



## HortusScope | What's Up in the Central Indiana

Gardening Community | [Illustration courtesy wpclipart.com](#)

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**Now through October 7 Orchid Fest at Garfield Park Conservatory** Don't miss this display of hundreds of blooming orchids set against the backdrop of the tropical Conservatory. Orchids and supplies will also be available during this special event. \$3/person, \$8/family. Monday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., Garfield Park Conservatory and Gardens, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. [www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org](http://www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org)

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**Monday, October 1 Herb Society of Central Indiana Winter Comfort with Herbs** Members and guests are invited to make soup, lemon grass wreaths, herbal butters, beer bread mixes, a healing bath tub tea, and a sniffy bag. Fresh herbs and ingredients provided by members. Join us for this wonderful evening of smells and tastes. Public Welcome. 7:00 p.m., John Hensel Government Center, 10701 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis. Contact 317-319-2946 or visit [www.herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org](http://www.herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org).

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**Friday-Sunday, October 5-7 Environmental Education Association of Indiana Annual Conference** This year's conference theme is "Environmental Literacy: Creating Stewards for a Sustainable Indiana." Keynote speakers include: Dr. Frances Kuo, University of Illinois, Associate Professor and Director, Landscape and Human Health Laboratory; Sarah Bodor, National No Child Left Inside Coordinator, Chesapeake Bay Foundation; Traci Price, No Oregon Child Left Inside Coordinator and Advocacy Committee Chair for NAAEE. Concurrent sessions will provide the context for developing, supporting, implementing, and evaluating a state Environmental Literacy Plan. There will also be popular activities such as the annual song writing contest, awards banquet, silent auction, the Muscatatuck bookstore, hospitality room sponsored by the EEAI board, and more. Held at Jameson Camp, Indianapolis. Visit [www.eeai.org](http://www.eeai.org) for full conference details and registration information.

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**Saturday, October 6 Fall Creek Gardens Shared Roots Harvest Pitch-In** Come for a lunchtime picnic at Fall Creek Gardens. Folks are invited to bring a dish that has a story--whether a cultural offering or just a personal favorite. We also urge everyone to bring their own reusable dinnerware. We will be exchanging stories and recipes related to the foods that we bring and share, and celebrating both our differences and the roots we have in common. Noon, Fall Creek Gardens, 3005 Central Avenue, Indianapolis. [www.fallcreekgardens.org](http://www.fallcreekgardens.org).

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**Saturday, October 6 INPAWS Hike Mosses & Liverworts of Fern Cliff (Putnam County)** Pack a lunch and join members of the Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society in a hike showing off the bryoflora of Putnam County, which has almost half of the 450 species reported from Indiana. Enchanting Fern Cliff was former DePauw University bryologist Winona Welch's favorite field site. 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Details and directions at <http://www.inpaws.org/2012/hike-fern-cliff-preserve-october-6/>

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**Sunday, October 7 Orchids 101** This is a great opportunity to learn more about growing orchids at home. Orchid beginners will learn the basics of watering and repotting and what orchids make the best houseplants. Ages 18+. Fee \$6; registration required. Price includes

admission to the Orchid Fest display. 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Garfield Park Conservatory and Gardens, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. [www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org](http://www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org)

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**Monday, October 8 Indianapolis Hosta Society Design and Installation of a Fern Garden** Pteridologist Ralph Archer of Louisville, Kentucky, will discuss the building of a woodland garden. A true "fernatic," Ralph is a member of the Hardy Fern Foundation, The American Fern Society, and the British Pteridological Society as well as a Master Gardener. Free and open to the public. 6:30 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. [www.indianapolishostasociety.org](http://www.indianapolishostasociety.org)

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**Tuesday, October 9 Slow Food Indy Fundraising Dinner** Help support leaders in the local food movement. Slow Food Indy is proud to be sending four Hoosiers to represent our area at the Terra Madre and Salone del Gusto international food fair and conference in Turin, Italy. Upon their return, the delegates will participate in a panel discussion and Q&A for members about their experience. Although partial support for the event comes from Slow Food USA and International, participants rely on local chapters to help defray their travel expenses. Todd and Kathleen Jameson of Farmlndy, local food activist Jennifer Burns, and Kristen Serrano of Small Wonder Farm and La Scala restaurant in Lafayette will be in Italy on October 25th for the event. Seats are \$50; make your reservation today. 6:30 p.m., R Bistro, 888 Massachusetts Avenue, Indianapolis. Reservations at 317-423-0312.

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**Saturday, October 13 Fall Creek Gardens Gardens in Winter: How to Extend the Growing Season** So, you've planted a fall garden. Your carrots are thriving, the spinach is lush...but the weatherman is predicting a real cold snap. What to do? A cold frame? Row covers? A hoop house? Master Gardener Jamie Gibbs leads this practical workshop on the best season-extension methods for any garden. Free. 11:00 a.m. to noon, Fall Creek Gardens, 3005 Central Avenue, Indianapolis. Register at [www.fallcreekgardens.org](http://www.fallcreekgardens.org).

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**Saturday, October 13 Adventures in Gardening** Dr. Doug Tallamy, the guru of habitat gardening, is the featured speaker for this day-long workshop sponsored by the Hendricks County Master Gardeners. Also on the program are Ellen Jacquart, speaking on invasive species control for land owners, and a session on the Hendricks County Pollinator Project, reflecting on the 90 food crops eaten in North America that depend on pollinators. 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Hendricks County Fairgrounds Auditorium, Danville. Registration form at <http://www.hendricksgardeners.com/>.

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**Tuesday, October 16 KIB Programs Rain Barrels 101** Rain barrels are one way to reduce the amount of stormwater going into the sewers, and also provide you with free water for your garden, flowers, and thirsty trees—especially with the watering ban in effect! Attendees to this hands-on workshop will construct a working rain barrel to take home, with the help of Andy Cochran, owner of Circle City Rain Barrels. Folks will be taught how to build a rain barrel, and how and where to place it. No special construction skills needed. Please wear clothes you can get dirty. This workshop is limited to 10 people, so sign up fast! 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, 1029 Fletcher Ave. Suite 100, Indianapolis. Register at <http://www.kibi.org/workshop>

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**Wednesday, October 24 Food Day** A nationwide celebration and movement toward more healthy, affordable, and sustainable food, created by the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI). Food Day is powered by a diverse coalition of food movement leaders, organizations, and people from all walks of life. Its purpose: to address issues as varied as health and nutrition, hunger, agricultural policy, animal welfare, and farm worker justice. The goal of Food Day is to strengthen and unify the food movement in order to improve our nation's food policies. Join this push for a stronger, more united food movement by signing up to organize or attend Food Day events in your community. <http://www.foodday.org/about>

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**Thursday, October 25 Heritage Gardens Lecture Series Native Shrubs in Your Landscape**

Responding to your requests, the Friends of the Heritage Gardens present Sally Weeks, Manager of the Dendrology Laboratory at Purdue University in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources. Her presentation will include many close-up photos for the easy identification of shrubs. Sally has taught tree identification at Purdue for 15 years and has published several books. Her latest, *Shrubs and Woody Vines of Indiana and the Midwest*, will be available for purchase at the meeting. Open to the public/\$5 donation appreciated. Free to members of the "Friends of the Heritage Gardens" Club. Light refreshments provided. 7:00 p.m., Ambassador House, 10595 Eller Road, Fishers. RSVP to Peg Powers at [ppowers\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:ppowers_2000@yahoo.com). [www.ambassadorhouse.org](http://www.ambassadorhouse.org)

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**Saturday, October 27 Fall Creek Gardens Starting a Community Garden** Bring your questions--and your neighbors!--and learn the best ways to acquire land and interface with the City, test the soil, identify and engage interested neighbors, come up with garden guidelines, source water for irrigation, improve soil fertility, design the garden layout, and more. Find out about the resources available to you in Central Indiana, and take a look at a new Community Gardening Handbook from Fall Creek Gardens and the Indiana State Department of Health. Free. 9:30 a.m. to noon, Discovery Hall, Suite 201 (Purdue-Extension-Marion County Classroom), at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, 1202 East 38th Street, Indianapolis. Register at [www.fallcreekgardens.org](http://www.fallcreekgardens.org).

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**Saturday, November 3 INPAWS Annual Conference It's All About the Plants** Meet kindred spirits and learn about the many facets of native plants at this day-long event presented by the Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society. The last two conferences focused on biodiversity and conservation. The theme for this year brings us back to the basics of botany, focusing on the identification of plants and their occurrence in nature. The better we can identify native plants, the better we can be advocates for them. Keynote speakers are Rob Naczi, one of the leading botanists/taxonomists in the world, and James Locklear of Nebraska's Lauritzen Gardens. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Schwitzer Student Center, University of Indianapolis. Find speaker bios, topics, and a registration brochure at [www.inpaws.org](http://www.inpaws.org). Discounts apply if you register by October 25.

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**Events at Marian University EcoLab Volunteer Conservation Day:** October 20, 9:00 a.m. at the St. Francis Colonnade. **Wednesday Birdwalks:** 8:00 a.m. at the St. Francis Colonnade. Marian University, Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Visit us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/MarianUEcoLab> For more information on upcoming events see: <http://www.marian.edu/EcoLab/Pages/EcoLabCalendar.aspx>

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**New Era for Avant Gardener** If you're a gardening fool like me, you've probably read *Avant Gardener: The Unique Horticultural News Service*, an award-winning, information packed text-only newsletter produced by Tom & Betty Powell on a home typewriter since 1964. Its aim: to inform gardeners of horticultural news in an unbiased, objective, accurate way. With Tom's retirement, the news service has passed into the hands of noted garden writer/gardener Derek Fell and his wife Carolyn—and it's now online, where you can enjoy full color photos along with the same unbiased reporting. Check out the free sample issue at [www.avantgardener.info](http://www.avantgardener.info).

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**What a Deal! SWCD Fall Tree and Shrub Sale** Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District is offering 34 tree and shrub species ranging in price from \$18 to \$32 depending on size. Order blanks and brochures are available at our office or call 317-786-1776 and we will mail out a brochure that includes the order blank, a description of each tree and shrub for sale, and all the details needed for successful planting. The **order deadline is October 2**, with pick up on October 13 at our office on the Indiana State Fair Grounds (details will be mailed to each customer). More information at <http://marionswcd.org/tree.htm>

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**Learn to Lead in Watershed Management** If you're interested in water quality and watersheds, consider applying for the 2013 Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy, organized by Purdue University with support from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and other

Indiana conservation agencies and organizations. In face-to-face and online sessions, the Academy engages participants in basic and advanced level watershed topics covering leadership principles, watershed science, organization and communication, technology and GIS, stakeholder involvement techniques and policy skills. They will meet, learn from, and build a network of peers; gain strategies, skills, and resources; and earn a Professional Certificate in Watershed Management. Fee of \$600 includes lodging, food, and course materials. **Enroll by November 2** at <http://engineering.purdue.edu/watersheds/> The Academy runs from January to May, 2013.

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**Photo Notes** In Indy's suburban Avalon neighborhood, I saw a huge front yard garden given over to pumpkins! The leaves were tatty, but I could see little orange pumpkins all over the place. Way cool!

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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.