



New Residents Informational Guide
Blakely/Early County, GA
2023-2024

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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 at 229-723-3741,

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 and County of Early provided by Kudzu Networks. Please visit <http://www.kudzuconnect.com>. Call 833-772-0211

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

1st Grade - 7th Grade

(229) 835-3322

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

Healthcare

Early Medical Center
11740 Columbia Street, 229-723-4241
www.emc.com

Early Medical Family Medical
11045 Columbia Street, Blakely
229-723-4313

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

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

**Early Medical Center
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

Early Medical Center 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

PCSWGGA 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

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 hour issues, please call the Blakely Fire Department at 229-723-5150.

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

Blakely Police Department – 229.723.3414
Emergencies - 911



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 Cedar
Springs Containerboard 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/>

Early Medical Center

229-724-4235

<http://lifebriteearly.com/>

Early Trucking Company

229-725-0452

www.earlytruckingco.com

Birdsong Peanuts

229-723-3641

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

Nucor

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>

Golden Peanut & Tree Nuts

229-724-7320

<http://www.goldenpeanut.com>

Civic Clubs and Other Organizations

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 Home Town
Blakely Rotary 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
Kiwanis Club
Relay for Life Cancer
Southwest Georgia Academy Athletic Booster Club

Day Care Centers

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

Danyelle Wentzell
The Rocking Horse Daycare Center
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

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

<http://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>

Early Medical Center
<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/>

