



Land Use Decisions & You

Do you see changes in your community? Do you drive on an ever more crowded road to get to work? Is there a new cell phone tower going up next door to you? Is a new highway being built right through your neighborhood? Is the rural character of your community being lost as more and more people get their few acres and plant a new house in the country?

Changes such as these are the result of land use decisions.

You may think all land use decisions are made by other people—by developers, corporations, highway designers, plan commission members, and elected officials. Not true!

When you decide to build a house or to move from the city to the country or to lobby for a new school or to fight against a road, you are making a personal land use decision and acting on it. Your decision becomes part of the larger public decision.

And if you figure you're too busy or assume it's too complicated or feel you are powerless, that's a kind of land use decision, too. You are deciding not to become involved in an issue that has a tremendous

impact on the quality of your life. You are deciding to let others make decisions for you.

Land is the most basic of resources. It provides the places where we live, work, play, and interact as a society. You may have heard the saying "they aren't making any more of it" as one reason we should be careful about how we use our land. It's true.

The Purdue Land Use team is ready to help you and your fellow Indiana citizens and community leaders learn more about the impacts of land use decisions made by individuals and groups.

If you want to learn more about land use decisions and how they can affect quality of life for you, your family, and your community, read some of the [Purdue Extension publications](#) on this issue. If you want a member of the Purdue Land Use Team to present a program to your community or group, contact your [county office of Purdue Extension](#).

When we all get informed and we all get involved, together we can make better decisions. We can plan and create the kinds of communities we want for the future.

