



Indiana County Sustainable Economic Development Task Force Monthly Newsletter

Save the date! We invite you to...

Summit III Reinventing Rural America

October 4th, 2019
8:30 am - 3:30pm

Rustic Lodge
2199 Oakland Ave.
Indiana, PA 15701

Planning for Summit III is still underway!
A list of nominated speakers has been established by the Task Force Steering Committee.

For updates on Summit III, visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/yxnrou4d>

Extension on the Solar Co-Op!!!

If you missed your first chance to join the Indiana County Solar Co-Op, it's not too late!!

The Co-Op will now accept signed contracts until August 8th. If a solar installation is something you are strongly considering for your property, become a Co-Op member using the following link:
<https://tinyurl.com/y2lck5tx>



The Indiana County Solar Co-Op is the most successful Co-Op Pennsylvania according to Henry McKay, the Pennsylvania Program Director at Solar United Neighbors. With 15 signed contracts in the co-op so far and more on the way, the Co-Op decided to extend its contract signing period to accommodate the volume of participants. For an extended version of this article, visit: <http://sustainableindianacounty.org/articles-and-researches/>.

Local Student in Need of Plastic Bags!!!

Silas Schiera, a Boy Scout from Troop 1011, is calling for plastic bag donations! Silas is working with the company Trex to complete his Eagle project in the next six months. His goal is to collect 500 pounds of plastic bags or 40,500 individual bags. In completing this task, Trex will ship a composite bench to the Indiana High School Marching Band, which is the project's beneficiary. Bag collection points set up so far include the Indiana Borough Building, Grace United Methodist Church, and the Indiana Area School Board Office, although more locations are to be added.

What Can Be Donated?

Plastic shopping bags,
newspaper sleeves,
Ziploc bags, bread
bags, case over -
wrap, dry cleaning
bags, ice bags,
wood pellet bags,
produce bags, bubble wrap, salt bags,
and cereal bags can all be donated!



Bag Collection Sites

Indiana Borough Municipal Building
Grace United Methodist Church
Indiana Area School Board Office

For more information or an updated list of locations, visit
<http://sustainableindianacounty.org/local-student-in-need-of-plastic-bags/>



Collection bin located at the entrance of the Indiana Borough Municipal Building



Issue 4
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Indiana Borough Redesigns 8th Street Parking Lot

The Borough of Indiana continues to demonstrate their commitment to sustainability through their recent projects and policy updates. Their most recent project, the redesigning of the 8th Street Municipal Parking Lot, incorporated green infrastructure, an electric vehicle (EV) charging station, solar power, and bike amenities all while expanding the number of parking spaces and increasing potential revenue.

South 8th Street Parking Lot, August 2018



South 8th Street Parking Lot, July 2019



"As we were having conversations with the IMMC stakeholders and the Stormwater Education Partnership, we wondered how we could make this place a destination – welcoming the community while also being sustainable." –Nicholas Zimny-Shea, Indiana Borough Planning & Zoning Official

The 8th Street Lot, which sits across the road from the S&T Bank where Farmers' Markets are held, will serve as the trail head of the Indiana Multi-Modal Corridor (IMMC). The trail head will have a bike repair station and a bike shelter, complete with solar-powered lighting. An (EV) charging station will also be installed on the site. In the new design of the municipal lot, excess pavement was removed and replaced with a special mixture of soil designed to maximize water drainage. An arborist and landscape architect were consulted in the selection of plants to develop a stormwater garden. The selected plants included cherry and maple trees, which are accented by various types of shrubs and grasses. The parking lot was repaved and repainted in such a way that the total number of vehicle parking spaces increased while also adding designated handicap assessable parking. For an extended version of this article, visit: <http://sustainableindianacounty.org/articles-and-researches/>.



Indiana County
Sustainable
Economic
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Force
@ICSEDTaskForce

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Our Facebook page regularly shares local, state, and worldly news on sustainable practices and green initiatives! Search for us using @ICSEDTaskForce, or visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/ICSEDTaskForce/>



If you are a member of our Task Force and would like to professionally associate yourself with us on LinkedIn, find us at: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/icsed-task-force>.