



**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**

18637 Hartford St., E

Edison, GA 39846

229.354-4001

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

# Healthcare

Early Medical Center  
11740 Columbia Street, 229-723-4241  
[www.emc.com](http://www.emc.com)

**Early Medical Family Clinic**  
11045 Columbia Street, Blakely  
229-723-4313  
Serving all of your family's non-emergency medical needs.

**Early Medical Center  
Therapy Center Physical**  
229-724-4269

**Long Term Living**  
Early Nursing and Rehab Center 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](http://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  
229-207-0049

**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**  
5110 Freeman Rd / 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.

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.

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://emc.com/>

## **Early Trucking Company**

229-725-4309

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

## **Birdsong Peanuts**

229-723-3641

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

## **Nucor 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>

## **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.

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  
Eastern Star  
Friends of Kolomoki Mounds  
Kiwanis Club  
Masonic Lodge  
Southwest Georgia Academy Athletic Booster Club

# Day Care Centers

Early County Head Start  
Child Care Learning Center  
5050 Freeman Rd  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.723.6814

LaTashia A. Foster  
Child Care Learning Home  
1148 Damascus St.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.308.6692

Gloria J. Price  
Child Care Learning Home  
16332 Hwy 39 S  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.308.2398

Jacquelyn D. Williams  
Child Care Learning Home  
34 Love St.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.723.6535

Charlotte L. Cushing  
Child Care Learning Home  
6658 Old Lucile Rd.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.723.5981

Delores B. Bryant  
Family Child Care Learning Home  
61 Twin Oaks Dr.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.308.2290

Linda A. Powell  
Family Child Care Learning Home  
299 Chattahoochee Ave.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.205.0441

Danielle Wentzell  
Rocking Horse Childcare Center  
40 A Harold Ragan Dr.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.723.6498

Mary J. Allen  
Child Care Learning Home  
219 Arnall Blvd.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.724.4466

Patsy A. Walters  
Child Care Learning Home  
113 Colonial Dr.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
229.723.6859

# LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Coheelee Creek Bridge



Early County Museum



Kolomoki State Park



Quail Country Plantation



Still Pond Vineyard & Winery



White Oak Pastures





## **EVENTS**

Christmas on the Square – 2nd Saturday, December  
Firecracker Festival – Thursday before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July  
Kolomoki Festival – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, October  
Peanut Proud Festival – 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, March

## **EVENTS – SEASONAL**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday – Spring / Fall  
Saturday Morning Market – Spring / Fall

# 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/>

**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 Connection**

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

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

<http://www.earlychoices.org>

**Early Medical Center** <http://emc.com/>

**Primary Care of Southwest Georgia**

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

**Early County Health Department**

<https://dphgeorgia.gov>

**Early County Museum**

<http://earlycountymuseum.com/>

**Peanut Proud Festival**

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

**Explore Georgia**

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

