

Our Green Initiative

...our pledge to “green” up our corner of the Earth

RECYCLING: We offer recycling at three of the properties that we manage. No sorting needed for your plastics, paper, cardboard, and metal – we make it easy to get into the recycling habit! For a list of recyclables and tips, contact the Abodes office.

ECO-FRIENDLY TURNOVER CLEANING: When you move in, you can be assured that your apartment home was cleaned without toxins, ammonia, petrochemicals, or other harmful ingredients. Click here for a list of the products we clean your apartment with. www.ecos.com

ECO-FRIENDLY CARPET CLEANING: Our turnover carpet cleaning is 50% eco-friendly, which means we are using much less harmful chemicals than in the past.

EARTH FRIENDLY PRODUCTS - SOLD IN THE OFFICE! Pay rent AND pick up a bottle of your favorite laundry detergent or household cleaner all in one stop! Abodes is now a wholesaler of Earth Friendly Products (www.ecos.com) and sells them to residents at terrific prices. You can even bring us your empty laundry detergent bottle and we'll refill it for even less than the original purchase price! Take pride in using products with pure, simple and pronounceable ingredients.

LATIMER WOODS NATURE TRAIL: This beautiful woodland trail is a hidden treasure in the middle of Bloomington, just steps away from College Mall. The trail is a moderate-level course at .38 miles, winding through the 10-acre Latimer Preserve which was formerly part of a 111-acre farm. The preserve provided nuts, fruits, fuel and even Christmas trees for four generations of Latimers. The Woods also provided a place for quiet meditation and learning. Unlike most woods in this part of Indiana, the trees in the Latimer Preserve have never been cut, and several are believed to pre-date European settlement. Interpretive signs detail the history of the property and point out some of the most venerable trees. http://bloomington.in.gov/documents/viewDocument.php?document_id=280 and <http://www.cfbmc.org/page21256.cfm>.

A “GREENER” FITNESS CENTER: In researching new equipment for our Woods at Latimer fitness center, we chose to partner with SportsArt because their Green Mission was much in line with ours. Our newest treadmill uses 30% less energy than its competitors! Read more about their company with this link: <http://green.sportsartamerica.com/greenMission.aspx>



INVOLVEMENT IN ENERGY & WATER CONSUMPTION RESEARCH: Abodes is proud to join forces with the Department of Economic & Sustainable Development of the City of Bloomington to research energy and water consumption in multi-family residences. These averages can be used to track your monthly usage and aim for a lower average month by month.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS: A fact you may not know is that Abodes also manages commercial spaces in Downtown Bloomington, which all house locally-owned and managed retail shops and restaurants. We support all of the local restaurants and merchants in our city.
www.localfirstindiana.org

ENERGY EFFICIENCY: Our current project at the Woods at Latimer is replacing the exterior lights with a more energy efficient system, while still keeping both the integrity of the property and convenience to our residents. As for appliances, our downtown Kirkwood on the Trail apartments are equipped with Energy Star rated washers, refrigerators, dishwashers and microwaves. Programmable thermostats and super efficient HVAC units make heating and cooling efficiency levels at an all time high.

WATER CONSERVATION: Most of our properties use water saver aerators which reduce the flow of water from your showerhead, just enough to save you money and conserve, while still providing ample flow for a refreshing shower.

BATTERY RECYCLING: Bring your used batteries to the Abodes office and place them in one of our Battery Buckets – specially designed by our artistic maintenance department from repurposed paint buckets. Batteries can contain heavy metals such as mercury, lead, cadmium, and nickel, which contaminate the soil when improperly disposed of. We recycle all our batteries, and make it easy for you to do so too!

TAKE THE BUS, BIKE, OR EVEN WALK TO CAMPUS: All of the Abodes properties are either situated on a bus line, an easy bike to campus, or a short walk to class. You can significantly reduce your carbon footprint by choosing one of these great, economical options for transportation. As a bonus, you can finish up that homework on the bus, which you can't do while driving your car!

WE PROMOTE ZIPCAR AND ZIMRIDE! Bloomington residents have the luxury of renting cars through www.zipcar.com, as well as formal carpooling from Zimride IU <http://www.zimride.com/iub/>. This site allows you to post your travel plans or your travel wishes... then the matchmaking happens. Carpooling is an excellent way to save money on gasoline, reduce carbon emissions and make a new friend – all at the same time! To learn more about how carpooling helps the environment, please visit <http://www.carbonrally.com/challenges/29-carpool>.

HOOSIER TO HOOSIER RECYCLING (H2H): Picture this as a type of garage sale for unwanted items, such as furniture, clothing, household goods, electronics, and other items that you would normally place in your community's dumpster at move-out time. Instead, H2H will gladly pick up these items for you and ultimately divert them from going into a landfill. This once a year sale generates thousands of dollars that go to local charities.

www.indiana.edu/~h2h

RESIDENT EDUCATION AND RESIDENT RESPONSE: Most importantly, we educate our residents about how they can help our Green Initiative prosper and how they can maintain a more sustainable life once they move out of an Abodes property and into the next chapter of their lives. We send out tips and reminders periodically about the three R's: ways to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

We are always interested in our residents' input! Leave a suggestion in our fair-trade suggestion box at the Abodes Office, made from sustainable resources in Kenya and Bangladesh. Or, post a comment for us on Facebook. <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Abodes-Inc/100396637032>

We look forward to hearing from you and implementing new ideas! Together, we can go a long way towards "greening up" our corner of the Earth.



Abodes, Inc.

812.333.3333

www.abodes.com