State Poem-1963

I'ndiana"
by Arthur Mapes
of Kendallville

God crowned her hills with beauty,
Gave her lakes and winding streams
Then He edged them all with woodlands
As the settings for our dreams.
Lovely are her moonlit rivers,
Shadowed by the sycamores,
Where the fragrant winds of Summer
Play along the willowed shores.
I must roam those wooded hillsides
I must heed the native call,
For a pagan voice within me
Seems to answer to it all.
I must walk where squirrels scamper
Down a rustic old rail fence,
Where a choir of birds is singing
In the woodland, green and dense.
I must learn more of my homeland
For it's paradise to me,
There's no heaven quite as peaceful,
There's no place I'd rather be.
Indiana is a garden
Where the seeds of peace have grown,
Where each tree, and vine, and flower
Has a beauty all its own.
Lovely are the fields and meadows,
That reach out to hills that rise
Where the dreamy Wabash River
Wanders on ... through paradise.

What is an 'Arboretum?'

An arboretum is a place set aside for trees and plants to grow.
Our Arboretum has been designed to allow people to learn more about our great State as well.

Indiana
Be in a state of progress

The purpose of this Park is to honor our home state. It is hoped that all ages will find old memories or create new ones under the branches of the wonderful trees here. All the trees are indiginous to Indiana, and were donated by local people in honor or memory of loved ones. Each tree has a marker depicting its species and honoree.
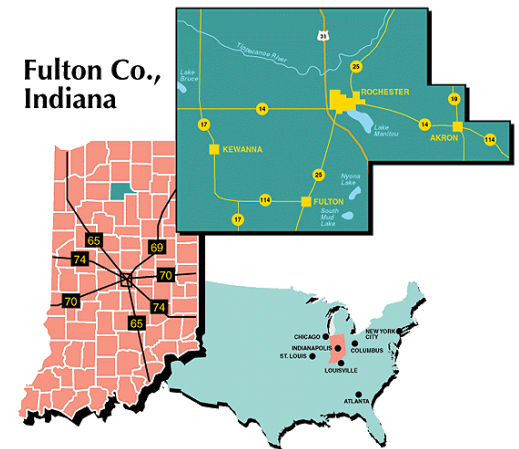
Space Tree:

Also in the Arboretum, there is a Sycamore called the Space Tree," because the seeds from which it was grown flew aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis on December 2-6, 1988 for Indiana's County 4-H Clubs. It flew 1.8 million miles!

Strolling Visual Library and Arboretum

Fulton County Public Library

Fulton Co., Indiana

WELCOME! *Please relax and enjoy our park. Leave nothing which does not belong, take nothing which should stay.*

Thank you!

State Seal-1816

Found on official territory papers as early as 1801, the seal depicts a typical pioneer scene. It was designed to portray the westward expansion, and the setting sun signifies Indiana as a foothold in the west for America. There were more than 200 variations of the seal between 1816-1963, when the General Assembly, by law, set it to look as it does now. The hills shown are from the area west of Vincennes. The buffalo is symbolic of our rich natural resources.

State Bird - 1933

The Cardinal is the state bird. The male is a brilliant red with tints of gray on their backs and black markings on their beaks. The females are olive gray and buff, with flecks of red on their wings. Cardinals are members of the Finch family and are seen all year long in Indiana.

State Song - 1913

"On the Banks of the Wabash Far Away" was written by Paul Dresser, whose brother was novelist Theodore Dreiser. He was born in Terre Haute and wrote several best selling songs.

State Tree - 1931

The Tulip Tree is also known as the Yellow Popular. It has showy yellow blossoms which resemble tulips. It is the tallest broad leaf tree in the U.S. Its wood is chiefly used for furniture.

State Flower - 1957

The Peony is found in shades of Red, Pink, and White. The Peony belongs to the Buttercup family. Green and red leafy shoots appear before the blooms open in late May.
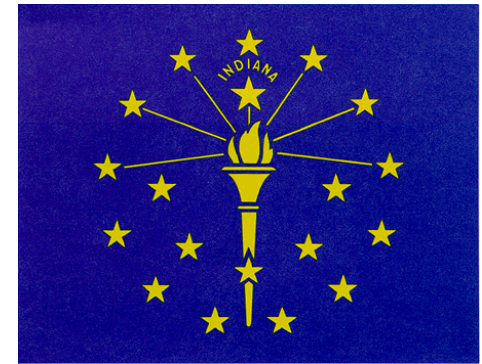
State Stone - 1971

Limestone is quarried in south & central Indiana from the geologic formation named Salem Limestone

State Motto - 1937

"The Crossroads of America."

State Flag-1917

Our flag was adopted as part of the comemmoration of the State's Centennial, and was designed by Paul Hadley of Mooresville. The central torch stands for liberty and enlightenment, and the surrounding rays represent their far-reaching influence. The 13 stars of the outer circle represent the original colonies; the 5 inner circle stars represent the 5 additional states admitted to the union before Indiana. The Large star centered over the flames signifies Indiana itself. Our flag has golden symbols on a field of navy blue.

If you'd like to find out more about Indiana, Fulton County, or anything else you've seen... please come into our library and browse or ask us a question. Thank you!