



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central Indiana

Gardening Community | [Photo by Wendy Ford](#)

Happy New Year from HortusScope Made your resolutions yet? Our own Hoosier Gardener Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp goes for the green with a list of sensible, sustainable resolutions you can adopt for 2010. Visit her blog at <http://hoosiergardener.com/>. You'll also find the current HortusScope posted there in case you misplace this e-mail. With this issue, we embark on HortusScope's fifth year!

Now thru Jan 31 Fashion in Bloom at the IMA This exhibition drawn from the IMA's extensive Fashion Arts Collection brings together 25 fashions featuring flower motifs. Roses, poppies, petunias, peonies, chrysanthemums and wildflowers are executed in a range of techniques including printing, embroidery, beading and brocading. Among the designers whose work is exhibited are Norman Norell, Bill Blass, Givenchy, Galanos, Trigère and Callot Soeurs. Paul Fashion Arts Gallery. Free. [Virtual tour of the exhibition](#) **Related talk Thursday, January 21**, 7:00 p.m., IMA Tobias Theatre, [Revealing Garments: A Brief History of Women's Underwear](#).

Thursdays, January 7 thru May 13 Master Gardener Classes To become a Master Gardener in Marion County, you must: 1) Attend all 18 Master Gardener class sessions, equal to 50 hours of instruction (or watch a substitute videotape); 2) Obtain a score of at least 70% on the final exam; and 3) Complete 50 or more hours of approved volunteer service within one year of completing the training. Once you have completed your volunteer commitment, you will be certified as a Purdue Extension Master Gardener by Purdue University. Choose between [afternoon](#) and [evening](#) classes. [Registration information](#)

Saturday, January 9 Central Indiana Herb Society All About Herbs Start growing, using, and enjoying herbs all year round. Join the Central Indiana Herb Society on the 2nd Saturday of each month for a different herb-related program. Contact Garfield Park Conservatory for monthly topics. Programs are free, but a \$5 donation is suggested to cover supplies. 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. Register by calling 317-327-7580. www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

Saturday, January 9 Junior Garden Club at Garfield Park Attention future gardeners and nature nuts ages 6 to 12! Come join us each Saturday for a fun garden lesson and activity. 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis, Program is free, but registration is required by calling 317-327-7580. www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

Saturdays, January 9 and 23 Guided Tours of Garfield Park Conservatory The Garfield Park Master Gardeners will conduct tours highlighting the interesting and unusual plants in the Conservatory. Tours are free with \$1 paid admission to the Conservatory. 2:30 p.m., Garfield

Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis.
www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

Tuesday, January 26 Conservation Day at the Indiana Statehouse Show state legislators that Hoosiers care about protecting our precious natural resources and preserving our environment! Sponsored by the thirty-two organizations of the Indiana Conservation Alliance, this free event is also a great way to meet fellow conservationists throughout the state. This year the Alliance is advocating for a state renewable electricity standard, reauthorization of the Lakes Management Work Group, and a resolution to ban phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. A morning information session provides all the details for influencing your legislator. Find the agenda and more about INCA priorities at www.nature.org/indiana under "events." 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Indiana Statehouse, Indianapolis. [Register online](#) by January 16.

Thursday, January 28 Hoosier Daylily Society HooDS presents Joel Thomas Polston of [Pleasant Valley Gardens](#) showing off his "toothy" hybrids replete with teeth, jaws, and spikes. Open to the public. 7:00 p.m., Carmel City Hall, second floor. Contact lpnewton@sbcglobal.net for further information.

Sunday, January 31 Terrific Terrariums The Garfield Park greenhouse is alive and growing this time of the year! Come explore the "tropics" and make a terrarium of your own to liven up your house this winter. Fee is \$4 per child, ages 7 to 14. 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. Register by calling 317-327-7580.
www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

Monday, February 1 What Is "Bugging" Your Vegetables and Fruit Trees? Insect pests sometimes pose a problem to the home gardener who is trying to raise produce. Learn how to identify them, what the pests eat, and how to control them. Insecticides are a last resort; learn about "green" solutions like a row cover. Presented by Colletta Kosiba, Master Gardener, Master Naturalist. Free. 7:00 p.m., Brownsburg Library. Call 852-3167 to register.

Write a Letter, Save a Tree The Indiana Tree Alliance has launched a letter-writing campaign to encourage the Indiana legislature to enact the "tree bill," which is designed to protect the rights of landowners faced with tree trimming by the utility companies. The Alliance provides [step-by-step instructions](#) to get a quality letter off to your correct legislators in the quickest way possible (not a bad thing to know in any case). For background on tree trimming issues and the tree bill, visit IndianaTreeAlliance.com. The Alliance asks for letters to be sent **by January 7**.

Web Find Indiana's Hidden [Garden] Treasures Embodying the unseen beauty around us, Indiana's historic parks, boulevards, cemeteries, and estate gardens are culturally significant landscapes. Many have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. These open spaces and places of beauty are ready for tourists, educators, preservationists, historians, gardeners, and others to explore. This website will help you investigate the possibilities.
<http://hiddentreasuresindiana.org/>.

Grand Opening Nature's Crossroads A new Bloomington business is marketing local, earth-friendly gardening gifts and supplies, including cute "fairy garden" and "sunflower fort" kits for kids, organically grown vegetable and flower seeds, seed-saving kits, and green ideas for school fundraisers. Products are available at their website and from select retailers (e.g., The Garden Center, Traders Point Creamery Green Market). They will begin offering their full 2010 product line through their webstore on January 11 and will host a virtual grand opening on February 1, including several contests and prizes for organic gardeners. For more information, contact Maggie Sullivan at 812-327-9612 or e-mail maggie@naturescrossroads.com.
www.naturescrossroads.com

Grants Available Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society INPAWS makes available grants up to \$1000 for projects that advance the organization's mission (to promote the

appreciation, preservation, conservation, utilization and scientific study of the flora native to Indiana and to educate the public about the values, beauty, diversity and environmental importance of indigenous vegetation). The deadline for 2010 proposals is **February 1**. Find guidelines at www.inpaws.org under "Grants."

Support Your Local Treecycler From Green Piece Indy we learned about an entrepreneurial med student who will pick up your Christmas tree and take it to the nearest Indy Parks collection site for just \$10 anytime after December 31. Proceeds go to help fund a Medical Missions trip to Nicaragua. Call Jes Smith at 616-706-8661 or email jcs.smith@rocketmail.com. For other helpful recycling tips, visit www.greenpieceindy.com.

Calling All Chileheads **The Chile Woman** Who knew there were so many varieties of chile peppers? This Bloomington entrepreneur sells hundreds of varieties as individual chile plants (\$3) via mail order or her retail greenhouse at 1704 South Weimer Road. I encountered her catalog at Traders Point Creamery Green Market, and spotted varieties originating in Zimbabwe, Congo, Bulgaria, Peru, and Egypt among many other parts of the globe. She also sells sweet peppers, tomatoes, and tomatillo plants, everything needed to make your own salsa, and all "Hoosierganic"—sustainably home grown in Indiana. Contact Susan, The Chile Woman, at 812-339-8321 or chilewmn@thechilewoman.com. www.thechilewoman.com

Saturdays thru April Farmers Markets **Indy Winter Farmers Market** 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., The Chatham Center, 901 N. East St., Indianapolis. Park on both sides of East Street, in the parking lot just south of the Chatham Center, or in the parking lot of the Church of Christ at Park & 10th St. Bicycle/stroller parking on rack at the front door. Please do not park on residential streets in the neighborhood. www.indywinterfarmersmarket.org **Traders Point Creamery Green Market** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, in the heated Big Red Barn, Moore Road between 86th and 96th Streets. www.tpforganics.com/content/view/56/134/

Sunday, June 13 IMA Horticultural Society Auction Party **A Garden Affair** Mark your calendar and save the date for the Horticultural Society's biennial benefit in support of the grounds and gardens of the Indianapolis Museum of Art. The dinner and auction event will be held in the Museum's Deer-Zink Pavilion. www.imahortsoc.org

Worthy Cause **Indiana Natural Resources Foundation** If you love the outdoors, consider this organization's goal of providing ample land for both wildlife and recreation. Working with the Indiana Heritage Trust, the Foundation purchases land, permanently protecting and restoring it to a natural state. They have a **unique opportunity to protect 900 contiguous acres of wetlands along the Wabash River** in early 2010, but they need your help. Wetlands serve as filters, cleaning and purifying water, which leads to less pollution and healthier species. These wetlands are also important stopovers for migratory birds each spring and fall. Be a part of the protection and restoration of Indiana's natural heritage. [Tell me more](#)

Live Green and Prosper Subscribe to *Indiana Living Green* and support this worthy local effort to bring high-quality, free greening-up advice to the public. An \$18.00 subscription brings a bi-monthly issue to your mailbox hot off the press. To subscribe, visit <http://indianalivinggreen.com> or send a check to Indiana Living Green, Inc., 1730 S. 950 E., Zionsville IN 46077.

Photo Notes Meet my new garden assistant, Rocky. He absconds with my garden gloves, chews the corners of my catalogs, and generally lightens the mood around here. I miss my dear Nikki, who painstakingly supervised my gardening chores for fifteen years. She's at rest under the New Jersey tea by the raspberry bushes she so loved to sample, where I can say hello to her as I venture out to the compost pile. Here's to new beginnings and the perennial joys of canine companionship!

HortusScope, an e-bulletin for the Central Indiana gardening community, is published the first of every month as a public service by Wendy Ford. To submit news items, add or update your e-

mail address, or remove your name from the HortusScope e-mail list, please drop me a note at hortusscope@comcast.net. Supporting donations gratefully accepted at 6911 Cabernet Way, Indianapolis, IN 46278. (Thank you Shirley!!)