



**New Residents Informational Guide**  
**Blakely/Early County, GA**  
**2019-2020**

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# New Resident Information

**Welcome to Early County!** We hope the following information will help you get settled in and make you feel at home right here in Southwest Georgia! If we can be of any assistance during your transition, please do not hesitate to contact the Chamber.

Early County Administration- 229-723-4304

Blakely City Hall- 229-723-3677

Jakin City Hall- 229-793-4109

Damascus City Hall- 229-725-4970

## **Drivers License & Auto Tag**

By law, new residents are required to secure a Georgia license and auto tag within 30 days of moving to the state. Car tags may be purchased and ad valorem taxes paid at the Early County Tax Commissioner's office in the Early County Courthouse (located on the Blakely Court Square).

The closest Driver's License Division is located at 101 Airport Road, Bainbridge, GA 39817. Standard operating hours are Tuesday through Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm. Georgia driver licenses are available in 5 or 8 year options. For more information, please visit: <http://www.dds.ga.gov>

## **Garbage**

The County provides dumpsters located throughout the county for the disposal of garbage in the unincorporated areas.

## **Tax Rates**

To find out the current tax rates, please call the Early County Tax Commissioner's office 229-723-4014

## **Telephone/Internet Service**

Local telephone service/internet service is provided by Windstream. Residential and business service, 800-347-1991, Internet service, 800-347-1991. For more information, please visit: <http://www.windstream.com/>. Internet service in the City of Blakely provided by BlakelyNet. Please visit <http://www.blakelynet.org>. Call 229-723-3677.

### **Local Newspaper**

The Early County News is published each Wednesday. They are located at 529 College Street and can be reached at 229-723-4376 or <http://www.earlycountynews.com/>

### **Post Offices**

Blakely, 2243 South Main Street, 229-724-7243

Cedar Springs, 21 Sheffield Street, 229-372-4530

Jakin, 1145 North Pearl Street, 229-793-4341

Arlington, 438 Pioneer Road Northwest, 229-725-4208

Bluffton, 105 Pine Street North, 229-641-2155

### **Early County Library**

The Lucy Hilton Maddox Memorial Library is located at 11880 Columbia Street and can be reached at 229-723-3079. They host many community events year round!

### **Tax Rates**

To find out the current tax rates, please call the Early County Tax Commissioner's office at 229-723-4024.

## **Demographics**

<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/13/13099.html>

## **Education**

### **School Registration**

To register your child for the Early County schools, take your child's birth certificate, health exams, immunization and transcript records from your previous school with you to register at the neighborhood school your child will be attending.

## **Public Schools**

### **Early County Board of Education**

(229) 723-4337

11927 Columbia Street, Blakely, GA 39823

<http://www.early.k12.ga.us/>

### **Early County High School**

(229) 723-3006

12020 Columbia Street, Blakely, GA 39823

<http://echs.early.k12.ga.us/>

### **Early County Middle School**

(229) 723-3746

12053 Columbia Street, Blakely GA 39823

<http://ecms.early.k12.ga.us/>

### **Early County Elementary School**

(229) 723-4101

283 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Blakely, GA 39823

<http://eces.early.k12.ga.us/>

## **Private Schools**

### **Southwest Georgia Academy**

(229) 725-4792

14105 State Road 200, Damascus, GA 39841

<http://www.sgawarriors.com>

## **Charter Schools**

### **Pataula Charter Academy**

<http://www.pataula.org/>

K3, K4, & Kindergarten

(229) 835-3383

18909 Hartford Street, Post Office Box 332, Edison, GA 39846

1<sup>st</sup> Grade- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

(229) 835-3322

18637 Hartford Street, Post Office Box 332, Edison, GA 39846

## **Post-Secondary Education**

### **ABAC at Blakely**

229- 724-2100

40 Harold Ragan Drive, (US Hwy 27 Bypass), Blakely, GA 39823

<http://www.Abac.edu>

## **Healthcare**

### **LifeBrite Community Hospital of Early**

11740 Columbia Street, 229-723-4241

[www.lifebriteearly.com](http://www.lifebriteearly.com)

### **LifeBrite Medical**

11045 Columbia Street, Blakely

229-723-4313

- Lamar Brand, M.D.
- Vincent Barker, M.D.
- Brandy Floyd, PA-C
- Julie Hornsby, ARNP

Serving all of your family's non-emergency medical needs.

### **LifeBrite Therapy Center**

Physical

229-724-4269

### **Long Term Living**

Early Memorial Nursing Home is a 127-bed unit skilled nursing facility with complete access to the resources of the main hospital. Call today at 229-723-3794.

### **Emergency Department**

LifeBrite's facility has a four bed emergency department and offers on-site laboratory studies and on-site diagnostic imaging services. Call today at 229-724-4251.

**Primary Care of Southwest Georgia**

360 College Street, Blakely

229-723-2660

[www.pcswga.org](http://www.pcswga.org)

PCSWGA is a non-profit health center operating in part by Federal Grant. All patients are provided access to affordable, quality healthcare, regardless of ability to pay.

**Early County Health Department**

329 South Flowers Drive, Blakely

229-723-3707

**Department of Family and Children's Services**

11860 Columbia Street, Blakely

229-724-2000

**Dialysis Clinic, Inc.**

11135 Columbia Street, Blakely

229-723-5054

## **Recreation**

**Blakely-Early County Recreation Department**

1656 North Main Street / P.O. Box 609

Blakely, Georgia 39823

**Phone:** (229) 723-3197

**Fax:** (229) 723-5993

[becrddirector@gmail.com](mailto:becrddirector@gmail.com)

# Utilities

## City of Blakely



If you live within the Blakely City Limits, the city provides the following services: electricity, natural gas, water & sewer, and garbage collection. The Utilities Department is located at Blakely City Hall on the Blakely Court Square, 229-723-3677.

Please follow the following procedure to get connected to utilities:

- Must have a photo ID & social security card
- Must have a rent receipt if renting or a document showing proof of ownership if owned or purchasing
- \$225 total deposit for all utilities (electricity \$100, gas \$75, water \$50, no deposit for garbage or sewer)

To report an electrical outage, water leak, or sewage problem during normal business hours, please call City Hall at 229-723-3677. For after hours issues, please call the Blakely Fire Department at 229-723-5150.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.cityofblakely.net>





## County Utilities

### Electricity

If you are live outside of Blakely City Limits, **Three Notch EMC** is the provider of electricity. Three Notch EMC is located at 116 West 2nd Street, Donalsonville, 229-524-5377.

Please follow the following procedure to establish service:

- All applicants for service who have no credit history with the Cooperative must make application for service at the Donalsonville office of the Cooperative.
- A picture ID and a Social Security card or certifiable Social Security Number, and a rental contract if rental property.
- Applicant shall provide Cooperative with a current street address and mailing addresses, and a telephone number.
- The amount required for a security deposit is based on a credit inquiry; Good- \$10.00; Fair-\$150.00; Poor- \$300.00.

To report an outage or other problems to Three Notch, please call 229-524-5377 or 1-800-239-5377. When you call, make sure to have the following information: account name, account number, telephone number, 911 address or landmark, and report any damage to line.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.threenotchemc.com/>

### Garbage

The County provides dumpsters located throughout the County for the disposal of garbage in the unincorporated areas.

# County Services

**Early County Administration Office-** 229-723-4304

**Clerk of Court-** 229-723-3033

**Code Enforcement-** 229-723-5163

**Community Service Center-** 229-723-3190

**County Extension Office-** 229-723-3072

**Department of Family & Children Services-** 229-724-2000

**Magistrate Court-** 229-723-5492

**Probate Judge-** 229-723-3454

**Road Department-** 229-723-4238

**Rural Fire Department-** 911

## **Sheriff's Department**

- Early County Dispatcher- 229-723-3577
- Sheriff's Office, Courthouse- 229-723-3214
- Sheriff's Office, Jail- 229-723-3484
- Jailer's Office- 229-723-3150
- Investigations- 229-723-3158

**Small Claims Court-** 229-723-3454

**Tax Assessor's Office-** 229-723-3088

**Tax Commissioner's Office-** 229-723-4024

**Voter Registrar's Office-** 229-723-4522

# Top Employers

**Georgia Pacific Paper Mill**

229-372-5118

<http://www.gppackaging.com/Pages/Locations.aspx?BU=Containerboard>

**Early County School System**

229-723-4337

<http://www.early.k12.ga.us/>

**LifeBrite Community Hospital of**

**Early** 229-724-4235

<http://lifebriteearly.com/>

**Birdsong Peanuts**

229-723-3641

<http://www.birdsong-peanuts.com/>

**Republic Conduit**

229-372-4501

<http://www.republicconduit.com/>

**White Oak Pastures, Inc.**

229-641-2081

<http://whiteoakpastures.com/>

**Southern Ag Carriers**

229-723-8651

<http://www.sou-ag.com/>

**Olam Edible Nuts**

229-723-4181

<http://olamonline.com/products-services/edible-nuts>

**Damascus Peanut Company**

229-725-4236

**Early County Gin**

229-723-6600

<http://earlycountygin.com/>

## **Civic Clubs**

No matter what your particular interest may be, there are many opportunities to get involved in the Early County community! If you are looking to get more involved, please contact the Chamber and we will be happy to help put you in contact with leaders of your club or organization of interest.

American Legion  
Blakely Rotary Club  
Blakely Pilot Club  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
Early County Historical Society  
Early County School Athletic Booster Club  
Early County School Band Booster Club  
Early County School Choral Booster Club  
Friends of Kolomoki Mounds  
Relay for Life/American Cancer Society  
Southwest Georgia Academy Athletic Booster Club

## **Day Care Centers**

Linda Powell  
Kiddie Wonderland  
299 Chattahoochee Av.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229-724-4466

Danyelle Wentzell  
40 Harold Ragan Blvd.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229-723-8965

Mandy's Day Care Center  
165 Crystal Springs Loop  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229-723-2070

Sara C. Kidd  
1187 N. Main St.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229-723-4144

# Useful Links

## Business Resources

**Score's List of Small Business Resources**

[http://www.score.org/small\\_biz\\_power\\_links.html](http://www.score.org/small_biz_power_links.html)

**The State of Georgia's Small Business Resource Links**

<http://www.georgia.org/Business/SmallBusiness>

**Georgia Small Business Development Center**

<http://www.georgiasbdc.org>

**Learn about Franchise Opportunities**

<http://www.franchiseregistry.com/>

**The Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute**

<http://www.innovate.gatech.edu/>

**Better Business Bureau**

<http://atlanta.bbb.org/>

**Georgia Chamber of Commerce**

<http://www.gachamber.com/>

## Government Resources

**City of Blakely**

<http://www.cityofblakely.net/>

**Albany Social Security Office**

<https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/FOLO/Controller>

**Southwest Georgia Workforce 44**

<http://www.workforce44.org/>

**Georgia Department of Labor**

<http://www.dol.state.ga.us/>

**State of Georgia**

<http://www.georgia.org>

# Community Resources

**Early County Family Connections**

<http://www.gafcp.org/fcnetwork/early>

**Early County Literacy Task Force/Early Choices**

<http://www.earlychoices.org>

**LifeBrite Community Hospital of**

**Early** <http://lifebriteearly.com/>

**Primary Care of Southwest Georgia**

<http://www.pcswga.org/>

**Early County Health Department**

<http://rtn.darton.edu/phirn/districts/early/-early.htm>

**Early County Museum**

<http://earlycountymuseum.com/>

**Peanut Proud Festival**

<http://www.peanutproud.com/>

**Explore Georgia**

<http://www.exploregeorgia.org/>









# Community Resources

**Early County Family Connections**

<http://www.gafcp.org/fcnetwork/early>

**Early County Literacy Task Force/Early Choices**

<http://www.earlychoices.org>

**Pioneer Community Hospital of Early**

<http://pchearly.com/>

**Primary Care of Southwest Georgia**

<http://www.pcswga.org/>

**Early County Health Department**

<http://rtn.darton.edu/phirn/districts/early/-early.htm>

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<http://earlycountymuseum.com/>

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