duke Energy
(800) 521-2232
www.duke-energy.com

Natural Gas
Vectren
(800) 227-1376
www.vectren.com

Telephone, Internet, & Cable:
Smithville
(812) 876-2211
www.smithville.net

AT&T
1-800-MOVE-ATT
www.att.com

Comcast
1-866-915-9154
www.comcast.com

DirecTV
***satellite only
1-888-777-2454
www.directv.com

Recreation - *Bloomington abounds with recreational opportunities!*

- Top ranked area high school athletic programs.
- Many health clubs and our 12,000-member YMCA. (812) 332-5555 or NW YMCA (812) 331-5556
- IU's Student Recreational Sports and Aquatic Center (open to the public)- houses an Olympic-sized pool and diving wells. 10 racquetball courts, four squash courts, an indoor track and facilities for basketball, fencing, karate and other sports. (812) 855-7772
- IU Club Sports (open to the public) - includes competition and instruction in cycling, ballroom dancing, gymnastics, lacrosse, rowing and sailing.
- Bloomington Parks & Recreation - offers more than 1,500 programs each year. (812) 349-3700
- Monroe County Parks & Recreation - offers several programs and an extensive soccer program. (812) 349-2800
- Three lakes including the state's largest, Monroe Lake.
- Many acres of green space including 20 city parks and 3 county parks, three lakes, a state reservoir, state forest and National Forest.
- Five public golf facilities.
- Fishing, swimming, hiking, biking, boating, caving, indoor rock climbing, golfing, cross-country skiing and horseback riding are just a few of Bloomington's recreational offerings.

Where to Worship

For a complete listing of worship opportunities in Monroe County, visit the "About Us" section of our website.

Health Care

Monroe Hospital
4011 S. Monroe Medical Park Blvd.
(812) 825-1111

IU Health Bloomington Hospital
601 W. 2nd St.
(812) 353-6821

Area Clubs & Organizations

The Bloomington area offers hundreds of groups and clubs to join. See www.visitbloomington.com. The best place to start is the Bloomington Newcomer's Club.

The Bloomington Newcomer's Club is a social organization founded to give people new to the area the opportunity to meet and develop friendships with other newcomers. General meetings and interest groups encourage members to learn more about Bloomington, its abundant cultural activities and easygoing lifestyle, and to develop friendships by sharing interests and hobbies. For information, visit the website at www.bloomingtonnewcomers. org. The visitor's center also carries a brochure for the Bloomington Newcomer's Club.

Transportation

- Hitch a ride with Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation (812) 336-7433 within the city, or with Rural Transit (812) 876-1079 in the county.

- Charter bus service is also available for large and small groups, and Indiana University runs a bus service to, from and around campus. If you have an IU bus pass, you can park in the lot at Memorial Stadium and catch the campus bus system there.

- Monroe County Airport, located four miles southwest of Bloomington, offers two paved lighted runways.

City Parking

Various areas throughout the downtown and community are metered and non-metered. Some residential areas require a parking permit. These areas are around the Indiana University campus and require a permit from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday for residents living in these areas. Anyone who has a residence within the neighborhood may apply for a single parking permit per vehicle.

Metered parking is $.25 per 15 minutes and is enforced 9 am to 9 pm Monday through Saturday. City meters are FREE on Sundays and City holidays. Meters accept coins, credit cards or debit cards. If using a credit or debit card, there is a 1 hour minimum purchase and a convenience fee of $.30 per swipe is added.

Parking in Downtown Bloomington is also available in Public Garages and Public Parking lots in addition to on-street parking. Several of these facilities provide three hours of FREE parking. For more information, contact the City of Bloomington Parking Enforcement Office at (812) 349-3436.

Non-metered spaces are marked as 15 minute, 30 minute, 1 hour or 2 hour parking. Cars can not park on the same block, either side of the street for more than a 2 hour time frame during any eight hour business day period. Non-metered parking is enforced 5am-5pm Monday through Saturday. For more information, visit bloomington.in.gov.

University Parking

Numerous parking lots and garages are located throughout the IU campus.

University Parking Garages:

> There are five pay-parking facilities on campus. All open at 7:00 AM and close before or at midnight.

University Parking Lots:

> IU Parking Operations has designated seven meter lots on campus for visitor use only. Meters are enforced Monday – Friday, 7:00 AM - 10:00 PM. Tickets from the IMU parking lot can be validated with purchases at IMU stores for parking discounts. Some on-campus museums will also validate tickets from parking garages/lots.

One-day only parking passes for visitors may be obtained at a cost of $8 from the IU Parking Services office or from the Bloomington Visitors Center.

Long-term parking is available at the University to both Students and Employees in a wide range of locations and price ranges. Please call IU Parking Services for specific information at (812) 855-9848 or visit www.parking.indiana.edu.
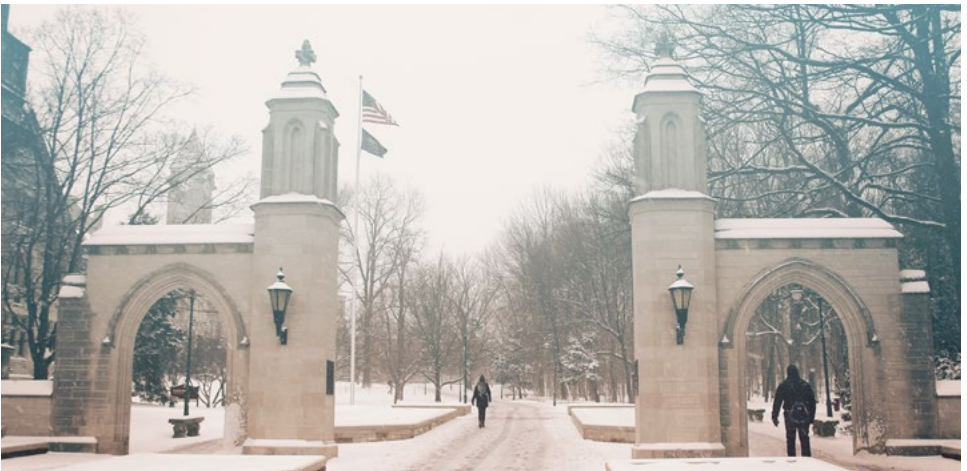
Weather Facts

Weather conditions are always an important factor in any community. Our weather can be so variable over short periods of time that the Hoosier adage still holds true: "If you don't like the weather, just wait a few minutes – it'll change."

Over the course of a year, the temperature typically varies from 21°F to 84°F and is rarely below 6°F or above 91°F.

The warm season lasts from May to September with an average daily high temperature above 75°F. The hottest days of the year are typically in July, with an average high of 84°F and low of 66°F.

The cold season lasts from December to February with an average daily high temperature below 46°F. The coldest days of the year are typically in January, with an average low of 21°F and high of 36°F.

Primary & Secondary Education

Bloomington boasts top-notch, award-winning schools at the primary and secondary level. Our teachers are highly trained, dedicated professionals committed to making sure your children receive the education they deserve and need to make valuable contributions to the community. Monroe County has two public school districts. Contact the appropriate district's administrative office to enroll new students.

Richland-Bean Blossom Schools

The Richland-Bean Blossom Community School Corp. includes a high school, junior high and three elementary schools. It is overseen by a five-member school board, which meets the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the School Service Center.

Administrative Offices
600 S. Edgewood Drive
Ellettsville, IN 47429
(812) 876-7100
http://www.rbbcsc.k12.in.us

Monroe County Community School Corporation

The Monroe County Community School Corp. serves grades K-12. It operates two high schools and an alternative high school, three middle schools, and 14 elementary schools. Since 1965, the MCCSC has offered an adult education program offering a full-service and evening program serving over 1,000 students annually. It helps adult students improve reading, writing, math, speaking and thinking skills through a non-graded, customized and integrated learning approach. A seven-person school board oversees operations at MCCSC. The board holds regular meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Administration Center; Printed agendas are available on the day of the meeting.

Administrative Offices
315 E. North Drive
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 330-7700
http://www.mccsc.edu

Private Schools

Search the Indiana Department of Education for Private/Non-Public Schools at http://www.doe.in.gov/htmls/privsch.html

Higher Education

If you're looking to further your education, maybe get that MBA, Ph.D. or law degree you've always aspired to, go for it in Bloomington! Bloomington offers quality, nationally ranked higher education institutions ready to help you grow academically and professionally. They include:

Indiana University Office of Admissions
(812) 855-0661
www.indiana.edu/~iuadmit

IU is one of the nation's top learning institutions with 100 degree programs ranked among the nation's top 20 and nearly half a million alumni nationwide.

Ivy Tech Community College
(812) 332-1559
www.ivytech.edu/bloomington

Ivy Tech Community College is the state's largest public postsecondary institution and the nation's largest singly accredited statewide community college system.

Important Phone Numbers

City of Bloomington Offices
(Located at Showers Plaza, unless otherwise noted)

Animal Care & Control
3410 S. Walnut St.
(812) 349-3492

Bloomington Volunteer
Network
(812) 349-3433

Child Care Referrals, CASY
(800) 886-3952

Controller
(Licenses & permits)
(812) 349-3412

Engineering Dept.
(Building permits)
(812) 349-3417

Mayor's Office
(812) 349-3406

Office of City Clerk
(812) 349-3408

Parking Enforcement
(812) 349-3436

Parks & Recreation
(812) 349-3700

Planning Department
(Zoning variances)
(812) 349-3423

Police Non-Emergency
(812) 339-4477

Public Works Department
(Sanitation, road closing)
(812) 349-3410

Monroe County Offices
Airport
972 S. Kirby Road
(812) 825-5406

Building Department
501 N. Morton St.
(812) 349-2580

Clerk of Circuit Court
Justice Building
(812) 349-2614

Health Department
119 W. 7th St.
(812) 349-2543

Parks & Recreation
290 W. 7th St.
(812) 349-2800

Recycling/Solid Waste
Management
3400 S. Walnut St.
(812) 349-2020

Sheriff
301 N. College Ave.
(812) 349-2750

Voter Registration
401 W. 7th St.
(812) 349-2690

Other
BMV – License Branch
1612 S. Liberty Dr.
(812) 336-3018

Monroe County Library
303 E. Kirkwood Ave.
(812) 349-3050

Social Security
Administration
515 W. Patterson Dr.
(877) 819-2594

WorkOne Bloomington
(Workforce
development office)
450 S. Landmark Ave.
(812) 331-6000

Bloomington/Monroe County Helpful Websites

Visit Bloomington
www.visitbloomington.com

City of Bloomington
www.bloomington.in.gov

Chamber of Commerce
www.chamberbloomington.org

Bloomington Economic
Development Corporation
www.comparebloomington.us

Monroe County
http://www.co.monroe.in.us/tsd/