

The HAND Update

A newsletter for Bloomington neighborhood residents



Phone: 812-349-3420

Website: bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods

 [City of Bloomington, IN-Neighborhood Services](#)

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

- Apply for a [HAND neighborhood grant](#)
- [Neighborhood Services 2021 Calendar](#)
- Sign up to receive [The HAND Update](#)
- Sign up to [Adopt-A-Drain](#)

Keep up with your local law makers:
[City Council](#)

Report an issue to the City:
[uReport](#)

Find civic information specific to your address:
[myBloomington](#)

Explore the City's open databases:
[B-Clear Open Data](#)

Volunteer your time and talent:
[Bloomington Volunteer Network](#)

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Please direct questions or concerns to:
Angela Van Rooy
Neighborhood Services Program Manager
Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND)
City of Bloomington, Indiana
angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov

MC-IRIS Reduce One Invasive Species Challenge 2021: Purple wintercreeper

Monroe County Identify and Reduce Invasive Species MC-IRIS) has a challenge to encourage all county residents to focus on removing this one easy-to-identify-and-remove plant in 2021: Purple wintercreeper (*Euonymus fortunei*). Visit MC-IRIS.org to learn more about this invasive species. Document before and after removal with photos and video to share on Facebook and be part of the challenge in 2021. Details to come soon! <http://mc-iris.org/reduce-one-invasive-species-challenge.html>



Bloomington residents who wish to make a neighborhood project of removing invasive plants, including purple wintercreeper, may apply for a HAND Small & Simple Grant to Control Invasive Plant Species. Your neighborhood could get up to \$500 to support your efforts! [Click here](#) for details.

First Neighborhood Improvement Grant informational meeting is tomorrow

Is your neighborhood applying for a Neighborhood Improvement Grant? Mandatory informational meetings will be held on Tuesday, January 26th at 6:00 p.m. and Monday, February 1st at 7:00 p.m. Please send an email to angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov to register for **one** meeting. A Zoom link will be emailed to you.

Applications and guidelines for all grants are available on the [neighborhood grants website](#).



New City Sanitation online tool now available



Answering your City sanitation questions just got easier! You can now use an online tool to:

- View and print trash, recycling, or yard waste collection calendars for your address.
- Schedule a large item pickup (appliances, bulky items, mattresses, furniture, etc.).
- Schedule an extra weekly pickup.
- Determine whether an item should be disposed of in the recycling cart or trash cart.
- Request additional assistance

Visit <https://api.recollect.net/r/area/bloomingtonin>.

New Traffic Calming Program is now open for Resident-Led Projects

The City of Bloomington Planning and Transportation Department is seeking requests for resident-led traffic calming projects. Residents who are interested in working with the City to manage motor vehicle traffic on residential streets should submit a Letter of Intent on or before Sunday, February 21, 2021. A list of requirements can be found [here](#).

The Resident-Led Traffic Calming process is a new mechanism of the City's Traffic Calming and Greenways Program launched in November of 2020. Traffic Calming questions and related concerns can be directed to Mallory Rickbeil, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, via email at rickbeilm@bloomington.in.gov.



Recommendations for City leaf collection in 2021

The City of Bloomington Innovation Team invites you to learn about the results of a pilot project on leaf management, conducted last fall by a small group of City resident households ([click here](#) for history of the project). Join the Zoom meeting on **Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.**

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/98543097835?pwd=eE80OVZ3SjVZamxuRnExZHlacWdwZz09>

Meeting ID: 985 4309 7835

Passcode: 368495

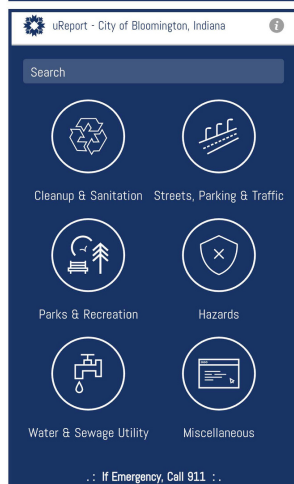
Report and issue to the City

Fundraising for Neighborhood Associations Workshop - in case you missed it

If you missed the workshop, no worries! You can find the slide presentation and meeting recording [here](#).

Topics include: incorporation, non-profit status, Economic Improvement Districts (EID), and Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits.

uReport and you!



What is uReport?

uReport is a mobile-friendly issue reporting application for City of Bloomington residents. If you have a non-emergency concern, use this app to report it to the city for appropriate follow-up by city staff. uReport includes an interactive map and photo upload functionality.

What can I report?

- Non-emergency community issues
- Categories include trash, parking and traffic, trails, utilities, and more

What happens after I submit an issue?

- Your issue is forwarded to the appropriate department and staff for action and resolution.
- You can check back on your reports if you wish to keep track by going to bloomington.in.gov/crm

Can I remain anonymous?

Yes, however, you will not be notified when the issue is resolved.

bloomington.in.gov/ureport

Library News: Become a local history sleuth



Local history is significant only when it is accessible. Sadly, there are gaps in primary records covering the most dramatic moments in our county's first 60 years. Some of our documents and newspapers were lost in a fire, and some of our most compelling residents didn't know how to read or write.

Monroe County Field Notes is a virtual dig to uncover stories about 19th-century landmarks and people, 1816–1876. You can choose your own address and learn more about the people who used to live on your property or suggest another location you'd like to research. With Field Notes, we'll make it easy for you to showcase local history, piecing together stories and facts--and maybe even solving the mystery of Monroe County's connections in the Underground Railroad.

It's fun and free to get involved and your research will help us diversify our community's history! Email indianaroom@mcpl.info to join in. This is a partnership between Monroe County Public Library and Monroe County History Center. Visit fieldnotes.mcpl.info to learn more.

HAND bids farewell to our fearless leader, Doris Sims

After 38 years of service, working to improve the lives of Bloomingtonians, Doris, a true public servant, is ready for a well-deserved retirement. While we will miss her leadership, her genuine warmth, and her infectious laugh, we wish her all the very best as she embarks on her next adventure.



*Congratulations
on your retirement
Doris!*

Recycling Strategies for Businesses

Recycling, the Basic Strategy of Waste Reduction



To
register
Email
sustain@bloomington.in.gov

JAN 27, 12-1 pm

Cultivating Business with Green Strategies: Reimagining, Reframing, and Redefining Business while cultivating capital, a healthy environment, and the goodwill of employees and customers.

In this VIRTUAL PROGRAM, hear from Elisa Pokral about the District's Green Business program, and Molly Yeager about Rumpke's Monroe County Resource Recovery Facility sponsored by: the District and



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BLOOMINGTON**
ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT