

THE INDIANOLA SOURCE

Your **essential** handbook for living in Indianola

FAQs

EVENTS

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PARKS &
RECREATION

AND MORE!

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WELCOME

A comprehensive resource for you!

Welcome to The Indianola Source, a unique annual guide for the residents of Indianola, provided by the publishers of your local Indianola Living magazine and the local businesses that advertise their goods and services in these pages.

In this handy publication, you will find answers to the many questions you may have as a resident in the community. The Indianola Source is a comprehensive resource for those who wish to know who their city council or school board representative is, what places of worship are in town, who to call for information about utilities, or what amenities local parks feature.

We even included details on the library and recycling, and a “numbers to know” list should you need to reach out.

If you like this guide, be sure to thank the local advertisers and tell them how much you appreciate the information and their support. If you would like additional copies or have corrections or additions, please contact our publisher, Shane Goodman, at 515-953-4822 ext. 305 or email shane@dmcityview.com.

Of course, things can change a lot in a year's time, so be sure to contact the individual entities listed for updates. ■



Photo by Kamie Haynes

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COMMON QUESTIONS

HOW DO I REPORT A UTILITY SERVICE OUTAGE?

- **Electric and water:** During business hours, call 515-961-9444, select option 2. After 4:30 p.m., call the Indianola Police Department at 515-961-9400.
- **Communications:** During business hours, call 515-961-9444, select option 1. After 5 p.m., call 515-961-9444 and follow the voice prompts to leave a message for the on-call technician. If it is before 9 p.m., you can also email support@imufiber.com. If there is a technician currently online, a technical support chat button will be available at www.indianola.com/fiber in the lower right corner.

DOES INDIANOLA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES PROVIDE ANY PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY?

Yes. Rebates are offered on many energy-efficient upgrades. Contact IMU at 515-

961-9444 for program requirements prior to installation. Some examples of projects include:

- **Central Air Conditioners:** To qualify for a rebate, customers must work with their contractor to choose a central air conditioner that is adequate for the size of their home and has a Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating (SEER) of 15 or higher.
- **Lighting:** LED lights and fixtures are eligible for rebates.
- **Appliances:** Rebates are available when some Energy Star appliances are purchased, such as washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers and room air conditioners.
- **Others:** A variety of other rebates are offered, including for recycling appliances, central air source heat pumps, mini-split heat pumps, thermostats and maintenance on central air conditioning and heat pumps.

Learn more about all available rebates at www.indianola.com/electric/imu-rebate.

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515-390-8924



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Emily Keller-Lampman
515-691-0102



Dena Konrad
515-297-0256



Nancy Laorton
515-710-0445



Tanner Loyd
515-770-4402



Tricia Martin
515-961-7416



Barb McMurtry
515-491-6675



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641-777-8805



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515-681-2123



Gina Thompson
641-344-3631



Kyle Vrchota
515-250-0647



Stacy Wood
515-661-1118



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DOES INDIANOLA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES PROVIDE ANY ASSISTANCE?

Project Share is a voluntary program created to assist needy households in paying their winter energy bills. You can help by adding a regular Project Share (PS) contribution to your monthly utility payment or by making a direct donation to Project Share. These funds will then be distributed to neighbors in need of help paying for winter energy costs. Those qualifying for help will be carefully identified by an area social service agency. A local committee will oversee Project Share to guarantee all contributions will be handled equitably and efficiently. To enroll in the Project Share program, stop in at the customer service center, 210 W. Second Ave., or call customer service at 515-961-9444.

WHERE CAN YARD WASTE BE DROPPED OFF?

The city has a brush facility available to Indianola City residents only (ID required) at 1800 W. Iowa Ave. The facility is open early April through mid November, Thursdays from noon to 7 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sundays noon to 4 p.m. It is closed on holidays.

Fees for leaves and grass are \$2 per bag/bundle. Cost for trees/shrubs are \$5 per bag/bundle. Cost is \$20 for a pickup load and \$25 for a trailer load up to 15 feet. No dump trailers allowed.

Wood mulch is available at the Indianola Brush Facility during normal hours of operation free of charge. Individuals wanting mulch will need to provide their own containers, and assistance is not provided except on the second Saturday of April, May and June, as supplies last.

A free yard waste disposal event is held twice a year. Fall of 2024, it is Nov. 2-24.



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COMMON QUESTIONS

ARE DOGS ALLOWED IN PARKS?

Dogs are allowed in Indianola city parks as long as they are leashed at all times and owners clean up any messes. This includes the softball complex at Pickard Park. Indianola's off-leash dog park is available for residents and non-residents. An annual membership costs \$25 per dog.

HOW CAN I GET CITY ALERTS?

Any alerts in effect for the city of Indianola can be found online in the Alert Center at www.indianolaiowa.gov/list.aspx. Alert Center allows you to view all alerts and emergencies in your area. To be notified of alerts and emergencies, subscribe to Notify Me® or RSS. The links are included on the Alert Center page.

IS ALCOHOL ALLOWED IN CITY PARKS?

The city allows limited use of alcohol in parks. Special permits are issued from the Parks and Recreation department, subject to a damage deposit. Call 515-961-9420 for more specific information.

HOW DO I GET MY UTILITIES HOOKED UP?

Residents living within the city limits (and limited areas outside the city limits) have the following services through Indianola Municipal Utilities and city of Indianola: electric, water, and fiber (internet, television and telephone).

Applications for electric and water service can be downloaded at www.indianola.com/signup, completed and submitted to utilityservices@indianolaiowa.gov, mailed to the Customer Service Center, or placed in the drop box located at 210 W. Second Ave.

For Fiber Service, call 515-961-9444 and choose option 1 to be connected with a member of the IMU Fiber team.

HOW DO I GET OR RENEW A DRIVERS LICENSE?

The Warren County Treasurer's Office, 301 N. Buxton St., Suite 102, issues and renews drivers licenses. It is open by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, visit <https://wb-warrencountyia.qmatic.cloud/qmaticwebbooking/#>. The Drivers License Division can be reached by email at dl@warrencountyia.org and 515-961-1144.

WHERE DO I GET A LICENSE PLATE?

The County Treasurer, 301 N. Buxton St., Suite 102, processes motor vehicle transactions and collects appropriate fees. Services include: title transfers and collection of Road Use Tax, collection of registration fees (license plate/validation fees) and refunds as required, collection of annual license fees due for all types of vehicles, issuance of specialty plates, notation and cancellation of security interests (liens) and issuance of Storage of Vehicles and Junking certificates. The office is open by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, visit <https://wb-warrencountyia.qmatic.cloud/qmaticwebbooking/#>. For information, email at mv@warrencountyia.org or call 515-690-9240.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Call 811 at least 48 hours prior to all excavation. Requests can also be submitted online at www.iowaonecall.com. Iowa One Call is a free service.

HOW CAN I ACCESS THE CITY CODE?

Both the City Code and City Policies are available online at www.indianolaiowa.gov/151/City-Code-and-Policies. ■

CITY OF INDIANOLA



The City Council meets the first and third Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. at the council chambers at City Hall, 110 N. First St. Study sessions are at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 7 p.m. Meetings are open to the public. To have an item placed on the agenda, contact City Hall at 515-961-9410. Agendas and minutes of meetings can be found at www.indianolaiowa.gov/160/City-Council.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Stephanie Erickson
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serrickson@indianolaiowa.gov

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515-961-9410

Michele Patrick
Library Director
mpatrick@indianolaiowa.gov
515-961-9418

LIBRARY

• **Adventure Pass:** Check out a free pass to the Blank Park Zoo, the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, the DSM Children's Museum and the Science Center of Iowa. Each pass includes admission for two adults and two children. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis and may be reserved up to 90 days in advance by cardholders 18 and older. Check with the library for more details.

• **Interlibrary loan:** If the library doesn't have a book you want, staff can request it from another library.

• **Printing,** scanning and faxing: These services are offered during regular business hours.

• **Homebound delivery program:** The library provides free book selection and delivery to homebound patrons.

• **Reserve a meeting room:** Reserve for civic, cultural or educational meetings for community groups.

• **Seed Library:** The Seed Library is located in a card catalog cabinet near the newspapers. The drawers are sorted into "Fruit & Veg," "Herbs" and "Florals" and filled with donated seeds. Any member of the community can borrow seeds from the Seed Library without a card or membership required. Taking seeds from the seed library only promises that, if you can, you will donate some of the seeds you save. The Seed Library is sponsored by the Warren County Master Gardeners.



INDIANOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY

207 N. B St. • 515-961-9418

www.indianolaiowa.gov/832/Library

Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

SUPPORT THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Indianola Public Library Foundation supports the goals of the library. In doing so, they are the sole supporter of the summer reading program, have and continue to provide support for remodeling projects, and fund events such as Breakfast with Dr. Seuss. For more information and to join, visit <https://indianola-public-library-friends-of-the-library-foundation.square.site>. ■



BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A complete lists and current vacancies can be found on the website, www.indianolaiowa.gov.

DOWNTOWN SQUARE COMMISSION

The Downtown Square Commission consists of property owners, business owners and residents in the Downtown Square area. This Commission is responsible for recommending sidewalk and street use permits, street closure permits and reviewing façade grant applications. Commission members are appointed by the city council. Meetings are at 9 a.m. on the third Tuesday of the month in the city council chambers.

INDIANOLA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

The mission of the Indianola Public Arts Commission is to encourage the cooperation and coordination of art projects that will enhance the cultural level of the arts in the community. Meetings are the fourth Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The commission administers the civil service procedure. The board meets as needed.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

HOMETOWN PRIDE COMMITTEE

The mission of this committee is to bring neighbors together to build a sense of community, create and improve public amenities, and celebrate what makes Indianola great. The group meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the IWC Community Room, 306 E. Scenic Valley Ave.

MAYOR'S YOUTH COUNCIL

The Indianola Mayor's Youth Council provides Indianola's youth with an active role in learning about and addressing issues in the community. Indianola High School students are chosen to serve on the council and have the unique opportunity to learn how government works, represent the youth in the community, and become actively involved with community projects and activities.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks & Recreation Commission advises the City Council on the needed facilities to provide open spaces, such as parks and playgrounds, and community facilities for other forms of recreation. It oversees city programs and encourages other programs for the leisure time of residents of all ages. Meetings are at 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at the Activity Center.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL BUILDING COMMISSION

The Veteran's Memorial Building Commission consists of honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen or Coast Guard members who manage and control the Veteran's Memorial Aquatic Center and establish rules and regulations for management. The group meets quarterly at 5:30 p.m. at the Activity Center.

THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Library Board of Trustees supervises the library. The board consists of seven members serving six-year terms. The board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the library's community room.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

The Sustainability Commission meets the first Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the city council chambers.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

The Planning and Zoning Commission is responsible for making decisions and recommendations regarding the development of the community and will review development cases such as subdivision maps and development plans, annexation requests, rezoning and code-related amendments. The commission meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

INDIANOLA WELLNESS CAMPUS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This board adopts rules, policies and regulations, subject to council approval, governing the organization and use of the Indianola Wellness Campus as it may deem necessary. The board meets monthly.

IMU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The IMU Board of Trustees supervises the Municipal Utilities and meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the city council chambers.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

The purpose is to recognize the authority of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission and foster use of its procedures and programs; to increase awareness, understanding and appreciation of diversity, equity and inclusion within the community; and to proclaim a public policy of nondiscrimination. The commission meets as needed.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Board of Adjustment is tasked with upholding the integrity of the city's zoning regulations and the Elevate Indianola Comprehensive Plan. The Board of Adjustment meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the city council chambers. ■

EMERGENCY SERVICES



911

911 is to be used only in emergency situations. An emergency is any situation that requires immediate assistance from law enforcement, fire department or emergency medical services.

Calling 911 activates an entire network of highly-trained emergency medical workers. Their time and expertise are valuable and should not be wasted on non-emergencies. Generally speaking, people are aware that they should call 911 in an emergency, but they are less aware of the circumstances in which they should not call 911. Non-emergency calls to 911 impede the efficiency of responders and call-takers by interfering with legitimate 911 calls.

When to call 911: medical emergencies; heart attack or stroke; someone faints or collapses; someone is badly injured; domestic violence; fires; burglary, theft or crime in progress; vehicle accident with life threatening injuries; suspicious activities; chemical/fuel spill and other emergencies.

When not to call 911: to get information, power outages, to report a broken water main or fire hydrant, loud party or barking dog, transportation to a doctor appointment, to pay tickets, for prescription refills or pick-ups, for treatment for minor cuts/abrasions, as a prank, for non-life threatening chronic medical conditions or to receive priority care at the emergency room.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

Sign up at www.smart911.com for Warren County/Alert Iowa alerts. In the event of an emergency or severe weather, an alert will be sent to the phone number and/or email address. This is a free service provided by Warren County and the state of Iowa. Normal message fees may apply. To receive text messages to your cell phone, your cell phone must have text messaging capabilities. Notifications are dependent upon external providers and receipt of notifications by the intended recipient cannot be guaranteed. Alerts sent from Warren County may originate from the following codes: 226787, 67283, 78015, 81437 or 77295 for text messages, 515-961-1122 for voice notifications, and WarrenCountyIowaAlerts@getrave.com or email messages. Be sure to save these in your phone and/or address book.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief: Brian Sher

110 N. First St. | 515-961-9400

Emergency: 911

The mission of the Indianola Police Department is to work in partnership with the community to protect life and property and enhance the quality of life in the city through excellence in policing.

Indianola Police have created a safe exchange zone at the Police Department. Two parking spots on the south side of the Police Department have been designated for safe exchange zone parking. Individuals can meet to exchange goods related to online selling. The zone can also be used by parents for safe child custody exchanges. The safe exchange zone is monitored by a surveillance camera 24 hours a day.

To make a code enforcement request, call the Community Development Department at City Hall at 515-961-9430 or the Indianola Police Department at 515-961-9400.

Note that the Indianola Police Department does not generally unlock vehicles unless it is an emergency situation such as a child locked inside a vehicle. This is due to the increasing complexity of car security systems and side-impact airbags; attempts to open may cause damage to a vehicle or injury to an officer. Contact a locksmith to open vehicles.

If you are gone on vacation, the police recommend you advise them if your residence will be unoccupied. Call or go to the Indianola Police Department to fill out a vacation check form.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief: Gregory Chia

110 N. First St. | 515-961-9405

Emergency: 911

As emergency responders to fires, medical emergencies and disasters, natural or man-made, the Indianola Fire Department protects the lives and property of residents and visitors. The Department promotes public safety through its fire prevention, investigation and education programs.

The department's fire district encompasses 125 square miles located centrally in Warren County, including the City of Indianola. The department's members provide emergency services 24-hours/7-days a week to all citizens and visitors in the fire district. The department also responds to mutual aid requests from other jurisdictions.

The emergency medical service is authorized by the State of Iowa Public Health Department to provide paramedic-level care.

Storm sirens: The storm sirens are tested on the first Saturday of the month at 1 p.m. unless severe weather is imminent. If you hear the sirens, you are advised to go inside and tune in to local media for more information. Sirens are an outdoor warning system designed only to alert those who are outside that something dangerous is approaching. Sirens are activated if a tornado warning is issued by the National Weather Service in Polk County and in case of wind speeds of 70 mph or more. Sirens sound in a cycle of three to five minutes followed by a 10 to 15 break during the duration of the threat. ■

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UTILITIES

Indianola Municipal Utilities (IMU) provides the city with electric, water and network services. The Indianola community has enjoyed the benefits of a locally owned, not-for-profit utility since 1890. Many changes have taken place since those early years, but one thing has remained the same — a commitment to providing the most reliable, affordable service possible.

IMU Fiber, the City's latest utility service, delivers broadband to Indianola homes and businesses. Utilizing a future-proof fiber network platform, IMU Fiber provides Internet, telephone and television service. IMU Fiber's local and community-focused customer care reduces wait time for support, improves response time for service issues, and brings hometown values to broadband services. ■




IMU
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515-961-6251

<https://simpson.edu/academics/simpson-college-gallery-art-and-design>

MUSEUMS

NATIONAL BALLOON MUSEUM

Temporarily closed as of press date; check website for updates

1601 N. Jefferson Way, Indianola
515-961-3714

www.nationalballoonmuseum.com

WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

1300 W. Second Ave., Indianola
515-961-8085

www.warrencountyhistory.org

ACTIVE ADULTS 50 OR BETTER

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515-961-9420

www.indianolaiowa.gov/281/Active-Adults-50-or-Better



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www.indianolaiowa.gov/facilities/facility/details/skatepark-24

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714 W. Detroit Ave., Indianola

515-961-9422

www.indianolaiowa.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Aquatic-Center-6

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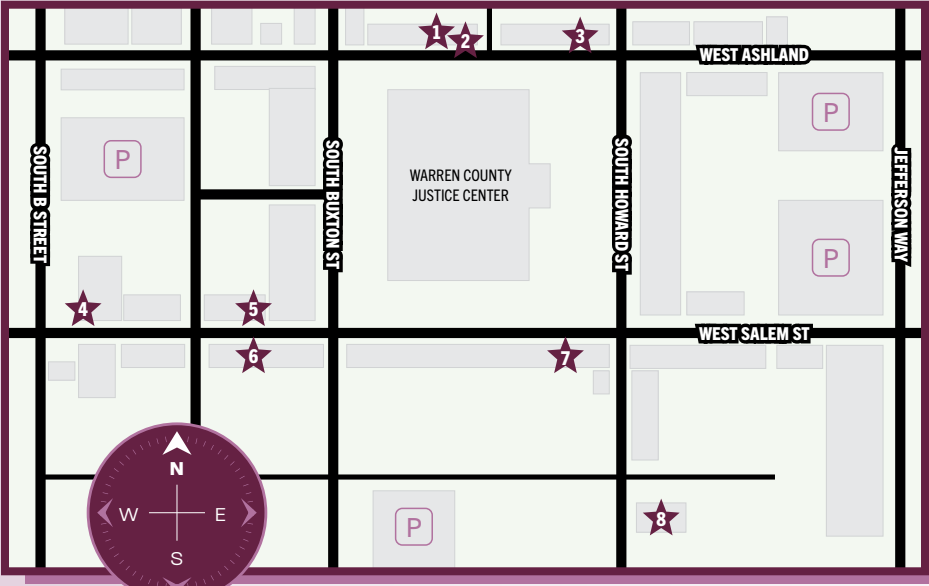
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CITY PARKS AND RECREATION



INDIANOLA ACTIVITY CENTER

2204 W. Second Ave., Indianola

515-961-9420

www.indianolaiowa.gov/facilities/facility/details/Activity-Center-1

The Indianola Activity Center is home to the Indianola Parks & Recreation office and functions as the senior center, providing activities for adults 50 and older. The senior center features an arts and crafts room, billiards, computer lab and exercise room.

INDIANOLA WELLNESS CAMPUS

306 E. Scenic Valley Ave., Indianola

515-961-9408

www.indianolaiowa.gov/1143/Wellness-Campus

The Wellness Campus amenities include lap and recreation pools, gymnasium, racquetball court, children's learn and play center, indoor cycling studio, strength training area, cardio workout space, community room, various exercise studios and an indoor track. For information about membership fees and more, visit the website.

BARKER PARK

401 S. First St.

One of the most popular neighborhood parks, the land for Barker Park was purchased by the Park Board in 1952 from C.F. and Francis Flesher, C. Ray and Eva Flesher, Frank C. and Blanche Flesher. The park was renovated in 2001. The park was named after a pioneer Indianola family, the Barkers.

The park features ball fields, basketball court, picnic areas and grill, playground and restrooms. The shelter offers three picnic tables with seating for 18 and four electrical outlets.

BUXTON PARK

705 N. Buxton St.

Both stunning and serene, Buxton Park is nestled in the center of Indianola adjacent to Simpson College. Its formal gardens, butterfly garden, ornamental fountain, wind sculptures, public art and gazebo offer a spectacular setting for intimate gatherings, photo sessions or a simple stroll in the park.

A children's garden added in 2019 invites

little ones to spend time getting closer to nature with a play tunnel, interactive Natureland game, musical instruments, planter boxes filled with touch and feel plants and vegetables, and other nature-related activities.

Also home to an arboretum, the park offers a self-guided interpretive tree tour pamphlet at the display case near the gazebo. A three-tiered water fountain is ADA accessible and also offers a drink for dogs on leash.

The first park in the City's system was donated to the city in 1906 by Mr. and Mrs. William Buxton.

DAYTON PARK

800 E. Franklin Ave.

Donated by Osborne Williams in 1959 after construction of a new housing development on the east side of the city, Dayton is a small pocket park that adjoins the Summerset Trail and is used by area residents to play ball games or picnic. It features a playground, basketball court and restrooms and offers access to the 11-mile Summerset Trail to Carlisle.

DENELSKY PARK

509 E. Fourth Ave.

Opened in 2008, this park area includes 22.9 acres donated by the DeNelsky family as a memorial to Minnie DeNelsky.

The area has approximately 9-10 acres of woodlands with the remaining in native grasses, flowers and open space. This unique natural area within the city limits provides environmental and wildlife appreciation and educational opportunities, in addition to serving as a neighborhood park. A minimum of 70% of the land will be maintained and managed as existing wooded and natural open space area.

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CITY PARKS AND RECREATION

DOG PARK

1710 S. K St.

The park provides space where dogs can exercise and socialize with other dogs. It features agility equipment, benches, bag dispensers and waste receptacles, picnic tables, restrooms, water and shelter in a fenced-in area.

Access is available to members only. Annual membership fees are \$25/dog and expire one year after purchase date. Memberships may be purchased through Indianola Parks and Recreation.

To become a member, bring vaccination records from your veterinarian showing that your dog's parvo/distemper and rabies shots are current to the Parks & Recreation office at 2204 W. Second Ave. The records should show the date the shots were given and the "reminder date" of when they are due next.

Members will receive a magnetic access card on a lanyard which should be worn by the owner while using the park.

DOWNEY PARK

1710 S. K St.

Adjacent to the Dog Park, this area features benches, picnic tables, restrooms and shelter. South River once flowed through Downey Memorial Park. Purchased by the city in 1933 as part of the waterworks area, the site was named Richard Downey Memorial Park in honor of caretaker Walter Downey's son, who died in World War II.

EASTON PARK

1211 E. Euclid Ave.

Received by the city in 1974, after development of the surrounding homes, Easton is a neighborhood park with play equipment, landscape plantings and a stream running through the center.

MCCORD PARK

900 S. P St.

Donated to the Parks and Recreation Commission by Max McCord in 1976, the park has areas with play equipment and several hiking trails around the natural wooded perimeter of the site. Picnic area, basketball court, sand volleyball, restrooms and shelter are also found at the park, as well as a disc golf course.

MEMORIAL PARK

602 N. G St.

The land for this park was purchased in 1956 from Victor and Lois Gillespie for the purpose of building a pool. The park contains play equipment, open areas, a large aquatic center, an outdoor amphitheater and skate park as well as other park amenities such as restrooms, shelter, benches and more.

MOATS PARK

900 N. First St.

Visitors to Indianola are greeted by this cheerful wayside park on Highway 65/69. Its amenities make the park a popular destination for school outings, reunions and parties. The shelter offers 12 picnic tables with seating for 96. Visitors can enjoy the baseball/softball diamond, basketball court, picnic area, playground, restrooms and shelter.

The city purchased the north end of the site in 1911 with acquisition of the south portion in 1939. The park shelter was constructed in 1954, and summer band concerts were held there for years.

PICKARD PARK

2205 E. Second Ave.

The largest park in the city, Pickard Park features an ADA accessible playground, as well as many other recreational opportunities. The shelter boasts a scenic view of the Iowa countryside. Formerly a farm, the park lies on the eastern edge of Indianola and is the

eastern terminus of the McVay/Summerset Trail.

The park hosts cross country meets, youth and adult softball tournaments and disc golf tournaments including an annual national tour featuring top professional and amateur disc golfers. A horseshoe court is also available.

Acquired from the Clarence Pickard family in 1976, the rolling hillsides include some of the first terraces and water diversion projects completed by the Soil Conservation Service in Warren County.

SESQUICENTENNIAL PARK

110 N. First St.

This little gem is located on the southeast corner of City Hall at Salem and Jefferson. Multiple flowerbeds showcase an ever-changing display of annual and perennial flowers.

The pink-flowered Carefree Beauty rose is featured here as well as in plantings around Indianola. Ornamental Prairiefire crabapple trees are planted around the perimeter of the park. Antique-style lighting and a four-sided clock tower add a nostalgic touch to this park. The focal point of the park is a sculpture called the Tree of Life.

SOUTH PARK

401 W. Fourth Ave.

Purchased from the estate of Horace E. Patten in 1964-65, this neighborhood park has been leveled and reseeded from its original land of a deep water way. Neighborhood children enjoy its play area and basketball court. Restrooms are available.

ICE RINK

**Indianola Activity Center,
2204 W. Second Ave.**

This public ice rink, which measures 80 by 40 feet, was donated in partnership with the



Iowa Wild and Wells Fargo in the fall of 2018. Daily rink hours will be from 7 a.m. to noon for hockey and from noon to 11 p.m. for open skating as the weather allows. Throughout the winter, the rink may be periodically closed for maintenance if the ice has melted or there is damage to the surface. Red and green signs will be posted at the gate to indicate whether or not the rink is open. ■

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Photo by Jaime Pollard Parrott

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<https://www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting/Places-to-Hunt-Shoot/Banner-Shooting-Range>

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Fees: \$10 per hour for individual or \$16 per hour for couple/family for rifle, pistol, shotgun and archery range use; \$300 family annual membership; \$240 single annual membership; \$30 archery-only annual membership

Banner Shooting Range is a family-friendly outdoor shooting range, where patrons can target shoot with handguns, rifles, shotguns and archery. Children are welcome at the range under adult supervision. Banner Shooting Range is open year-round, but will be closed in the winter when hazardous driving conditions are present.

LAKE AHQUABI STATE PARK

16510 118th Ave., Indianola

515-961-7101

www.iowadnr.gov/Places-to-Go/State-Parks/Iowa-State-Parks/Lake-Ahquabi-State-Park

Lake Ahquabi State Park is operated by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. For information about shelter and lodge rentals, campground fees, and recreational opportunities, call 515-961-7101. To reserve shelters or campsites, call 877-427-2757 or visit

Iowa State Parks Reservations.

Some of the park amenities are hiking trails, playground, swimming beach, concessions, boat ramps, accessible fishing pier, paddleboat rentals, fishing jetties, day-use lodge, shelters, modern and accessible restrooms, showers, electric and non-electric campsites, buddy campsites, dump stations and firewood sales.

ANNETT NATURE CENTER

15565 118th Ave., Indianola

515-961-6169

www.warrenccb.org

The Annett Nature Center, which opened in 1997, sits in the 160-acre ANC Park. The ANC rests on a hillside above a 6-acre pond and a 10-acre wetland and is adjacent to Lake Ahquabi State Park. The nature center has three levels containing interpretive exhibits, classrooms, WCCB administrative offices and a community room. The ANC serves as the hub for conservation education programs and as the focal point for many school field trips and summer nature day camps.

WESLEY WOODS CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

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www.WesleyWoodslowa.org

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CITY TRAILS

Indianola's trail system boasts more than 5 miles of hard surface trails as well as 3.5 miles of hiking trails at Pickard and DeNelsky parks.

The McVay Trail, the Summerset Trail and the Jerry Kelley Trail can all be accessed from the Trailhead located at 503 N. Fifth St. It features off-street parking, a shelter with picnic tables, benches, pop machine, modern restrooms and a drinking fountain available seasonally.

POPULAR ROUTES

- Take the McVay Trail 1.6 miles east to Pickard Park.
 - Head north from the trailhead to the Summerset Trail (11.1 miles north to Carlisle).
 - Take the Hillcrest Trail extension to access the Summercrest Hills neighborhood that includes the Indianola Wellness Campus, medical offices and retirement communities (0.5 mile).
 - Or head west on the Jerry Kelley Trail. Follow the sidewalk trail past Buxton Park to Memorial Park (1 mile). Continue west to Wilder Elementary (1.5 miles).
- This phase has about half the trail off street, and half of it uses shared bike lanes on West Iowa Avenue and North Kenwood.

TIPS FOR TRAILS PROGRAM

Utility customers of Indianola have the opportunity to voluntarily contribute funds through their utility bill to support the city trails system. Customers may choose to "round up" their bill to the nearest dollar, with the additional rounding amounts being credited to the trails program, or add a flat dollar amount to their bill for trails. Donations are tax deductible. Trails are an essential element to Indianola's park system, and funds are scarce. If you support trails and would like to see them enhanced, you can contribute to this effort. ■

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515-961-9510

INDIANOLA MIDDLE SCHOOL

403 S. 15th St., Indianola
515-961-9530

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-  515-961-9500; Ext. 1506

To learn more or start the enrollment process, scan the QR code or visit www.indianola.k12.ia.us/district/enrollment

SCHOOL BOARD

The Indianola School Board is comprised of seven members elected at large from across the school district.



MACK RANKIN

Board President
mack.rankin@indianola.k12.ia.us



BEN METZGER

Board Vice President
ben.metzger@indianola.k12.ia.us



ROB KELLER

rob.keller@indianola.k12.ia.us



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INDIANOLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Indianola Chamber of Commerce works to improve the economy and quality of life in Indianola and Warren County and to offer a broad spectrum of benefits and services to its members. Its mission is to “foster a vibrant economic environment while enhancing the overall quality of life in our community.”

Chamber events include the annual awards dinner, Summer Nights Live and Grow Here sessions. The chamber has a Young Professionals group and Chamber Champions Ambassador Program. ■



INDIANOLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

110 N. Howard St.
Indianola, IA 50125
515-961-6269
www.indianolachamber.com

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

MAIN STREET IOWA

On Aug. 6, 2024, at the Iowa Economic Development Authority's Iowa Downtown Conference in Cedar Rapids, it was announced that Indianola has been named a Main Street Iowa community.



Indianola joins only 52 other Main Street Iowa communities across the state to earn the elite honor following a rigorous application process. Through the Main Street approach, communities like Indianola capitalize on the unique identity, assets and character of their historic commercial districts and develop a framework that guides community-based downtown revitalization efforts. According to IEDA, Main Street Iowa districts collectively have experienced significant social, civic, physical and economic impacts. The Main Street Approach consists of tightly integrated components making up a common-sense, strategy-driven framework that guides community-based downtown revitalization efforts. Locally developed strategies are implemented through comprehensive work in four broad areas, known as the Four Points: Economic Vitality, Organization, Promotion and Design. Assistance from the Main Street Iowa team includes training workshops, architectural and design assistance, business assistance, and a number of other technical assistance opportunities. ■

WARREN COUNTY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Warren County Leadership Institute (WCLI), formed in 1993, is an initiative of Warren County Economic Development Corporation (WCEDC) and is an integral part of fulfilling WCEDC's mission. The Institute's primary objective is to train and inform leaders so they can create the best future for themselves, their families, their communities, and their county.

Each year, WCLI includes eight informative and interactive class sessions, a bus tour of Warren County, a class project that benefits the county and ends with a graduation ceremony. WCLI is a great way to network and meet other emerging leaders in and around the Warren County area. Participants will gain important leadership skills and learn about Warren County and its communities. The class schedule features expert facilitators devoted to one or a few specific topics at each class session.

Visit www.wcedc.com for details. ■

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Founded in 1992, the Warren County Economic Development Corporation is a non-profit organization that supports and promotes business growth in the area. It is funded through a combination of public and private funds.

Mission statement: WCEDC works to create and retain jobs throughout Warren County, while strengthening and supporting the area business climate and enhancing the quality of life of workers and residents.

The WCEDC team is the catalyst, convener and resource that is driving proactive economic development efforts in Warren County. By 2025, WCEDC will position Warren County's communities, businesses and industry to capitalize on the rapid expansion of the Des Moines metro area through assertive business retention and expansion, site and building development, talent retention and attraction/workforce development, and support of business attraction. Progress will be evident county-wide in new industrial sites, business start-ups, filled positions and population growth.

Visit the WCEDC website, www.wcedc.com, for information on financial programs and grants available to assist businesses. ■



WARREN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

110 N. Howard St.

515-961-1067

www.wcedc.com

HOMETOWN PRIDE

Warren County Hometown Pride brings neighbors together to build a sense of community, create and improve public amenities and celebrate what makes Warren County hometowns great.

Seven participating towns in Warren County, including Indianola, have a Hometown Pride team of local volunteers who work together to identify and complete projects that will improve the quality of life in their town and boost community pride. Hometown Pride projects in the county have included building a new playground, planning a music festival, coordinating a city-wide clean-up, installing town entrance signs and wayfinding signs, building a veteran's memorial, painting murals, delivering welcome gifts to new residents, promoting tourism, and a lot more.

A \$73,300 grant was awarded in 2023 for the Wonder on Buxton Project in Indianola. Indianola being named one of "Iowa's Great Places" was a significant factor in eligibility for the grant. The overall cost of the project is expected to be \$143,000, with completion expected by end of 2024. The project aim is to connect Simpson College to the Indianola Downtown Square. Project funding will support new sculptural installations and improvements along Buxton Street. warrencountyhometownpride.wordpress.com ■



SIMPSON COLLEGE

Integral to the social and economic fabric of Indianola life is Simpson College, which prides itself on offering “a personalized, well-rounded academic experience in a friendly community within minutes of one of the Midwest’s most dynamic cities — Des Moines.”

Founded by members of the Iowa United Methodist Church, Simpson College works “to stay true to our values and commitment to excellence in higher education, personal integrity, social justice, global citizenship and more.”

Programs are offered for undergraduate and graduate students. Online and evening classes are also offered to meet the needs of a wide range of traditional and non-traditional students. With a vibrant campus life, organizations and athletic programs, Simpson promises to be a place where students won’t blend in. ■



Photo by Jaime Pollard Parrott

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MAJOR EVENTS

WARREN COUNTY FAIR

1400 W. Second Ave., Indianola

The Warren County Fair is held in late July.

The Warren County Fair's usual slate of activities includes livestock shows, grandstand events such as a demolition derby and figure 8 races, a multitude of fun things for kids to do, a carnival, demonstrations, food and exhibits. For information about dates and events for 2025, visit www.warrencofair.com as the time draws nearer. ■



Photo by Jaime Pollard Parrott

NATIONAL BALLOON CLASSIC

Memorial Balloon Field

15335 Jewell St., Indianola

(only open during event dates)

The 2025 National Balloon Classic will be July 25 - Aug. 2. For the 2025 schedule and more information, visit www.nationalballoonclassic.com as the time draws nearer.

The annual National Balloon Classic draws balloon enthusiasts from far and wide. In addition, Indianola is the home of the National Balloon Museum and Ballooning Hall of Fame.

“For nine days every summer, Iowa skies come alive as 100-plus hot air balloons paint the town with brilliant colors and charming special shapes,” promoters say of the event. “Don’t miss a moment of the excitement as skilled pilots compete for points and prizes every morning and every evening while dazzling guests below. Great family fun and incredible entertainment value await you at the Memorial Balloon Field. Just sit back and enjoy the beautiful countryside as you listen to live music during the evening balloon flights. Grab a bite to eat, take the kiddos to Kids Land, buy a balloon ride for a one-of-a-kind view, and prepare to be awestruck as dark skies come alive with a mystical glow during Dawn Patrols and Nite Glows.” ■

NUMBERS TO KNOW

Emergency 911

CITY NUMBERS

City Hall	515-961-9410
Community & Economic Development	515-961-9430
Fire Department (non-emergency).....	515-961-9405
Indianola Activity Center	515-961-9420
Indianola Wellness Campus.....	515-961-9408
Library.....	515-961-9418
Parks & Recreation.....	515-961-9420
Police Department (non-emergency)	515-961-9400
Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center	515-961-9422
Indianola Municipal Utilities	515-961-9444

OTHERS

Annett Nature Center	515-961-6169
Banner Shooting Range.....	515-961-6408
Blake Field House.....	515-961-9500 x3174
Blank Performing Arts Center	515-961-1327
Des Moines Metro Opera.....	515-961-6221
Indianola Chamber of Commerce.....	515-961-6269
Indianola Country Club.....	515-961-3303
Lake Ahquabi State Park.....	515-961-7101
National Balloon Museum.....	515-961-3714
Simpson College	515-961-6251
Warren County Economic Development Corporation	515-961-1067
Warren County Auditor’s Office.....	515-961-1020
Warren County Historical Museum	515-961-8085
Waste Management.....	515-265-5267
Wesley Woods Camp and Retreat Center	866-684-7753

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