



Taylor is an impressive community from every angle. As a small town, our community pride thrives. Taylor has a rich texture of attributes that makes us one-of-a-kind: our warm welcome, parades and festivals, Friday night football games, antiques, proud history, neighborly spirit, period architecture and excellent schools. On any given day you can sit in one of Taylor's world-famous "barbecue joints" and overhear conversations ranging from the wholesale price of corn to the latest in data compression technology. Taylor is a progressive small town that has been a center for regional manufacturing and agribusiness since the late 19th century. We invite you to learn more about our people, our economy, and our lifestyle by visiting the pages in this section. Here, you'll find data and information that paints a complete picture of our impressive community.

Regional Information

Located on the Edge of Greater Austin's Growth Wave. We are located just 8 miles from the new State Highways 45 and 130, 16 miles from Highway 290, and 18 miles from Interstate 35.

Education

Taylor Independent School District. The Taylor ISD is a place without limits, full of rich traditions and a proud heritage. With approximately 3,000 students, our ISD is small enough to recognize the needs of each individual student and large enough to address them in creative and effective ways. Taylor is home to three elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school.

Recreation

Destination for Many, Home for a Fortunate Few. Taylor is home to a diverse, entrepreneurial population that embraces family values, hard work, and community involvement. Over the past decade, the influx of new residents aged 25-35 years old has had an invigorating effect on our city. From community investments in recreation and advanced technologies to a wide variety of youth programs, Taylor promotes an active contemporary lifestyle.

If you enjoy fishing, camping, swimming, or boating you will appreciate the convenient location of Lake Granger, located only eight miles from Taylor. The community offers opportunities to have fun with family and friends at annual events. Highlighting these events are the National Rattlesnake Sacking Championship, the annual rodeo, International Bar-B-Que Cook-Off, Bloomin' Festival, Fourth of July fireworks, annual salsa competition, and the Lights of the Blackland Christmas Lights Display.

Quality of Life

ETHNIC PRIDE: is a great part of the Taylor "mystique". The community takes great pride in its ethnic diversity that includes, Czech, Polish, German, English, Scotch-Irish, Swedish, Black, Hispanic, Mid-Eastern and other ancestry. This diversity is never more evident than during the annual "Taylor History Days". Examples of "ethnic Pride" are in the range of eating establishments within the city. Taylor is rightfully known for its great Bar-B-Que restaurants. Kolache, a slavic pastry, is also widely available.

As an emerging suburb, we give businesses affordable real estate that is located within a short drive to customers and suppliers in neighboring metros. We strive to maintain our quality of place, preserve our historic buildings, and keep our downtown inviting while taking a pro-development stance. New families are flocking to Taylor for our affordable housing and progressive attitude. These individuals are highly educated and entrepreneurial, seeking jobs in Greater Austin but hoping for a shorter commute time. We have more talent than jobs – one more reason this is an opportune time to invest in Taylor.

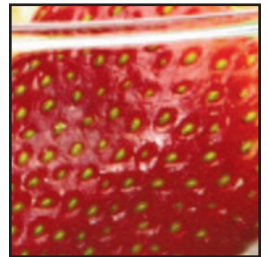
Business Overview

Taylor welcomes big thinkers: companies that think long term; those who are continuously scanning the horizon for future opportunity; companies that don't drift but set their course; and those who recognize potential and plan to grow with their community.

For many years, our economy has been largely based in agriculture and manufacturing. The hard working spirit of these industries stay with us today. We actively recruit companies that add to the diversity of our local industry while providing our residents with good employment.

With vision, determination, and uncommon resourcefulness, this bootstrapping city has achieved and sustained an impressive quality of life. Especially in recent years, businesses and individuals fleeing the congestion, high prices, and stifling regulations of larger cities have "discovered" the benefits of living and doing business in Taylor.

As a progressive business location, we have every tool in place to handle even the largest business operations. For two decades, we have witnessed Greater Austin's booming economy and recognized that growth would eventually stretch into Taylor. We have worked hard to prepare for it. From our citywide WiFi network to our shovel-ready business sites: We're ready for business!



Taylor Attractions:

Stately Mansions

are found throughout much of Taylor. Large old homes with two and three stories reflect a time of affluence in a young Taylor. Many of these homes have been maintained by generations of the same family, while others have been faithfully restored and modernized.

Cotton

has been one of the mainstays of Taylor's economy since the early 1800's. The rich soil and the skilled farmers who worked it made Williamson county a leading cotton producer. Most years will see some 80,000 bales of cotton harvested in the county and over 125,000 shipped from the Taylor Compress.

Moody Museum

"In a world where mankind is all-consumed with looking toward the future, we take great pride in preserving our past". The restoration of the Governor Dan Moody Birthplace-Museum build in 1887 is such an accomplishment. The Moody Museum reflects the traditions of a very distinguished family whose roots stem from Tennessee and Kentucky to Taylor. It is the boyhood home of Texas's youngest governor, Dan Moody. In 1926, at the age of 33, he became the youngest governor to hold this office in the history of Texas, he won the governorship after running against the famous Ma Ferguson. Dan had previously served as Williamson County Attorney and Texas Attorney General. The home received a Texas Historical marker in 1968. The house was given to the city in 1976 and notes Governor Moody's many accomplishments. Today, the museum houses many items of furniture and memorabilia from the family and is available for receptions, luncheons and other events. Postcards are now available.

Recreation and Entertainment

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Retail / Dining

Within Taylor, you'll find good shopping and restaurants. The world famous barbeque at Taylor's Louie Mueller's, Vencil Mares' Taylor Café, and Mikeska's is a draw for people from across the state. Another local favorite at Davis Grocery also always draws a crowd. The charming German-style Walburg Restaurant is located just outside of Taylor. Built in 1882, it has been featured in magazines such as Texas Monthly and Southern Living.

Locally owned antique shops and restaurants line Taylor's downtown streets. Just outside of downtown, residents find shopping convenient at national chains. A short drive into Austin provides residents with every type of shopping, from high-end stores like Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, and Macy's, to locally owned favorites like Whole Foods and eclectic boutiques.

Taylor's Bloomin' Festival

is the community's annual festival sponsored by the Main Street program. Usually held the first Saturday in May, the family-oriented event is held in Taylor's Historic Downtown District. There is something for everyone!

Tiny Tots and Children's Area: Held in the tree-shaded Heritage Square Park, the festival features plenty of fun activities for the kids, including pony rides, petting zoo, facepainting, inflatables and much more. The Taylor Merchants Association is helping to organize this area. Vendor

applications are available for anyone who is interested in having a booth in this area. For more information, call 365-8074.

Arts & Crafts: Booths featuring arts and crafts, plants, baked goods and retail merchandise will all be available. There will be good shopping and lots to look at! If you are interested in a booth, click on Vendor application.

Horticulture Demonstrations: Very informative and entertaining presentations by the experts are being planned by Keep Taylor Beautiful. These are free to attend.

Entertainment: There will be at least two stages featuring local and area talent to celebrate our community's diversity. Cultural and heritage music and song will be showcased throughout the day.

Food: Look for a variety of food and drink so you can spend the day strolling through the festival.

Car Show: Yes! This year car clubs from across the state will feature their tricked up PT Cruisers! This should prove to be a fun car show!

March

Annual Jimmy Heap and the Melody Masters Reunion

April

National Rattlesnake Sacking Championship
Live Music, Arts and Crafts, Carnival, fried snake meat

May

Taylor's Bloomin' Festival
Live talent, Food, Arts and Crafts, Kids games

June

Stiles Farm Field Day
View educational exhibits, equipment and farming demonstrations.

Truck & Tractor Pull

July

Annual Taylor Rodeo
Celebrate the American cowboy with full rodeo action. Dance after rodeo performances.

August

Taylor International BBQ Cook-off
Nationally recognized, prestigious event, arts and crafts, live music.

September

Taylor High School Homecoming
SPJST Annual BBQ Cook-Off

October

Taylor's Halloween Spooktacular
Heritage Square in Downtown is host to games, costume contest, free candy and photos.

November

Taylor Garden Club Christmas Bazaar
Arts and Crafts show set in holiday theme.

December

Christmas Parade of Lights
Lighted entries travel down Main Street.

Lights of the Blackland
Tour 9 communities along the Blackland Prairie with spectacular holiday lighting displays.