



## HortusScope | What's Up in the Central

Indiana Gardening Community | Photo by Geoff Von Burg

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**Monday, February 1 Herb Society of Central Indiana Herbs for the Birds** Kay O'Callaghan, Indiana Wildlife Federation, presents a hands-on demonstration on attracting birds with edible treats. 7:00 p.m., John Hensel Government Center, 10701 N. College Ave., Carmel. For information, call 317-714-3273 or visit [www.herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org](http://www.herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org).

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**Monday, February 1 What's "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.

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**Thursday, February 4 Hancock County Herb Society** Cheryl Jacques, author of *The Magnolia Principle: How Seeds, Weeds, and Needs Bloom Inner Peace* will be the featured speaker. Ms. Jacques is President of Brower/Jacques Design and Arcadia Nursery. Her award-winning work has been featured in many television shows and show homes. Refreshments will be served. Meetings are free and open to the public. 7:00 p.m. (doors open 6:30), Patricia Elmore Center, Riley Park, Greenfield. To learn more about HCHS or the meeting call Ellen Manolopoulos at 317-467-4782.

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**Tuesday, February 16 Landscaping with Rain Gardens: The ABCs of Design and Construction** This day-long workshop is designed for professional landscapers, garden centers, nurseries, landscape suppliers, parks departments, groundskeepers, and others who may be asked to design, construct, or maintain rain gardens. Rusty Schmidt, co-author of *The Blue Thumb Guide to Rain Gardens*, is the featured speaker. A professional landscape ecologist from Minnesota, Schmidt designs and constructs alternative methods for managing stormwater runoff; he has created hundreds of designs for habitat restorations, rain gardens, bio-infiltration swales, bio-retention basins, and stormwater ponds. Presented by Hoosier Heartland Resource Conservation & Development (HHRC&D) Council with several cosponsors. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Normandy Barn, Indiana State Fairgrounds. Class size limited; register early. Fee of \$50 includes handout materials, snacks, and lunch. Download the registration brochure at [www.hhrccd.org](http://www.hhrccd.org) or call 317-290-3250.

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**Tuesday, February 16 SWCD Event Toward a Sustainable Indianapolis** Learn about the City's sustainability activities at this 40<sup>th</sup> annual dinner meeting of Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District. John Hazlett, Project Manager for the City's Office of Sustainability will talk about how his office is working on energy, water quality, and recycling. Administering \$8 million in Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funds, they are funding such sustainability initiatives as constructing bike lanes, retrofitting city facilities, constructing solar panels and solar roofs, retrofitting traffic signals and street lighting to LEDs, and establishing a green building grant fund for the private and non-profit sectors. Tickets are \$15. 6:30 p.m., Primo South Banquet and Conference Center, 2615 E. National Avenue, Indianapolis (just south of the I-65/ Keystone exit,

north of Hanna and east of Keystone Avenue). **Reserve by February 5** by contacting Marilyn Hughes at 317-786-1776 or [marilyn-hughes@iaswcd.org](mailto:marilyn-hughes@iaswcd.org). For more about the SWCD, visit [www.marionswcd.org](http://www.marionswcd.org).

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**Thursday, February 25 New Niche Market: Sustainable Landscapes for Residential & Commercial Clients** This day-long seminar for landscape contractors shows how they can benefit from federal mandates for cities and towns to improve storm water quality and reduce storm water runoff by building rain gardens, bio-swales, and bio-retention features for sustainable landscapes. Speakers include award-winning landscape architect Ken Remenschneider, professional engineer Jennifer Roberts, limnologist and aquatic biologist Jill Hoffmann, sustainability officer John Hazlett, restoration ecologist Kevin Tungesvick, and IMA horticulture manager Chad Franer. **Register by February 10** to get the early bird fee of \$70, which includes continental breakfast and lunch; after that the fee is \$90. Registration closes February 22. 7:15 a.m., DeBoest Lecture Hall, Indianapolis Museum of Art. To obtain a registration form, contact Kevin Tungesvick at 765-286-7154 or [kevin@spencenursery.com](mailto:kevin@spencenursery.com).

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**Thursday, February 25 Hoosier Daylily Society Auction** The annual Hoosier Daylily Society members' auction. Open to the public. 7:00 p.m., Carmel City Hall, second floor. Contact [lpnewton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lpnewton@sbcglobal.net) for further information.

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**Saturday, February 27 2010 Spring Garden Clinic** IMA Horticulturist Geoff Von Burg will be a featured speaker. Presented by Marion County Purdue Cooperative Extension Service. Details at <http://www.ces.purdue.edu/marion/HortConEvents.htm>

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**Saturday, February 27 Hamilton County SWCD Workshop Creating a Backyard Wildlife Haven** Do you wonder what types of plants provide the best wildlife food, or what style of bird house would be best for your property? Are you considering a small backyard pond or other water feature for wildlife? Are you afraid that attracting butterflies will also bring scary snakes or bats? Do you need to know how to live with wildlife once you've attracted it? This workshop provides a solid overview of how to attract and protect wildlife on your property while still maintaining a beautiful and enjoyable outdoor area. Free. 8:00 a.m. to noon, Billerica Park Building, 12690 Promise Road, Fishers. Register at [www.hamiltonswcd.org](http://www.hamiltonswcd.org) or call 317-773-2181.

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**February Events at Garfield Park** Saturday, February 13: **All About Herbs**, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Join the Central Indiana Herb Society on the 2nd Saturday of each month for a different herb-related program. This month bring an empty pot to fill with herbs to take home. Programs are free, however a \$5 donation is suggested to the CIHS for to cover supplies. Registration required by calling 317-327-7580. Saturday, February 13: **Junior Garden Club**, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., ages 6-12. Attention future gardeners and nature nuts: come join us each for a fun garden lesson and activity. Program is free, but registration is required by calling 317-327-7580. Saturdays, February 13 and 27: **Guided Tours**, 2:30 p.m. Garfield Park Master Gardeners will highlight information about the interesting and unusual plants in the Conservatory. Tours are free with \$1 paid admission to the Conservatory. Thursday, February 14: **Sweets for Your Sweetie**, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., \$8/person or \$15/couple. Celebrate Valentine's Day in the Conservatory's tropical rainforest! Stroll along the candlelit paths and enjoy the "fruits" of the rainforest, including chocolate, coffee, and vanilla. Please register by February 12th by calling 317-327-7580. Saturday, February 27: **Plants that Bite Back!** 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., ages 7-14, \$3 fee. Can plants really bite? Come learn about carnivorous plants and other unique plants found in the Conservatory. See live examples and make a craft to take home. Registration required by calling 317-327-7580. All events at Garfield Park Conservatory and Gardens, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. [www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org](http://www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org)

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**Tuesday, March 2 101 Landscape Ideas** Add pizzazz and personality to your outdoor space with benches, bunnies, borders, water features, rock arbors, and other garden "stuff." Presentation by Master Gardener Colletta Kosiba. Free. 7:00 p.m., Plainfield Library, 1120 Strafford Road, Plainfield. Call 317-839-6602 to register.

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**Thursday, March 4 IMA Horticulture Class The Greatest Most Fantastical New Plants Ever – Maybe** Every year a great number of new plants hit the market. Some become true stars in the garden; others burn up faster than a meteor falling out of the sky. Enjoy a fun-filled hour with IMA Horticultural Display Coordinator Irvin Etienne as he looks at the latest selections of annuals, tropicals, perennials, trees, and shrubs, maybe even a few that belong on the compost heap instead of the sales rack! Price: IMA members \$11, non-members \$20. Class size limited to 20. **Register by March 1.** 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., Adult Lecture Room A, Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 Michigan Road, Indianapolis. [www.imamuseum.org](http://www.imamuseum.org)

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**Thursday, March 4 Purdue Extension Classes Adventures in Backyard Fruit Production** The Purdue School for Backyard Fruit Growers offers current and spiring backyard fruit growers the opportunity to learn from the experts about ways to increase the success and satisfaction of quality fruit production and to store, preserve, and prepare the fruits of their labors. Five Thursday sessions beginning March 4 and ending April 1. Registration \$50 for all sessions or \$15 for individual sessions. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at 22 sites across Indiana (remote viewing available from home). For registration information, contact Roy Ballard at 317-462-1113 or [rballard@purdue.edu](mailto:rballard@purdue.edu).

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**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](http://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 86<sup>th</sup> and 96<sup>th</sup> Streets. [www.tpforganics.com/content/view/56/134/](http://www.tpforganics.com/content/view/56/134/)

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**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](http://www.imahortsoc.org).

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**At Last! Styrofoam Recycling Available** An Indianapolis expanded polystyrene recycling center has a drop-off site that's open to the public. Bring your clean, white EPS (#6 plastic) items to [Createc](http://Createc.com), where they are densified, then sent to reprocessing plants that convert them to crystalline polystyrene to be used again by plastics molders. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, 6835 N. Guion Road, Indianapolis. Find the recycling bin on the south side of the building.

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**Good Idea Complete Streets** "Complete Streets" are designed and operated to enable safe access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation users of all ages and abilities, to enable them to move safely along and across the street. [Representative Nancy Dembowski](#) is proposing [statewide legislation](#) that would ensure that the entire right of way is consistently designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. A statewide leadership team comprised of [AARP](#), [American Planning Association— Indiana](#), [Bicycle Indiana](#), [Hoosier Environmental Council](#), and [Health by Design](#) invites you to join the Complete Streets effort by registering your support [here](#). To learn more about the 117 Complete Streets policies already in place nationwide, visit the [National Complete Streets Coalition](#).

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**Savvy Citizen Clean Energy in Your Future?** Not if we don't get our legislators on board! If you'd like to be informed of what's going on with the Clean Energy Bill and ways you can help, please let me know at [wwford@comcast.net](mailto:wwford@comcast.net).

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**Photo Notes** This winter eye candy was captured last December near the new IMA orchard by its keeper, horticulturist Geoff Von Burg. Pictured is the native coralberry, *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*. The artfully designed gardens of Indianapolis Museum of Art are worth a visit in any

weather! While waiting for spring garden chores, I recommend following the musings of Geoff and other IMA horticulturists at <http://www.imamuseum.org/blog/category/horticulture/>. Be sure to bookmark the blog so you can bypass the IMA website's arcane search feature.

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**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](mailto:hortusscope@comcast.net). Supporting donations gratefully accepted at 6911 Cabernet Way, Indianapolis, IN 46278. (Thank you Ambassador House/Heritage Gardens, Fishers!)