



Summer 2023

PROJECT UPDATES

Recycling 101

While it's just one aspect of what our office works on, we often get the most questions from the community on recycling. We are working toward the goal of implementing universal curbside recycling once the City's current solid waste contracts expire in 2026, but until then...

you can make sure your home, office, school, place of worship gym, etc is recycling correctly. Follow these guidelines (or print them out and place by the bin!) and [learn more at indy.gov/recycle](https://www.indy.gov/recycle).



COMMUNITY DROP OFF RECYCLING LOCATIONS
CLEAN | DRY | LOOSE | DON'T BAG IT

ALL COLORS OF GLASS
#1 & #2 PLASTIC
(NO STYROFOAM OR PLASTIC BAGS)
ALUMINUM, TIN & STEEL
BEVERAGE & FOOD CANS
NEWSPAPERS, CARDBOARD, & MAGAZINES
(CARDBOARD BOXES MUST BE FLATTENED)



Purdue Electric Vehicle Research

Researchers at Purdue University are looking for Hoosiers who own/lease an electric vehicle (or have in the past) to participate in a research study.

Specifically, they are interested in understanding public perceptions and expectations regarding EVs and willingness to pay for different charging options.

[Click here to take the survey.](#)

Thriving Buildings

Our team wrapped up the compliance period for Indy buildings 100,000 square feet and larger earlier this summer. This year, more than 900 buildings were engaged on energy data benchmarking, with the goal of becoming more efficient over time to cut emissions and costs.

Ten buildings that submitted data by the deadline will receive an energy audit from IUPUI's Industrial Assessment Center. We will be announcing the recipients soon!

In the meantime, [learn more about how your large building can benefit from efficiency.](#)



**THRIVING
BUILDINGS**



Knozone: Air Quality in Central Indiana

Knozone Action Days can be caused by unhealthy levels of **ground-level ozone** and/or **fine particulate**



matter (PM2.5).

While the ozone layer high in the atmosphere helps protect us from the sun's rays, ozone down where we breathe is dangerous for public health. Ground-level ozone is created when a chemical reaction occurs between sunlight and hydrocarbons from emission sources like gas-powered vehicles and lawn mowers.

PM2.5 refers to microscopic particles in the air, including smoke and dust, that we can inhale into our lungs and cause damage. On these days, consider wearing a certified N95 mask for outdoor protection.

*Read more about the Canadian wildfires [here](#).
Learn more about Central Indiana air at knozone.com.*

Highly EVolved

The electric vehicle era has arrived! Anyone in Central Indiana interested in purchasing an electric vehicle should head to behighlyevolved.com for Indy-specific EV info including:

- EV 101
- A map of public charging locations
- Makes, models, and prices available at local dealerships
- Owner & employer testimonials



Thrive Annual Report for 2022

On Earth Day this past spring we published the third annual report on Thrive, the City's plan to be carbon neutral by 2050.

Since there are eight different elements of sustainability within the plan and 59 individual action items, there's a lot of data to keep track of. Community members are always invited to [learn more at thriveindianapolis.com](http://learnmoreat.thriveindianapolis.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confront Climate Change: July 25

Exciting news for Hoosier households! New opportunities await to save money and combat climate change simultaneously. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) brings new savings on appliances, electric vehicles, solar panels with battery storage, and energy efficiency upgrades.

Join the Hoosier Environmental Council and partners for a virtual workshop to discover how to maximize these amazing opportunities.

[Register for free here.](#)

Save Money. Take Action. Confront Climate Change.
July 25th • 7p.m. ET • Zoom

CITIZENS ACTION COALITION
 SOLARIZE Indiana
 faith in place
 The Climate Reality Project
 turning on citizen power www.citact.org



City Cleanup: July 27 @ 9am

The Indianapolis Department of Business and Neighborhood Services and Keep Indianapolis Beautiful support neighbors battling litter and illegal dumping and leads a series of monthly cleanups throughout the city.

This cleanup is for the Near Eastside, meeting at 628 N. Tuxedo Street. The public is invited; closed-toed shoes, gloves, sunscreen, and water bottles are recommended.

Broad Ripple Farmers Market: August 5

In a continued effort to connect with you all and meet community members where they are at, we will be a community vendor at the Broad Ripple Farmers Market on Saturday, August 5. Supporting local vendors at farmers markets is a great way to decrease your carbon footprint and build environmentally-friendly habits.

Stop by to pick up a variety of sustainable items that replace single-use plastic in your life and, of course, a selection of information on local climate action initiatives. We'd love to connect and learn what's on your mind!



Indy VegFest 2023: August 6

Mark your calendars for Indy VegFest Presented by Eskenazi Health on Sunday, August 6 at Gainbridge Fieldhouse! No matter what your diet is like, eating less meat is one of the best ways to decrease your individual carbon footprint as far less energy is required to grow fruits and vegetables versus animals.

This event is for everyone: vegans, vegetarians, foodies, those looking to support local businesses, and everyone in between.

General admission is free from 2-6pm; individual vendors accept cash, card, and/or mobile payment.



2023 Indiana Health Equity Summit

Many cities throughout the United States have declared racism as a public health crisis, and this year's summit will focus on "what's next" in tangibly addressing systemic racism.

The Summit discusses how address health equity benefits all community members, demonstrates examples of healthy equity in action from around the state, and highlighted opportunities for cross-sector collaboration to advance equity.



Climate Leadership Summit: Sept 8

Earth Charter Indiana's annual, statewide conference is specially designed for mayors, city, town and county leaders, and community partners to discuss how to prepare for the changing climate. It focuses on mitigation and adaptation through green jobs, renewable energy, public health, sustainable food, water conservation, communication, youth engagement, and other important topics.

We will be there at Indiana University Northwest to share and learn with other Hoosier communities!

IN THE NEWS

WRTV

July 17, 2023

IndyStar (Op/Ed)

July 10, 2023

"Wildfires in Canada expected to affect air quality until October"

"We gave White River watershed a C in our report card. Here's how we can do better."

Read the Story

Read the Story

IndyStar (Scrub Hub)

July 10, 2023

"Illegal dumping is a problem in Indianapolis. Here's how you can help."

WFYI

July 6, 2023 | Jill Sheridan

"Indianapolis Mayor unveils plans to improve streets, safety and update the road funding formula"

Read the Story

Read the Story

IndyStar

June 7, 2023

"Indy to make Monument Circle, Georgia Street more pedestrian friendly"

WFYI

April 20, 2023 | Jill Sheridan

"Indianapolis plans recycling future"

Read the Story

Read the Story

BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION

SCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY GRANT

Apply for up to \$5,000

- energy conservation
- waste reduction
- climate curriculum
- school gardens
- litter clean up
- habitat restoration




www.indianathrivingschools.org

K-12 \$5K Sustainability Grants

Earth Charter Indiana is once again accepting applications for the Indiana Thriving Schools Challenge! This is a great opportunity to develop or maintain all sorts of sustainability projects in your school.

BONUS: Teachers and educators who champion the grant project will receive a \$1,000 stipend for their work. [The submission deadline for this round is August 4.](#)

60-MINUTES

UNPAVED TRAIL WITH STAIRS



- 1 Moment to Arrive Meditation
- 2 Hard Eye, Soft Eye
- 3 Body Breathing
- 4 Observation Meditation
- 5 Addressing Climate Anxiety
- 6 7 8 9 Sensory Walk
- 10 Gratitude Meditation

Butler University Eco-Therapy Trails

Ecotherapy is a mental health practice that involves engagement with the natural environment to work through mental health challenges; it's an accessible practice for mental health protection & overall wellness.

It can be as easy as stepping outside and breathing, or take advantage of two new Ecotherapy Trails on Butler's campus! [Learn more here.](#)



ProPEL Indy: Future of our Interstates

ProPEL Indy is a unique opportunity for Indy residents to envision the future of our transportation network. This study will inform the next 20 years of investment in our interstates, as we identify ways to enhance the region's overall mobility, equity, economic opportunity, and quality of life.



Indy's Summer Farmers Markets

The markets are in full swing! Click on each individual Marion County farmers market for more information on it:

[Original Farmers' Market](#)
[Broad Ripple Farmers Market](#)

Hoosiers across the region are sharing their thoughts, concerns, and creative ideas to modernize our transportation network. Once complete, ProPEL Indy will result in an actionable plan to improve our interstates.

[Consider providing comments to INDOT in their survey here.](#)

- [Garfield Park Farmers Market](#)
- [Indy Summer Farmers Market](#)
- [Fort Ben Farmers Market](#)
- [Statehouse Market](#)
- [Pike Farmers Market](#)
- [North Church Farmers Market](#)
- [Near North Farmers Market](#)
- [Cumberland Farmers Market](#)
- [The Market at White River State Park](#)
- [Irvington Farmers Market](#)
- [SoBro Farmers Market](#)
- [Binford Farmers Market](#)
- [Southport Farmers Market](#)

SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS OF INDIANA

INDIANA SOLAR 101

INDIANAPOLIS SOLAR CO-OP ZOOM WEBINARS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29 @ 6:30PM
 WEDNESDAY, JULY 26 @ 6:30PM
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 @ 6:30PM
 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 @ 6:30PM

GO SOLAR
 with the Indianapolis Solar Co-op
 SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS.org

Go Solar!

If you're interested in installing solar panel and/or an electric vehicle charger on your property but have no idea where to begin, then the Solar United Neighbors Indianapolis Co-op is for you!

Attend free in-person and/or virtual webinars this summer to get your questions answered and learn how SUN solicits and reviews proposals from solar companies and leverages bulk purchasing power to get great deals. The co-op is free to join and there is no obligation to purchase solar.

[Learn more here.](#)

AES Indiana Project Greenspace

Interested in more green near you?

Here's what you can do.

www.kibi.org/greenspace

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

Greenspaces are more important than ever as open and safe places for people to get outside and connect with nature. They also have the ability to be pollinator habitats and cool spaces affected by the urban heat island effect.

Prepare to apply for an AES Indiana Project GreenSpace in your neighborhood next year by [learning more about the qualifications here](#). Selected applicants work with KIB alongside landscape architects to create a design that captures the sense of spirit and pride of their local neighborhood. The property must be publicly accessible.

FALL 2023

MAYOR'S OFFICE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

DEADLINE EXTENDED

APPLY BEFORE JULY 24, 2023

INDIANAPOLIS

Peace, Love, and Local Gov

Mayor Hogsett's Internship Program is accepting applications for the fall 2023 program through July 24; [learn more here.](#)

We encourage any college students interested in working with our office to apply to this paid, part-time opportunity and use your cover letter and interview to express your interest in working on initiatives connected to sustainability, climate action, and/or environmental justice.

Report Card Indicators

LAND WATER COMMUNITY

WHITE RIVER REPORT CARD

WHITE RIVER REPORT CARD

The White River's Report Card

The White River Alliance, along with many partners, released the first-ever Report Card for the White River watershed this summer. This assessment tool helps us understand how the river, and its relationship with the communities along it, is doing.

The Report Card synthesizes information into simple scores; overall, the White River watershed received a C. [Learn more about how we can raise the grade here.](#)



Sustain.Indy.Gov

Thrive

Knozone

Highly EVolved

Have something you'd like included in our newsletter? Drop us a line at SustainIndy@Indy.Gov.