

Save the Date!

NREDA CONFERENCE Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

July 18-20, 2012
The Westin Indianapolis,
Indianapolis, IN

Hotel:

The Westin Indianapolis
50 South Capitol Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 262-8100
(800) 228-3000
<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1033>
Deadline to register: June 25, 2012
Room rate: \$149/night

Transportation:

Indianapolis International Airport (IND), is where you can find more schedule-friendly nonstops to popular destinations— with 150 flights daily at IND. U.S. Department of Transportation data* indicate that IND's average domestic fare (\$308) is lower than the national average of \$337. Consider it a bonus that you will be flying out of a brand-new facility with streamlined security checkpoints, plentiful and convenient parking, great shopping and dining options, and colorful public art. More than 50% of the US population is within a one day's drive or less of Indianapolis. There are over 200 restaurants within walking distance of the downtown area.

Area Facts:

Time Zone: Eastern

Climate: Located in the mid-west region of the country, summers in Indianapolis are warm, sunny and rather dry, with July temps averaging a high of 89 °F and a low of 69 ° F.

How Do I Get More Information on Indianapolis?

Indianapolis Convention & Visitors Association <http://visitindy.com/>
200 South Capitol Avenue, Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46225-1063
800.323.INDY (4639) Ask Indy/Visitor Information | 317.262.3000 ICVA Office

What is the theme of the NREDA Conference for 2012?

“Crossing The Finish Line”

It is our objective to use this theme to discuss Rural Economic Development strategies to successfully get your organization across the finish line. Preparation, paying attention to detail, and creative luck will determine if you finish and the ultimate goal of 1st Place.

Should I bring my family?

Yes! Even without a car, there's plenty for them to do downtown while you're in the meeting. If the weather's fair, they can walk a block or two to rent bikes, paddleboats, or Segway personal vehicles on the Central Canal, right in the middle of White River State Park—where they can also stroll in and around two wonderful museums and across a grassy bridge over the river to the Indianapolis Zoo (one of *Trip Advisor's* Top Ten in America). If it's raining, there's our 4-story urban mall with stores ranging from Carson Pirie Scott to American Eagle. And if they do have keys to the car, they might want to drive a few blocks north to our Children's Museum, which *Child Magazine* declared was “Best in the Nation.” And if they want to occupy an afternoon, Conner Prairie on Indy's northside makes Frommer's list of “Places To Take Your Kids Before They Grow Up.” You might even want to book an extra day to get it all in.

What stands out about Indianapolis?

The Travel Channel declared the St. Elmo Steak House shrimp cocktail the “world's hottest meal.” *Sports Illustrated's* Peter King calls Indianapolis “the most walkable downtown in America.” *USA Today* called our award-winning art museum one of the world's “Top 10 Best Places To Propose.” Indy's walkable/joggable/bike-able Cultural Trail was deemed “an astonishing and amazing vision” by the Project for Public Spaces. *Meetings and Conventions* summed it up like this: “If there were a competition among cities for the title Overachiever of the Decade, the winner would be Indianapolis.”

A City Of/By/For Sports Lovers

It's probably not a surprise that Indianapolis is a natural destination for people who love sports—any or all sports. Pro ball? Tour the homes of the Colts, the Pacers and Indiana Fever, or catch a game at Victory Field, which *Sports Illustrated* called “the Best Minor League Ballpark in America.” Cross the street to try your hand at various college sports—shooting hoops in a *Hoosiers*-style gym mock-up, whacking a tennis or golf ball—in the NCAA Hall of Champions. Or come ready to swim laps at the world-famous Indiana University Natatorium, site of more than a dozen world records. If you want to really let off steam, there's miles of scenic running (not surprising in the city that hosts the nation's largest half-marathon). And if you golf, Indy's got award winning courses! And don't forget - the venue that hosts the world's first- *and* second-largest one-day sporting events—the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Perhaps you've heard of it.