



Marion County
Soil & Water Conservation District
"helping people care for the land"

News for Immediate Release

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contact: Ron Lauster
phone: 317-786-1776
email: ron-lauster@iaswcd.org
web: www.marionswcd.org

Community at the Crossroads Conference October 30th!

Many Hoosiers are saying they want to learn more about "Living Green" and "Smart Growth". Land use is certainly rapidly changing in our state. A good way to find out more about these issues is to attend the eleventh annual "Communities at the Crossroads Land Use Conference" on Thursday, October 30th at the Indiana Government Center. The Center is located in the South Building at 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis. The theme for this year's session is "Growth and Rising Fuel Prices". A free preliminary program with the theme "Green Design for Green Communities which is an Urban Planning Scholar Series topic will be on Wednesday, October 29th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. The Conference and Scholar Series is jointly sponsored by the Indiana Land Use Consortium (ILUC), the American Planning Association (APA)- Indiana Chapter, and the Health by Design (HbD) Coalition. The deadline for conference registration is Friday, October 24, 2008. Contact ILUC for more information.

This year's conference will focus on ways to manage land uses in a changing world. Registration will begin at 8:00 am on October 30th and the session will end around 4:45 pm. The program includes a morning plenary session with two keynote presentations and three sets of breakout sessions. Jamie Palmer, Chair of the ILUC will open the session at 8:30 on Thursday morning. The keynote speaker will be Geoff Anderson, Executive Director, Smart Growth America. Later a report on the "State of the Housing Market in Indiana" will be provided. The three morning breakout session topics include Transit in Indiana, Forestry Conservation, and Lakes and Development. At lunch there will be a loosely structured opportunity to network about Indiana land use issues. Early afternoon Wallace E. Tyner, Professor Department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue will discuss "A Current Perspective on Agriculture and Energy". Afternoon breakout session topics include Transit Oriented Development, Zoning and Wind Farms, and Complete Streets- Promoting Walkability and Bikeability. Later in the afternoon a presentation will be bade on "Cool Cities- Early Successes and Challenges". During breaks and lunch time attendees are encouraged to visit the variety of exhibitor booths that will be available.

Registration costs for the session is \$90 which includes a meal. Student Registration is \$45. A registration form, a more detailed preliminary program, and other conference information are available on the web at www.indianalanduse.org. Interested potential attendees, who do not have access to the internet, can get registration and other information by contacting Jamie Palmer, ILUC Chair, by phone at: 317-261-3046 or via fax: 317-261-3050. The Indiana Government Conference Center is in downtown Indianapolis. A number of parking options are available near the Center, including the White River State Park Garage at 650 W. Washington St. (\$10 per day). Additional options can be found at <http://www.indydt.com/parkingdatabase.html>. Attendees planning to stay overnight and needing help in identifying nearby hotels or if desiring information regarding sponsorship and exhibit opportunities are encouraged to visit the ILUC website or contact Jamie Palmer.

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