

here & there



This month Decatur Magazine takes you north to Rockford, Illinois where we'll see how Decatur's home market stacks up to the third largest city in Illinois. Located 65 miles northwest of Chicago and 90 miles east of the Mississippi River, Rockford is known as the "Forest City" due to its many tree-lined streets.

Much like Decatur, Rockford residents take pride in historic preservation, with projects ranging from a massive theater renovation to neighborhood revitalization. And they love the outdoors. With over 3000 acres of green space, Rockford is home to 185 parks for recreational enjoyment.

Like many industrialized cities, Rockford's industry took a major hit following World War II. Many core industries, including furniture and agricultural equipment manufacturing, were nearly extinct by the 1960s, while others, including machine tool and fastener manufacturing, are a fraction of their previous size. While the mid-'80s found Rockford with record level unemployment, today's economic base has evolved to include an abundance of professional and business services, in addition to manufacturing. Job growth continues to be a priority for Rockford city officials.

HERE Decatur, IL

Decatur Area Vital Statistics*
 County Population: 114,706
 Median Home Sales Price: \$89,089
 Effective Buying Income: \$47,841
 Address: 2330 Oakridge, Decatur
 Price: \$995,000
 Description: Lakefront home with sunset views, gourmet kitchen and irrigation system.
 Style: Raised ranch

Square Footage: 5431
 Year Built: 1996
 Bedrooms: 4
 Baths: 3.5
 Garage: 3 cars

Decatur home information provided by the Decatur Area Association of Realtors.

*Source: Decatur community information provided by the Economic Development Corporation for Decatur and Macon County.



THERE Rockford, IL

Rockford Area Vital Statistics**
 County Population: 150,115
 Median Home Sales Price: \$111,200
 Effective Buying Income: \$53,429
 Address: 3616 Central Avenue, Rockford
 Price: \$995,000
 Description: Family home set on wooded acreage within the Rockford city limits.
 Style: 1 1/2 story

Square Footage: 3240
 Year Built: 1978
 Bedrooms: 4
 Baths: 1.8
 Garage: 2 cars

Rockford home information provided by the Rockford Area Association of Realtors.

**Source: Rockford community information provided by the City of Rockford.

