In the Community:

There are an endless number of ways that you can get involved with the community and have a positive impact on sustainability efforts. Just a few of those ways are enumerated below, but more information can be found online on the “Getting Involved” page. Sustainability isn’t just about reducing waste; there are also a myriad of social justice and economic issues surrounding it. Many of these opportunities allow you to make a difference environmentally, while bettering the community for all.

Hoosier-to-Hoosier Sale
Coordinated in part by an IUOS intern, Hoosier to Hoosier (H2H) is a reuse program that aims 1) to divert reusable items from the landfill during student move-out, 2) to prevent additional resource consumption by selling collected items to students and community members in order 3) to raise funds for local charities and other organizations. Each summer, H2H needs volunteers to help collect, organize, and for sale day.

Hoosier Hills Food Bank
HHFB’s Garden & Gleaning programs provide locally grown, fresh fruits and vegetables for free distribution to those in need of emergency food assistance in our area. Volunteers and community supporters are the most important asset our programs have; the more volunteers, the more fresh food we raise and rescue. http://www.hhfoodbank.org/garden-gleaning.php

Bloomington Community Orchard
Bloomington Community Orchard is an organization devoted to growing fruit for the community to share and enjoy. The publicly owned orchard is maintained entirely by volunteers and the harvest is available to everyone in the community. http://www.bloomingtoncommunityorchard.org/site/

Bloomington Parks and Recreation:
Bloomington Parks and Recreation takes a proactive lead in promoting and practicing sustainability in the Bloomington community and Indiana University students, faculty and staff can play a role.

Volunteer to Maintain our Natural Spaces
Schedule a Day, August-November
Help maintain and restore some of Bloomington’s most scenic natural areas. Many individual and group volunteer projects are available throughout the Bloomington community. Help is needed in the parks listed below.

Community Gardening Program
Schedule a day, August-October
The Community Gardening Program grows both plants and community. Since 1984, the Parks and Recreation Department has offered community gardening opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds. A favorite venue of volunteer groups, the gardens benefit from a number of service projects throughout the year.

Adopt-A-Trail
One-year commitment

Many more opportunities are available at: http://bloomington.in.gov/parks

Volunteer at the Bryan House Garden

Located near the heart of the Bloomington Campus, the Bryan House is home to 900 square feet of gardening space and the site of the first campus community garden. By modeling different ways to produce food in a campus setting, the Bryan House gardens will serve as a pilot for future gardening projects on campus, as well as a space for students, faculty, and staff to engage in the process of growing food.

For more information on the IU Garden Initiative, to set up a group tour of the garden, or to sign up for the IU Garden Listserv, please email the Garden Coordinator at iugarden@indiana.edu!