

# The HAND Update

A newsletter for Bloomington residents



PHONE: 812-349-3505

WEBSITE: [bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods](http://bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods)

CALENDAR: [2022 HAND Neighborhood Services](#)

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

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**City offices will be closed December 24th**

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

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[B-Clear Open Data](#)

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[Helping Bloomington Monroe](#)

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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](mailto:angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov)

## SAVE THE DATES: Neighborhood Improvement grants informational meetings

Considering a neighborhood project? Thinking of applying for a grant from HAND? If so, please mark your calendar to attend one of these meetings to learn more about the [HAND Neighborhood Improvement \(NI\) grant program](#). *A representative from each neighborhood intending to apply for an NI grant MUST attend one of these meetings.*

These two virtual meetings will cover the same information, so you need only attend one. We will discuss the application process, review the timeline and expectations, and address any questions.

- **Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**, virtual
- **Monday, January 31, 2022, 7:00 p.m.**, virtual

For more information, and to request the Zoom link to a virtual meeting, please contact Angela Van Rooy, Neighborhood Services Program Manager, at [angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov) or 812-349-3505.



## 2022 HAND Neighborhood Services calendar available

Don't miss a single grant deadline, program, or meeting. Check out the [2022 HAND Neighborhood Services calendar](#)

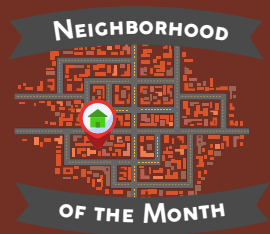
## Nominations sought for a new feature in the HAND Update: "Neighborhood of the Month"

Help HAND celebrate Bloomington's neighborhoods all year long!

Nominate your neighborhood to be featured in the HAND Update by sending details, photos, your logo (if you have one), etc. to [angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov).

Full details about the program, including a list of the types of information you may want to share can be found here:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods/associations>



## Register for updates about the former hospital site

The new IU Health Bloomington Hospital, located at 2651 East Discovery Pkwy, is now open. The former hospital building on East 2nd Street is permanently closed.

The demolition phase of the project is set to begin in spring of 2022. IU Health and their contractors will of course be obligated to adhere to all local, state and federal regulations regarding noise, erosion and contaminant removal and containment as they work to prepare the site to be sold to the City of Bloomington for redevelopment.

IU Health and their contractors have agreed to minimize disruptions for nearby residents, pedestrians, and vehicles throughout the decommissioning and demolition process. Occasional, short term sidewalk closures are likely to occur. Your patience during this once-in-a-lifetime-event is greatly appreciated, and the City shall remain vigilant to ensure ordinances and codes are respected during this work.

The City will commence redevelopment activity in the area east of the main hospital (east of Rogers Street, west of Morton Street, south of 2nd Street, and north of 1st Street) site as soon as possible after IU Health transfers its properties: this may be as early as spring 2022. At the time of turnover, the City of Bloomington will take ownership of the full former hospital site and move forward with that final phase of the redevelopment efforts. For more information about the City's plans for redevelopment go to [bloomington.in.gov/hospital](https://bloomington.in.gov/hospital).

If you wish to receive periodic updates about the project, please register with your email address at <https://bton.in/5bot2>.



## CBU Residential Stormwater Grant informational meeting tomorrow



The City of Bloomington Utilities Department (CBU) invites homeowners to apply for funding through the fourth annual Residential Stormwater Grants Program. A total of \$100,000 has been dedicated in CBU's 2022 budget to this program assisting owners of single-family residential property with environmentally-friendly drainage projects such as rain gardens, bioswales, and detention pond maintenance.

CBU will host a public information meeting about the grant application process and project requirements tomorrow, Tuesday, December 14, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Banneker Community Center, 930 W. 7th Street.

If you are unable to attend, the meeting will be recorded and available for viewing on the CBU grants webpage at [www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater/grants](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater/grants).

The application deadline is Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. The application may be submitted online at [bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater/grants](http://bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater/grants).

## Nominations sought for 2022 Bloomington Human Rights Award

The [Bloomington Human Rights Commission \(BHRC\)](#) is seeking nominations for its 2022 Human Rights Award, recognizing an individual or group that has made specific, significant contributions to improving civil rights, human relations, or civility in our community. More information about the work of the BHRC as well as nomination forms for the 2022 Human Rights Award are available at [bloomington.in.gov/boards/human-rights](https://bloomington.in.gov/boards/human-rights). The deadline for nominations is Friday, February 11, 2022 at 5 p.m.

The recipient(s) of the BHRC's Human Rights Award will be honored at a public ceremony.

## CONA Corner: News from the Council of Neighborhood Associations



The Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA) represents over sixty neighborhood associations in Monroe County, with a dozen or more actively participating. CONA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and its Treasurer manages associations' funds. Associations who pay our \$25 annual dues may also use CONA's Zoom account.

An annual Sturbaum-Schaich Education Series speaker attracts 50 or more people. Regular meetings are on second Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., where brief business meetings share time with programs, speakers, or discussion sessions. For 2022, meetings (hybrid with Zoom and in-person) will occur in Suite 216, a generously-sized room reached through the CFC lobby on the Showers Building's west side, courtesy of Bloomington Board of Realtors. Free parking and an elevator are available.

Ideas for program topics and speakers are always welcome; send ideas to [granbois@indiana.edu](mailto:granbois@indiana.edu) or [nancyschin47@gmail.com](mailto:nancyschin47@gmail.com). City departments are eager to offer programs, and speakers welcome feedback and questions. Meetings offer useful ideas and problem solutions as people from different neighborhoods interact.

To help keep its contact list up-to-date, CONA urges neighborhood association officers to send updates to Angela Van Rooy at HAND ([angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:angela.vanrooy@bloomington.in.gov)) who helps us maintain our list.

Currently CONA has two board positions open. Those interested should contact [stevenlayman51@gmail.com](mailto:stevenlayman51@gmail.com)

## Arden Place neighbors work together to improve their environment

With the help of a [HAND Small and Simple Grant to Control Invasive Plant Species \(SSCIPS\)](#), this fall 18 Arden Place neighborhood households disposed of 45 yard waste bags of purple wintercreeper, 38 bags of stilt grass, and five Asian bush honeysuckle shrubs. Grant funds were also used to purchase native plants from the Monroe County Identify and Reduce Invasive Species (MC-IRIS) inaugural native plant sale in September. Neighbors were thus able to plant native plants in areas where invasives had been removed.

Here is what a couple of the participants had to say:

- *"Building neighborhood community is as much a worthwhile objective as eliminating invasives. Neighbor helping neighbor."* Ann Edmonds
- *"Removing invasives felt overwhelming, but I appreciated this project to help me get motivated to replace them with native plants that will nourish my yard."* Angi Sullivan.



CONGRATULATIONS Arden Place neighbors!

## Looking to buy your first home? Register now for HAND Home Buyers Club



Join the HAND Home Buyers Club and explore the possibility of affordable home ownership. Registration is now open for the next Home Buyers Club session, to be held on two consecutive Saturdays, January 22nd, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and January 29th, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Meetings will be virtual. Visit [bloomington.in.gov/housing/home-buyers-club](http://bloomington.in.gov/housing/home-buyers-club) for more information. Questions? Contact Cody Toothman at [cody.toothman@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:cody.toothman@bloomington.in.gov) or 812-349-3401.

