



A Publication of United Neighborhoods of Evansville

November 2009

Phone 812-428-4243

WWW.UNOEYANSVILLE.ORG Website

- ❖ American Red Cross
- ❖ City of Evansville
- ❖ Courier & Press
- ❖ Disaster Resistant
Community Corp (DRC)
- ❖ Evansville City Clerk
- ❖ Evansville Department of
Metropolitan Development
- ❖ Evansville Parks and
Recreation Department
- ❖ Evansville Geographic Information
Systems (GIS)
- ❖ Evansville Vanderburgh
Public Library
- ❖ Habitat for Humanity of Evansville
- ❖ Keep Evansville Beautiful
- ❖ Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage
- ❖ Vanderburgh County Assessor

November 7th—Recycle Day
November 12th—South Sector Mtg.
November 17th—East Sector Mtg.
November 18th—UNOE Board Mtg.
November 19th—West Sector Mtg.

Land Use Planning, Part VII

By Fred Padget

Last month we looked in detail at the Central Business District as contained in the current Evansville/Vanderburgh County Comprehensive Plan. With yesterday's (at the time of this writing) announced closing of the long established Whirlpool plant, there is sadness and a certain irony that the plan for this month's article was to talk about industrial growth and the attendant issues as well as rural issues.

Without proper planning for industrial growth, a community may miss the opportunity to benefit from a major contributor to the local economy. Some of that planning should include identifying and protecting sites suitable for industrial growth from uses that might conflict with it making the area unsuitable for industrial growth. Additionally, areas planned and zoned for industrial use where services such as roadways and other transportation modes exist, and where utilities are already available should be used before areas where services and infrastructure needs to be built. This obviously is a less costly way for industry to expand. U.S. 41 north having most of these attributes is a good example of this while I-164 north of baseline, although potentially a good site for industrial growth is not as ready. Large lot development is preferred as opposed to strip development. And, there should be good and sufficient buffering for surrounding non-industrial uses. It is also preferable if older industrial areas can reasonably be rehabbed for new industry. As quoted from the plan "the time has come for Evansville to take bold steps to redevelop and/or revitalize. It is recommended that a program be established to identify such structures for targeted demolition and preparation for redevelopment".

The goal is to support industrial development of clean industries involving new technologies that add to the local economy while insuring compact development in appropriate areas taking into account surrounding properties, public safety and existing infrastructure. Some of the policies to help accomplish this are:

- Encourage proposed industrial projects to locate within existing or new industrial parks.
- Encourage reuse and revitalization of existing industrial facilities.
- For those structures that cannot reasonably be reused, a program should be established to identify these properties and target them for demolition and redevelopment.
- Industrial redevelopment efforts in older areas should focus on improving access and reducing or mitigating potential use conflicts.
- Encourage new industrial developments to be open and environmentally attractive with good access, parking, circulation, and utility services.
- And, when developing new industrial sites adjacent to residential areas, schools, churches, public parks, and the greenway, consider potential environmental impacts and encourage a landscaped buffer that exceeds the minimum setback requirements in the Zoning Code.

Unfortunately, the Comprehensive Plan does not include a great deal concerning rural development primarily because rural land was viewed as land that had not yet been suburbanized. Farms and agriculture as well as other undeveloped land were already there and the concentration was on development. This is no longer true and there is increasing concern about the agricultural industry. The Comprehensive Plan projected that as much as 7.4 square miles could be needed for residential development by the year 2025. Additionally, in 1959 slightly more than 100,000 acres or 67% of the county was considered farm land; by 1997 that had been reduced to 72,000 acres or 48% of the county (the county contains about 150,000 acres in total). Land conversion from agriculture to other uses has resulted from several factors including rising property taxes, the high degree of mobility, land use conflicts, fees for urban services and utilities, the search for less expensive land for development and the potential for farmers to make an immediate profit from selling their land. These pressures on agricultural use will continue.

Our goal should be to maintain the viability of agriculture as a desired way of life by preserving prime agricultural lands. Difficult to do but policies toward that goal include:

- The conversion of agricultural land for urban development should be discouraged, except in those areas designated for other uses on the Future Land Use-2025 Map.
- Growth and development in these areas should be encouraged in and adjacent to the existing rural communities dispersed throughout the County, while protecting their rural identity and character.
- Development in the agricultural area should create and/or maintain a rural character achieved through density and design.
- Most importantly, we should research the feasibility of creating a self-sustaining farmland preservation program that includes the purchase or transfer of development rights.

That pretty much concludes our look at the various land use policies within the Comprehensive Plan. Next month we'll start to look at some of the community services and facilities that support the plan and associated economic factors. The complete version of the Comprehensive Plan can be viewed at www.evansvilleapc.com and at most local libraries. And, if you have any comments or questions, please contact me at fcpadget@aol.com or 428-2529.



Evansville City Storm Water Lily Program

The Lily Program is a pilot project offered by the City of Evansville to address storm water run-off using low impact development.

What is Lily?

Lily is a decorative rain barrel that collects and stores rainwater from your roof.

How Are Lily's (rain barrels) beneficial?

The Lily can be used to store water for gardening during times of little rain or drought. Lawn and Garden watering can make up 40 percent of your household water use during the summer months. You can significantly reduce the amount of water you consume by using rainwater instead of tap water. The water collected in your barrel can be used in a variety of ways:

- Water your garden and lawn
- Wash your car or bike
- Clean work boots and tools
- Water potted plants
- Be creative

Plus, many gardeners find that their plants like rainwater better than tap water.

Rain barrels are primarily used as a water conservation tool but can also be helpful in managing storm water.

Lily's help keep rainwater on your lot. It is important to keep as much rainwater as possible on your lot, but away from your house. By keeping the rainwater on your lot, you prevent the water from flowing over hard surfaces picking up pollutants, such as pet waste, motor oil, fertilizer and litter, and carrying them into our streams and rivers.

The Lily can continuously drain which allows the water to slowly soak through the soil and into the water table, being cleansed by soils and plants along the way.

The Lily can also help keep storm water from infiltrating the sewer system which can cause sewer overflows.

The Lily can also assist in keeping the storm water from your downspouts from eroding away at your foundation thus allowing the storm water into your crawl space or basement.

How much does Lily Cost?

The Lily Pilot Program will allow all citizens of the City of Evansville to purchase a Lily for \$126.50. A \$50.00 rebate is also being offered by the Vanderburgh County Soil and Water Conservation District. You may contact Bonnie Bittner at 812-867-0729.

How do I purchase a Lily?

We welcome and appreciate every property owner that wants to save water, prevent storm water run-off, and improve water quality by participating in the pilot Lily program.

Lily-participation requirements:

- Call 812-436-4977 to order. (Ask for Karan Barnhill)
- OR-Send Check or Money Order for the total cost of the number of Lily's that you want to:
Evansville City Engineer's Office
1 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Room 321 Civic Center Complex
Evansville, IN 47708
- Business hour are Monday through Friday, 7:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Participation in the pilot program is based on completing a 6 question survey.
If the check is delivered to the City Engineer's Office, the survey must be completed then.
If mailed, a survey will be sent to you and your check held for 10 days until the survey is returned and your registration completed. Your check will be returned to you if the survey is not completed within the allotted time.

Questions about the program should be directed to the City Engineer's Office, Storm Water Coordinator, Karan Barnhill, 812-436-4977.

Program Requirements:

- Applicant must be a resident of the City of Evansville.
- Applicant must be the owner of the property on which Lily is being installed or if renting the property owner must be included in the application process.
- Applicant is solely responsible for installation of Lily.
- The Lily must be installed within 30 days of purchase.
- Applicant agrees to allow an Inspector access to the premises in order to verify installation if selected for random inspection.
- The Lily must remain operational for five years.
- Applicant must agree to complete pre- and post-surveys. The pre-survey will be given at the time of purchase; the post survey will be given within 12 months of the purchase.



Low Cost Holiday Gifts



- For the movie buff, check out local video rental stores who may sell recently released, already viewed DVDs and video tapes at a reduced price.
- For the sports enthusiast, look in the yellow pages under Sporting Goods-Used for stores that buy and sell used equipment. You may be able to trade in outgrown or unneeded items for the equipment needed.
- For the music lover, shop at second-hand music stores. You may not be able to find the newest cassette or CD, but you might be able to find something from a favorite artist.
- For the book lover, shop at your local library's book sale or used book stores. You might find an out-of-print treasure.
- For young children, you can put together a gift box of "dress up" clothes. Collect scarves, jewelry, hats, shoes and old clothes or uniforms. Most kids can have hours of fun playing dress up.
- For children's toys and clothing, check out thrift stores, discount stores such as Big Lots and Dollar Stores, secondhand stores, flea markets, pawn shops, garage sales and going out of business sales. Sometimes you can find that unique item that can't be found anywhere else. Be a savvy shopper!
- For a teenage girl, a cosmetic box might be appropriate. Look for sales at drug stores, or shop the discount stores like Big Lots for hair accessories, nail polish and makeup. Buy beads and string at a craft store for making friendship bracelets.
- If you have sewing, knitting, crocheting, woodworking or quilting skills, think about making gifts such as hats, mittens, sweater, Afghans, a decorative shelf, cabinet or a quilt that complements the recipient's décor.
- If you have handyman skills, think about giving a "Gift Certificate," offering the recipient a needed home improvement or repair service provided by you.
- Make a coupon book as a present including things that that person likes. For example, a coupon to receive a favorite home-cooked meal, bake cookies together, go to the park, get a back rub or just spend the day together.
- Put together a gift basket with homemade baked goods or bath items.
- Most stores have huge sales right after the holidays. Individuals who have storage space can get decorations and gifts for next year at less than half of the original price.
- Remember that the holidays last only a few weeks; celebrating them should not leave you in a difficult financial position for the rest of the year.

Donations & Volunteers



The organizations and programs listed below offer various Holiday assistance programs that need volunteers and/or donations. Call individual agencies for up-to-date needs at each location.

AIDS Holiday Project
PO BOX 2901, Evansville, IN 47728
812-480-0204 or wallypaynter@aol.com

Aurora
PO Box 74, Evansville, IN 47714
812-428-3246 or www.auroraevansville.org

Boys and Girls Club
PO Box 6311, Evansville, IN 47719
812-425-2311 or 812-428-8519

Bread of Life Ministry
13188 Spurgeon Road, Lynnville, IN 47649
812-922-5339

Catholic Charities
123 NW Fourth Street, Suite 603, Evansville, IN 47708
812-423-5456

Christian Resource Center
410 Main Street, Rockport, IN 47635
812-649-4946

Evansville Christian Life Center
509 S Kentucky Ave, Evansville, IN 47714
812-423-9222

Evansville Rescue Mission
300 SE Martin Luther King Blvd., Evansville, IN 47713
812-421-2800

Evansville State Hospital
3400 Lincoln Avenue, Evansville, IN 47714
812-469-6800

Harvestime Temple
101 Roosevelt Drive, Mount Vernon, IN 47620
812-838-5447

Mental Health Association
13435 N State Road 245, Lamar, IN 47550
812-649-4410

Studio Bee
120 Flint Street, Boonville, IN 47601
812-897-5378

The Dream Center
16 W Morgan, Evansville, IN 47710
812-401-5558 or dreamcenterevansville@yahoo.com

The Salvation Army
1040 North Fulton Ave, Evansville, IN 47724
812-425-1375

The Salvation Army
202 South Gibson Street, Princeton, IN 47670
812-386-6577

Tri-State Food Bank
801 E Michigan Street, Evansville, IN 47715
812-425-0775

Trinity United Church of Christ
505 Mulberry Street, Mount Vernon, IN 47620
812-838-3805

Announcements

- **UNOE Sparkplug Banquet**—Friday, November 6th at 6 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Community Center. Call the UNOE office at 428-4243 to make reservations!
- **Recycle Day**— Saturday, November 7th, 8 a.m.—12 p.m. at the old Wal-Mart West. For more information, call the Solid Waste District at 436-7800.
- **UNOE Finance Committee Meeting** - Tuesday, November 10, 9:30am at the UNOE office.
- **Veterans Day**—Wednesday, November 11th. Thank a Veteran!
- **South Sector Citizens Meeting**— Thursday, November 12th at 6:30 p.m. located at 315 Taylor Avenue. For more information, call South Sector at 435-6037.
- **East Sector Citizens Meeting**—Tuesday, November 17th at 6:00pm located at 4900 Shamrock Drive, Suite 105. For more information, call East Sector at 485-3055.
- **UNOE Board Meeting**—Wednesday November 18th, 4:00pm at the UNOE office.
- **West Sector Citizens Meeting**—Thursday, November 19th, 6:00 p.m. located at 401 E. Columbia Street. For more information, call West Sector at 435-6135.
- **Thanksgiving**—Thursday, November 26th. Happy Thanksgiving!!
- **Recycle Day**— Saturday, December 5th, 8 a.m.—12 p.m. at the old Wal-Mart West. For more information, call the Solid Waste District at 436-7800. This is the last one of the year!
- **UNOE General Membership Meeting**—Thursday, January 28th from 6:30—8:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the Red Cross Center on Stockwell Road.

The River City Food Co-op offers the Evansville community....

- a large selection of high quality (mostly organic) food that is competitive in price
- accommodation of people living on a limited budget by accepting food stamps and offering a **20% discount to anyone who qualifies for EBT.**
- educational workshops and information to introduce people to new foods and help people find things to eat that are quick and healthy
- a community of people that will be engaged in the work and every day functions if the coop, boosting the social capital of individuals and the community
- a non-profit structure that reinvests proceeds back into the coop, as well as other social programs within the local community
- A shopping alternative that is focused on the well-being of people and all living things instead of the bottom line, supporting companies who consider how food is produced and distributed.

Learn more about the Co-op, products, resources and sign up for the e-mail list at: www.rivercityfoodcoop.org, visit them at 116 Washington Avenue, Evansville, IN 47713 or by phone at 812-401-7301.



Bank on Evansville

The success rate for the first three months was 347 new and successful accounts! There has been a continual grow in new accounts. Next month we will share the new numbers as soon as we get them. As neighborhood associations you share the pride as you have responded to the presentations.

Due to Evansville's efforts, it was recently announced that there is now a "Bank on Indiana". The roll our neighborhood associations have played in our success will influence and assist literally hundreds of persons all throughout the state to save money and have a safe and productive way to handle their financial affairs that will make a significant difference in their lives.

Remember everyone can have their own bank account! For more information, dial 2-1-1 or visit BankonEvansville.org.



2008
"Neighborhood
Sparkplugs
of the year"



Your Nominee will be
here next year!!!

If you haven't turned in your "Sparkplug" nominee to the UNOE office for the 2009 Banquet, please do so by October 30th.

Neighbor to Neighbor
UNOE Office
20 N.W. 4th Street
Suite 501
Evansville, IN 47708

Non-Profit Org.
POSTAGE
PAID
Evansville, IN
PERMIT NO. 1087

Return Service Requested

Did U.N.O.E.?

United Way Volunteer Action Center

United Way of Southwestern Indiana operates the Volunteer Action Center (VAC) to help strengthen the nonprofit sector and connect individuals to meaningful volunteer opportunities year-round. Any 501c3 is eligible to list volunteer needs with United Way VAC.

VAC lists a selection of local needs in the Evansville Courier and Press in the weekly You Can Help column, which runs each Sunday. VAC also coordinates community volunteer efforts, such as the annual United Way Day of Caring, Youth Week of Caring, the Business Volunteer Network, Online Volunteer Database and Volunteer Opportunities Guide.

Those interested in volunteering can call United Way VAC at 812)421-2801 or 2-1-1.

What is United Way 2-1-1

2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember phone number that connects people with important health and human services and volunteer opportunities.

People looking for help can have trouble navigating a complicated web of service providers and programs. Sometimes not knowing where to begin is the barrier that keeps people from finding the help they need. All calls are free, confidential, and are answered by trained and caring information and referral specialists.

Using comprehensive database created to serve clients, 2-1-1 information and referral specialists are also well-equipped to help individuals connect with organizations that need volunteers.



14th Annual UNOE Sparkplug Banquet
Friday, November 6, 2009
6:00-9:00 p.m.
Scottish Rite Community Center (2nd & Chestnut)
Reservations are necessary.

