

Westside story

From trackside to dockside, amenities abound



Neighborhood View

By Barbara E. Cohen
For Custom Publications

Life on Indy's west side is dominated by two man-made features: Eagle Creek Dam and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The area is defined roughly by I-70 on the south, I-65 on the north and West Street on the east.

New development is pushing the westernmost boundary further into Hendricks County.

Tenants at Eagle Creek Apartments enjoy its setting near Eagle Creek Reservoir, created after devastating floods in 1958 destroyed homes along normally placid Eagle Creek.

"Location is our No. 1 asset," said Donna Newsom, assistant manager at Eagle Creek Apartments for the last 19 years. "We're far from downtown but an easy drive to major highways, and we have a fantastic setting on the lake."

Many apartment complexes, such as Spinnaker and Mariners Village, take advantage of lakes formed downstream from Eagle Creek Dam. The Island Club looks like a tropical resort, with fountains, waterfalls and a 25-acre lake.

Westside residents enjoy Eagle Creek Park's nature center, bird sanctuary, hiking trails and picnic areas, swimming area and sailboat,



Photo: Randy Baughin

Indianapolis residents can experience a taste of nature at Eagle Creek Park.

rowboat and canoe rentals. Try Rick's Café Boatyard for brunch, lunch or dinner overlooking the lake.

The good life at any speed

There are many great parks and golf courses on the west side. Eagle Creek Golf Course has two public courses: Riverside Golf Course offers lessons, and at The Brickyard Crossing Golf Resort, golfers love to play holes No. 7 through 10, which lie inside the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Avid race fans choose the west side because they want to be near the IMS and Indianapolis Raceway Park in Clermont. The area between Eagle Creek Reservoir and Speedway also is next to the Indianapolis International Airport and major interstate highways.

At Springhill, tenants like the park-like setting with easy access to I-465 and I-65. Las Palmas Apartment

Homes tenants are just minutes from schools, shopping and the rest of the city. The management is bilingual here and at Port O' Call Apartments, which offers affordable one- and two-bedroom apartments.

Shopping choices are expanding, especially in Hendricks County. First-run movie theaters and major chain restaurants, such as the Bonefish Grill, Chick-fil-A and Texas Roadhouse, line Rockville Road. There are additional shopping centers along U.S. 40 in Plainfield, around the square in Danville and on Route 136 in Brownsburg.

Residents' choices will continue to grow as new projects, such as the Metropolis open-air shopping center, expand the range of retailers, restaurants and entertainment venues. ■

Vital stats: West Indianapolis

Transportation: Access from I-465, I-65 and I-74; West 16th, 38th and 46th streets; and along Crawfordsville, Rockville and Georgetown roads.

Rent: From \$359 for a one-bedroom/one-bath unit to \$995 for a three-bedroom/two-bath apartment or townhome.

Pets: Many communities allow pets, especially cats and small dogs.

Amenities: Communities include recreational facilities, clubhouses and fitness centers; close to Eagle Creek Park.

Shopping: Along West 16th and 38th streets, Rockville Road, U.S. 40, Route 136 and elsewhere in Hendricks County.