

MARENGO

Economic Development Commission



MARENGO COMMUNITY

Marengo, Illinois is 65 miles northwest of Chicago. It is a full-service community offering 24/7 police protection; water and sewer; Public Works and Building Departments. The Marengo Fire Protection District has eight full time firefighters and thirty volunteers. They have been able to keep costs down while still providing an outstanding ISO fire insurance rating of 3.

The Marengo Rescue Squad District has three fully-staffed ambulances. The Marengo-Union Library District is located in downtown Marengo and hosts a variety of social and educational activities for all ages. The Marengo Park District has an expansive 140 acre community park complete with fitness rooms, public pool, daycare center, dance studio and much more. The two public elementary school districts converge in the city, but both feed into the award-winning Marengo Community High School, completed in 2004.



Marengo's 1990 population of 4,753 has grown to 7,499 in 2007, an average annual growth rate of roughly 3%. The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning has projected Marengo to grow to 18,000 residents by 2030. A contributor to the steady growth is Marengo's access to three interstates (I-90 seven miles to the south, I-39 twenty miles to the west, and I-43 thirty miles to our north) and Union Pacific Railroad. These provide easy transportation opportunities to Chicago, Rockford, Bloomington/Normal, Janesville, Milwaukee, and Madison. Connecting Marengo to these Interstates and other areas are three arterial highways US-20, IL-23 and IL-176. In addition, there are several airports in the vicinity including O'Hare International forty miles southeast and Chicago Rockford International thirty miles west. We would like to take you on a personal tour of our community and help you fulfill your business needs.



Industry

Marengo has several longstanding manufacturers including McGill, known since 1924 for its craft and office punches; and Arnold Engineering, since the 1930's, a manufacturer of precision rolled alloy strip and foil used in aircraft, satellites, and batteries. More recently, a new line of industries call Marengo home including Nissan Forklift, material handling manufacturer; Engineered Polymer Solutions, paint resin manufacturer; and Diversapack, flexible packaging manufacturer and printer. From polymer production to forklift manufacturing to advanced metal products, businesses have access to a sizable labor pool of 180,940 with a strong Midwest work ethic and advanced skills.



Office

Marengo has several ready-to-go sites in the Northwest Center for Commerce located 7 miles off of I-90 and adjacent to US-20. Your business will enjoy a quiet and business friendly environment. Well-trained entry-level employees can be recruited from nearby McHenry County College and Northern Illinois University. You and many of your employees may enjoy a reverse commute, natural country beauty, excellent lunchtime venues, and low-cost Chicagoland area housing in a family-oriented community.

Retail

Marengo is underserved by retail. A report in 2004 stated that Marengo residents are spending more money outside the city than within. Marengo's close proximity to the Chicago and Rockford has provided easy access to regional shopping centers; however, closer venues are desired. In 2007, a survey of Marengo residents found that pharmacy, grocery, lodging and entertainment were desired closer to home. There was also a demand for general and specialty retail.