



HortusScope | What's Up in the

Central Indiana Gardening Community | *Illustration courtesy of Brushwood Nursery*

Saturday, April 2 Eco-Walk at Daubenspeck: What's in Your Water? Come stroll Alverna Creek in Daub Park to see first-hand how your actions in your own backyard, home, and this nature park can make a difference. Topics include rain gardens, bioswales, riparian buffers, phosphorus-free lawn fertilizer, rain harvesting, the aging storm water infrastructure, the importance of green space in Marion County, erosion planning in the park and in your yard, bioengineering, and more. Led by Matthew Kerkof, President at Hoosier Aquatic Management Inc. Free. Space is limited; sign up at daubpark@hotmail.com. 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., Daubenspeck Park, 8900 Ditch Road, Indianapolis. www.daubpark.org

Saturday, April 2 Boone County MG Gardenfest (Lebanon) A day of learning and fun sponsored by Boone County Master Gardeners. Free Purdue garden publications, while-you-wait soil pH testing, Pansy Patch for kids, the Potting Shed with pre-owned garden items for sale, snacks and lunch at the Garden Café. Guest speakers: 9:30 a.m., Butterfly Gardening (Jane Diedrich); 11:00 a.m., Diversity in Iris, The Rainbow Flower (Chuck Bunnell); 12:30 p.m., Shade Plants (Cynthia Miller Wilhoit); 2:00 p.m., Using Native Plants in Landscaping (George Peregrim). Free. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Boone County Farm Bureau Community Building, Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds, Lebanon (I-65 at Exit 138). Details: www.bccn.boone.in.us/mg/GardfestLgflyer2011.pdf

Sunday, April 3 Indianapolis Hosta Society Japanese Maples Kevin Collard, owner, horticulturist, and head grower at Pine View Nursery, Litchfield, Kentucky, tells all about Japanese maples. Free and open to the public. 3:00 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. www.indianapolishostasociety.org

Tuesday, April 5 Indiana Daylily & Iris Society Spend an evening with Mike Lockatel, owner of "Roots & Blooms" in Powhatan, Virginia, and an American Iris Society Garden Judge who has published articles on many aspects of iris culture. Some of his hybridized Siberian and reblooming bearded irises have won exhibition awards. Free and open to the public. 7:00 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. Information at 317-327-7180. (Iris Judges Training at 4:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, April 6 Greater Southside Garden Club Edible Landscaping (Wanamaker) Amy Mullen, The Fraudulent Farmgirl, will speak on growing your own edibles in the landscape. Guests are welcome. 7:00 p.m., Franklin Township Civic League Center, 8822 Southeastern Avenue, Wanamaker. Information at 317-862-6060.

Thursday, April 7 Hancock County Herb Society From Herbal Beginnings to Herbal Blessings (Greenfield) Carolee Snyder of Carolee's Herb Farm in Hartford City shares her

years of horticultural experience and highlights from her book, *Herbal Blessings*. Free and open to the public. 6:45 p.m., Patricia Elmore Center, Riley Park, Greenfield. For more information or directions call Ellen at 317-467-4782.

Saturday, April 9 Spring Spruce-Up at Daubenspeck Show your love for this community nature park by helping plant and mend what winter has undone, and enjoy the company of like-minded friends. Please dress in layers and bring boots as it could be muddy. Tools and cloth gloves are provided for you (but if you have a favorite pair, feel free to bring them). Parking is very limited, but there is plenty room on the nearby neighborhood streets. Please try to carpool, bike, or walk. Contact us (www.daubpark.org/contactus.html) for questions, special needs, or just to RSVP. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Daubenspeck Park, 8900 Ditch Road, Indianapolis.

Saturday, April 9 Free Garden Show: Gardening for ALL Ages Hendricks County Master Gardeners welcome kids to seniors to learn everything from planting vegetables and flowers to tree care. Among the highlights: special activities at the children's booth, the "Vegetable Express" train, how to preserve your extra produce, Garden Wizard booth. Free trees! Free seeds! And garden classes all day: 10:00 From Farm Gate to Dinner Plate; 11:00 Growing Using & Preserving Culinary Herbs; 12:00 Bats Myths & Benefits (Live Bats); 1:30 Landscaping 101; 2:30 New Plants for 2011. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds, Danville. www.hendricksgardeners.com

Tuesday, April 12 Container Planting If you have ever been stumped on what to plant in your pot or how to arrange the material, you will want to attend this session. Advanced Master Gardener Colletta Kosiba explains how and what to plant for a fantastic container this year. Free. 7:00 p.m., Brownsburg Library, 450 South Jefferson St., Brownsburg. Register at 317-852-3167.

Wednesday & Thursday, April 13 & 14 Indiana Daffodil Society Flower Show Members from the Indiana Daffodil Society will be available during this judged show to answer questions about growing and maintaining daffodil bulbs and plants. Free and open to the public. Wednesday, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to noon, Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. For more information call 317-295-8849 or visit www.daffodilusa.org.

Thursday, April 14 IMA Horticultural Society Kitchen Garden Renaissance Join herb specialist Susan Belsinger for this informative and entertaining program on the revival of the kitchen garden. She will talk about working from the ground up—beginning with preparing the soil, making compost, and sowing seed—to what kind of amendments are needed to grow different crops, from the grey and green Mediterranean herbs to vegetables and annual flowers. Supported by the IMA Horticultural Society. Tickets \$5. Free for Horticultural Society Members. 7:30 p.m., Tobias Theatre (The Toby), Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 North Michigan Road, Indianapolis. www.imamuseum.org/talk/kitchen-garden-renaissance

Saturday, April 16 Vegetable Gardening Oh those fresh tomatoes!! Raising your own produce saves money, but the most rewarding part of vegetable gardening goes to your taste buds: New potatoes, fresh shelled peas, and a ripe tomato from the garden makes the grocery store's produce taste like cardboard! Advanced Master Gardener Colletta Kosiba explores cool weather and warm weather vegetables. Free. 10:00 a.m., Danville Parks/Recreation, 49 N. Wayne Street, Danville. Register at 317-745-3015.

Saturday, April 16 Spring Herb Symposium: Horseradish, The Herb of Kings The Herb Society of Central Indiana hosts Susan Belsinger, culinary herbalist and educator, who will entertain and delight with horseradish basics, and "Horseradish in the Kitchen: From Fatal Fumes to Fiery Flavor." Janell Foust will speak about herbal remedies. Come and enjoy an herbal luncheon, plant and herb vendors, silent auction, and door prizes. Cost is \$40.00. **Register by April 8.** 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Ritz Charles, 12156 N. Meridian, Carmel. For more information call 317-575-8005. Download registration form at www.herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org.

Saturday & Sunday, April 16 & 17 Perennial Premiere at the IMA This annual salute to spring provides the novice gardener and the seasoned green thumb with a broad selection of plants including small trees and shrubs, native plants, herbs, dwarf conifers, and perennials. The weekend celebration has expanded to include other local vendors and horticulture and nature organizations. As always, IMA horticulturists will be on hand to answer any questions, and attendees can take a guided garden walk and see demonstrations. Free. Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (IMA members-only sale 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.); Sunday, noon to 5:00 p.m., Madeline Elder Greenhouse, Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 Michigan Road, Indianapolis.
www.imamuseum.org/special-event/perennial-premiere

Sunday, April 17 Z'GreenFest (Zionsville) Celebrate Earth Day/Arbor Day at Zionsville's 5th annual festival that features over 30 booths to inspire "green" living. There will be non-stop musical entertainment, hands-on activities, live animals, and games for all ages to enjoy. Free. 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., rain or shine, Hussey Mayfield Memorial Public Library, 250 N. 5th St., Zionsville. More information at <http://zgreenfest.blogspot.com> or www.zionnaturecenter.org or 317-873-8950.

Saturday, April 23 Earth Day Celebration Enjoy 130 environmental and conservation exhibits, live music, good food, and special activities for kids at this free outdoor festival. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., rain or shine, White River State Park, 801 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis.
www.earthdayindiana.org

Saturday, April 23 Shelby County Garden Clinic (Shelbyville) A day of speakers, vendors, and demonstrations sponsored by the Shelby County Master Gardeners. Free admission. Food available for purchase. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Shelby County Fairgrounds, Shelbyville. For more information call 317-392-6460.

Friday, April 29–May 1 Orchard in Bloom Recognized by The American Horticultural Society as one of the top garden shows in the country, this 22nd annual event highlights edible landscapes and edible schoolyards. Living green lifestyle expert and Discovery Network host Sara Snow is the show's honorary chairman. The show features methods to a greener, healthier lifestyle in the landscape displays, the container gardening competition, the speakers, the children's activities, even the café. Advance tickets \$10 at Marsh Supermarkets, National Bank of Indianapolis branches, The Orchard School, and the Holliday Park Nature Center; \$12 at the gate the days of the show. A three-day ticket is \$15. Children 14 and under free. Friday & Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, Noon to 5:00 p.m., Holliday Park, 64th and Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. Free parking and shuttle service available at Second Presbyterian Church, 7700 N. Meridian Street. www.orchardinbloom.org

Saturday, April 30 Create a Year-Long Landscape with Peonies (Fishers) The Friends of the Heritage Gardens host this lecture by Don Smith, founder of the Midwest Peony Society and a hybridizer of peonies and over 130 daylilies. A plant auction will follow to benefit the Heritage Gardens. Light refreshments served. Open to the public. \$5 donation appreciated. Free to Friends of the Heritage Gardens. 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Park at Historic Ambassador House and Heritage Gardens, 10595 Eller Road, Fishers. RSVP to ppowers_2000@yahoo.com.

Saturday, April 30 Tippecanoe County Garden Expo (Lafayette) Find plants, information, the Master Gardener plant sale, hands-on activities for young gardeners, door prizes, more than 30 garden booths, and a Garden Café. Garden experts will share their tips: 10:00 a.m., Square Foot Gardening; 11:30 a.m., Hostas and Perennials in the Shade Landscape; 1:30 p.m., Growing Cut Flowers & Creating Arrangements. Free. 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds, 1400 Teal Road, Lafayette. www.tippecanoemastergardener.org

Volunteer CILTI Work Days Enjoy Central Indiana Land Trust nature preserves by either volunteering, participating in a hike, or both! April 7, 9:00 a.m.: Invasive species removal at Blue

Bluff and Shalom Woods Nature Preserves (Morgan County). April 12, 9:00 a.m.: Invasive garlic mustard eradication at Meltzer Woods (Shelby County). April 17, 2:00 p.m.: Spring wildflower and bird hike at Burnett Woods (Hendricks County), led by Roger Hedge, DNR Ecologist, organized by our partners at Amos W. Butler Audubon Society. Registration is required and space is limited! Tuesday, April 19, 9:00 a.m.: Invasive garlic mustard removal at Burnett Woods (Hendricks County), and another chance to see Burnett Woods' beautiful palette of spring wildflowers. Saturday, April 23, 9:00 a.m.: Invasive garlic mustard removal at Meltzer Woods (Shelby County). Saturday, April 30, 9:00 a.m.: Invasive garlic mustard removal at Jacob Schramm Nature Preserve (Hancock County). For all events, please sign up at info@conservingindiana.org or 317-631-5263 x116. Directions and details will be emailed a few days before each event. www.conservingindiana.org

IWF Water Workshop Series Do you know which environmental problems jeopardize your watershed? Or how excess nutrients affect wildlife and water quality? How you treat your watershed can affect ecosystems hundreds of miles away. Join one of Indiana Wildlife Federation's free workshops to learn about water quality issues that endanger native wildlife. Get the tools you need to help revive healthy streams through sustainable landscaping and conservation practices. April 12, Hanover; April 26, Dobbs Park Nature Center in Terre Haute; May 10, Minnetrista, Muncie; May 24, Tippecanoe Public Library (Klondike Branch), West Lafayette. All workshops are open to the general public. Details at www.indianawildlife.org/phosphorus.htm

Road Trip Gardens and Nurseries of Southern Indiana On May 14, join The Friends of the Heritage Gardens garden club on a day trip to visit three outstanding gardens: Munchkin Nursery & Gardens, Depauw, specializes in native and non-native woodland plants, and rare and unusual shade perennials. www.munchkinnursery.com Don and Kathy Smith's garden, Floyds Knobs, has over 300 peony bushes as well as irises, roses, and clematis. Hidden Hill Nursery & Sculpture Garden, Utica, has whimsical gardens woven in and about their nursery which features hard-to-find flowers, shrubs, and trees as well as unique art. www.hiddenhillnursery.com Cost \$40, includes bus fare and snacks. We will stop for lunch. Bus departs 7:00 a.m. from the parking lot at Marsh Grocery, 116th & Allisonville Road, Fishers. Register ASAP with Peg at ppowers_2000@yahoo.com or 317-596-2866.

100 Years, 100 Miles, 100 Parks—Take the Challenge! Indy Parks' 100 Year Celebration initiative invites you to rediscover parks! Visit and learn about 100 significant and historic parks in our system and see what is available right outside your front door. Register to download the challenge worksheet at www.indyparks.org, or pick one up at any Indy Parks facility. A challenge could take you to Bertha Ross Park to find what is written on the plaque, or to Holliday Park to discover a unique water feature. Or, take the challenge to walk, run, bike, or swim 100 miles! Indy Parks has nearly 120 miles of greenways and soft trails, not to mention lap lanes at our aquatics facilities. Details at www.indyparks.org or join Zuri Hall, the Face of MyNDY TV, as she takes the challenge at www.myndy.com.

Buy a Rain Barrel! Start Composting! Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) has been preaching the benefits of rain barrels, composting, native plantings, and other conservation practices for years. Now they are also selling the products they recommend: various sizes and colors of plastic rain barrels, two types of oak rain barrels, accessories like downspout diverters and pedestals, tumbling composters, bird houses, "The Blue Thumb Guide to Raingardens," 2009 plat books, tile probes, marking flags, and, in the fall, native trees and shrubs. By purchasing from the SWCD, you are receiving items at a competitive price while also supporting their mission and helping protect Hamilton County's environment and natural resources for future generations. Visit www.hamiltonswcd.org to purchase some items online, or call 317-773-2181 to get our "Items for Sale" brochure and start shopping!

Events at Holliday Park Labor and Learn Garden Workshops: Join the volunteer effort that has transformed the historic rock garden at Holliday Park. The first Friday of every month, skilled

horticulturalist Chris Turner will begin the work session with a discussion of a popular gardening topic. Other sessions are open for questions and answers. All sessions include time working in the garden. Tools and refreshments provided. Free. April 8 and 22, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. **Garden Work Days:** The diverse landscaping and gardens of Holliday Park provide visitors beauty no matter what the season. Here's your chance to become a steward of these beautiful grounds. Whether you are looking to fulfill master gardener requirements or just want to give something back to the park, everyone is welcome. Tools and refreshments provided. Free. April 9, 13, 23 and 27, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. **Wildflower Hike:** Join Norma Wallman for a leisurely hike as she shares her knowledge of the spring wildflowers blooming in the hills and hollows of Holliday Park. \$5/participant, call 327-7180 to register. April 9, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Holliday Park, 6363 Spring Mill Road, 317-327-7180. www.hollidaypark.org

Events at Zion Nature Center (Zionsville) Spring Bird Hikes: Bird hikes for adult beginners and advanced birders every Thursday in April at Zionsville's Starkey Nature Park. Led by local birder Rob Ripma. Free. 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., meet in the parking lot off Sugarbush Drive. More information at 317-873-8950 or znaturecenter@aol.com. **Easter Egg Gourds:** April 9-10 (ages 5 to adult). Decorate beautiful natural Easter eggs using gourds. These home-grown gourds are the perfect shape & size and will last for years to come. Fee \$2, all supplies included. Drop in Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.; or Sunday between 12:00 noon and 5:00 p.m.

Events at Garfield Park Orchid Show: See the Conservatory filled with blooming orchids from across the Midwest as they compete for awards! Check out stunning orchid displays and have a chance to purchase from local orchid vendors. April 16 & 17, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; \$3 per person or \$8 per family. **Conservatory Guided Tours:** Join Garfield Park Master Gardeners on a tour highlighting the interesting plants and history of the Conservatory. Saturdays, April 9 & 23, 2:30 p.m., free with \$1 admission. Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

Sycamore Land Trust Events Wildflower Hike (Lawrence & Orange Counties): April 16, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., \$15 for adults, free for students. Led by Kay Yatskievych, author of *Field Guide to Indiana Wildflowers*, and Carroll Ritter of SLT. Register by April 13. More info at 812-883-3006, ext.5 or maryjane.deel@in.usda.gov. Open to the first 30 people. **Just-for-Kids Photo Workshop at Yellowwood Farm (Brown County):** April 23, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. Part of the Brown County Wildflower Foray, this workshop is led by Carroll Ritter and Martha Fox of SLT. Register and get more info at tcsteele@bloomington.in.us. **Garlic Mustard Pull at Touch the Earth (Bartholomew County):** April 24, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Please respond by April 15 to info@sycamorelandtrust.org or 812-336-5382 x100. **Frogs and Rails: Looking and Listening at Beanblossom Bottoms (Monroe County)** April 30 and May 7, 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. Free for SLT members; for non-members, recommended donation \$5 per adult or \$10 per family. Led by Vicky Meretsky, IU-SPEA Associate Professor of Conservation Biology and Applied Ecology, and John Lawrence of SLT. Register and include your phone number by April 20 to info@sycamorelandtrust.org or 812-336-5382 x100. Open to the first 25 people. Come early and pull garlic mustard, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. www.sycamorelandtrust.org

Farmers Markets Indy Winter Farmers Market Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Maxwell, 530 E. Ohio St., Indianapolis. www.indywinterfarmersmarket.org **Traders Point Creamery Winter Green Market** Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to noon, 9101 Moore Road, Zionsville. www.tpforganics.com **Binford Farmers Market** opens its 2011 indoor season on Saturday, April 2, at its convenient, visible location at 62nd & Binford Boulevard on Indy's northeast side. Find the season's best bounty of vegetables, baked goods, flowers, perennials, lamb, artisan cheeses, Traders Point yogurt, and ethnic and gourmet specialty products here. All of the agriculturally related items are produced in Indiana. 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. www.BinfordFarmersMarket.com

Photo Notes I found Brushwood Nursery while surfing the net for sources of native vines—and what an awesome variety they have! www.gardenvines.com/shop/native-vines-1 I liked their

masthead graphic so much that I just had to show it to you.

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.