



City of Bloomington

Environmental Commission

The mission of the Environmental Commission is to promote the stewardship and preservation of the city's environment and natural resources by seeking out and responding to emerging issues, addressing them with sound long-term policy recommendations, and increasing local environmental awareness and engagement.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION NOTICE and REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

October 16 2025, 6:00 PM
Hooker Meeting Room #245
City Hall, 401 N Morton Street Bloomington, IN 47404
Hybrid Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting here:

[https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/8657231124?
pwd=mPqboSiD0AhVwKSgkuW2aO7NHixihO.1&omn=81563021562](https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/8657231124?pwd=mPqboSiD0AhVwKSgkuW2aO7NHixihO.1&omn=81563021562)

Meeting ID: 865 723 1124

Passcode: COBPT

or on Community Access Television Service (CATS): <https://catstv.net/government.php>.

Auxiliary aids are available upon request with adequate notice.

Environmental Commission Members

Carrie Albright, Chair

Appointed by Mayor

Term: February 1, 2024 to January 31, 2026

Heidi Brown

Appointed by Mayor

Term: February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2027

Nadia Cain

Appointed by Common Council

Term: February 1, 2024 to January 31, 2026

Matt Caldie, Vice Chair & Treasurer

Appointed by Mayor

Term: February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2027

Kasie Chappell

Appointed by Common Council

Term: February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2027

Norman Crampton

Appointed by Mayor

Term: February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2027

Adam Fudickar

Appointed by Common Council

Term: February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2027

Shannon Gayk

Appointed by Common Council

Term: February 1, 2024 to January 31, 2026

Adam Martinez, Secretary

Appointed by Common Council

Term: February 1, 2025 to January 31, 2027

Mitchell Owens

Appointed by Common Council

Term: February 1, 2024 to January 31, 2026

David Parkhurst

Appointed by Mayor

Term: February 1, 2024 to January 31, 2026

Vacancies: 1

1. Call to order and quorum confirmation: 6:02 PM

2. Introductions and Roll Call

	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Zoom</u>
Carrie Albright	X		
Heidi Brown	X		
Nadia Cain		X	
Matt Caldie	X		
Kasie Chappell		X	
Norman Crampton		X	
Adam Fudickar	X		
Shannon Gayk	X		
Adam Martinez	X		
Mitchell Owens		X	
David Parkhurst	X		
City Liaison, Rachael Johnson	X		

3. Approval of September 18 2025 minutes*

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Carrie Albright	X		
Heidi Brown			X
Nadia Cain			
Matt Caldie	X		
Kasie Chappell			
Norman Crampton			
Adam Fudickar	X		
Shannon Gayk	X		
Adam Martinez	X		
Mitchell Owens			
David Parkhurst			X

4. Public comment

Limit 5 minutes per person, 20 minutes total

Alex Jorck is a member of the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability. They are working on a SPEA capstone project. It involves a municipal electric utility running alongside private utilities as a way to provide 100% clean energy.

The capstone project is to conduct a feasibility study on this type of program in Bloomington. The EC could look at research questions, engage throughout the project, and potentially a recommendation from the EC at the end.

It is expected to happen from January – May 2026, the spring semester at IU.

Alex will send the submitted proposal for the EC to view.

5. New Business

a. Annual Planning Meeting (Carrie)

We expect this to happen at our November meeting. Commissioners are encouraged to bring food for the group. We will review goals from last year and decide what to proceed with in 2026.

b. Handbook Revision* – Quorums for Working Groups and Full Commission (Carrie)

The low quorum limit is causing trouble for larger working groups. The goal is to change the quorum definition to allow larger working group meetings to occur without them becoming a full EC meeting. The group agreed to remove the “minimum of five (5)” from the determination of quorum.

The commissioners decided to not change language around requiring working group membership / participation.

6. Old Business

a. Working group updates

i. Water Quality

The working group spoke with utilities about upcoming changes. Many were about formalizing rules and regulations.

A new state law prevents local governments from regulating erosion controls on sites under one acre.

Driveway culverts are now officially required to be maintained by property owners.

The new design manual is in effect.

Street sweeping routes are being updated.

An IDEM grant is available to handle non-point source water pollution. It could involve Clear Creek or the Cascades Park area.

ii. ECPC

1. Letter to October 23 2025 BZA

The group met twice. The St Remy dam wetland and a future housing development were discussed in the first meeting. In the second meeting the group wrote a letter to bring to the Board of Zoning Appeals. The project is being pushed back to the November meeting.

The shorter alternate route was initially considered but negotiations failed. The HOA does not control the entirety of the pond's edge.

The EC agreed to have ECPC letters attributed to the ECPC specifically rather than the EC as whole.

iii. Light Pollution

The concerning UDO line mentioned in the September meeting was addressed by planning. Lights on private property are indeed regulated, even across a public right of way.

iv. Biodiversity

Bloomington is officially a dues-paying Bee City member. Shannon recommended some sort of public announcement. Carrie may attend a neighborhood association event to spread information about the habitat connectivity map.

Shannon recommended collaborating with neighborhood associations to encourage the use of HAND grants to create rainwater gardens.

Carrie is interested in exploring reaching out to those who add to the Habitat Connectivity Map, perhaps with a newsletter. Existing city newsletters may be an option.

Adam F. recommended making the EC's native plant recommendations more easily accessible from the map.

v. Special Projects

Carrie is looking into updating designs for EC materials.

vi. Eco-Heroes

1. Theme discussion

Adam M.: Kill Your Lawn, or predators

Matt: Native plants and wildlife

Carrie: Something light related (sun, light pollution), birds, "Nature rocks" (geology focused)

Shannon: something around catalogs or archives of living organisms, rewilding

Heidi: What happens at night?

"Nature at Night" (or similar) – seems to be the winner.

7. Staff Update

a. IDEM Notices

Council member Piedmont-Smith asked if the EC gets IDEM public notices. Rachael receives them via Office of the Mayor. Should they be added to the packet? The EC seems interested only in items likely to be of significant importance to Bloomington.

b. Scheduling – December 2025 meeting date

The current scheduled date, Dec 18th, is still planned.

8. Reports from:

a. Tree Commission (TC)

No update.

b. Environmental Resource Advisory Council (ERAC)

Vegetation management has occurred at several city parks. Callery pear reduction is on track. No spotted lanternflies spotted in Monroe. Griffy parking lot will be paved. The powerline trail is to be installed.

- c. Friends of Lake Monroe (FOLM)
Science committee will attend a state-wide meeting.
- d. Bloomington Commission on Sustainability (BCOS)
Approved the capstone project mentioned above by Alex.
Advanced a resolution to add “resilience” to their name, to be voted on next month.
- e. Monroe County – Identify and Reduce Invasive Species (MC-IRIS)
Focusing on specific species next year. Annual meeting is October 17th.
- f. Clean Community Program
No update.

9. Commissioner announcements

There is an upcoming event for all commissioners city-wide on Nov 21st.

Upcoming exhibitions mentioned by Shannon. She also mentioned a conservation author will be at Buskirk-Chumley in November.

Norm is looking into tabling at the farmer’s market in the spring.

10. Upcoming Meeting

- a. November 20, 2025, 6:00 pm, Hooker Room, Zoom, and CATS

11. Adjournment

7:55 PM

** Item to be voted on*

The views expressed here are solely those of the Environmental Commission as approved in their public meetings, and do not necessarily reflect the views, policies, or positions of the City of Bloomington. Only the Office of the Mayor has the authority to issue policy statements on behalf of the Executive Branch of the City of Bloomington.

The City is committed to providing equal access to information. However, despite our efforts, at times, portions of our board and commission packets are not accessible for some individuals. If you encounter difficulties accessing material in this packet, please contact Melissa Hirtzel at hirtzelm@bloomington.in.gov and provide your name, contact information, and a link to or description of the document or web page you are having problems with.

As a quorum of the Commission or its committees may be present, this gathering constitutes a meeting under the Indiana Open Door Law (I.C. § 5-14-1.5). For that reason, this statement

provides notice that this meeting will occur and is open for the public to attend, observe, and record what transpires.

The City offers virtual options, including CATS public access television (live and tape delayed) found at <https://catstv.net/>. Working group meetings may be found at <https://bton.in/ECWGreco>.