



## HortusScope | What's Up in the

Central Indiana Gardening Community | Illustration courtesy of [agrowingobsession.com](http://agrowingobsession.com)

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**Thursday, August 1 Hancock County Herb Society** Tour of Rushville Nature Center. Meetings are free and the public is welcome and encouraged to come share their knowledge, or to learn more about growing and using herbs. 6:30 p.m., Rushville Elementary School, 390 W. 16th St., Rushville. For information about the Society, visit [www.easysite.com/HCHS](http://www.easysite.com/HCHS).

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**Monday, August 5 Herb Society of Central Indiana** Member and Herb Garden Coordinator Sue Arnold presents "Planning and Maintaining the Herb Garden at White River Gardens." Includes herb plant information with beautiful photos of the garden. Public welcome, yummy herbal treats served. 7:00 pm, John Hensel Government Center, 10701 North College Avenue, Indianapolis. [www.herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org](http://www.herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org)

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**Tuesday, August 6 Indiana Daylily & Iris Society Meeting** Presentation and photos by Dan Knudsen, Shields Ridge Farm, Bloomington, Indiana. Members NCAP Iris Distribution and NCAP Iris Auction. Open to the public. No charge. 6:30 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. 317-327-7180. [www.indianadaylilyirisociety.org](http://www.indianadaylilyirisociety.org)

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**Thursday, August 8 Understanding GMOs: An Evening with Dr. Don Huber** Dr. Huber will spend 45-minutes introducing GMOs – What are they? How did they end up in our food? How do they affect our health? After his presentation, we will open the floor to your questions to create an interactive dialogue focused on what you need to know. Sponsored by Slow Food Indy. 6:30 p.m., Butler University, Room 108, Gallahue Hall. Free, but ticket required (visit <http://donhuber.eventbrite.com/>).

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**Saturday & Sunday, August 10 & 11 Summer in the Park Flower Show (Columbus)** The Mudlarks, a Garden Club of Bartholomew County, present a standard flower show benefiting Mill Race Center, the local senior/community center. See competitive exhibits of horticulture, floral designs, and educational exhibits by Mudlarks members and creative floral design exhibits by Accredited Flower Show Judges on Saturday of the event. Event includes a garden shop; tablescapes by area designers and florists; Daren Redman's brightly colored art quilts; workshops on plant photography, flower arranging, cooking with locally grown ingredients, and tips on how to enjoy the healthy benefits of gardening while reducing the accompanying joint and muscle pain. Guests may dine at Gigi's Gourmet Garden Cafe highlighting the best of Indiana produce. Attendees are also invited to view the gardens, fountain, gathering area, and Veterans Memorial at the Bartholomew County Courthouse Square. Event fee is \$12.00. 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day, Mill Race Center, 900 Lindsey Street, Columbus. For additional information, contact Sharon at 812-343-2230 or [skbald@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skbald@sbcglobal.net).

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**Sunday, August 11 Indianapolis Hosta Society** Enjoy a dual presentation by Barry Yinger, namesake of *Hosta yingeri*. Yinger received his masters degree from the University of Delaware's Longwood Graduate Program. Fluent in Japanese, Barry spent many years scouring the Far East countrysides and nurseries for rare and interesting plants to bring back to the U.S. He has recently joined Star Roses and Plants (introducers of the Knock Out family of roses) as its new

products and sourcing manager. In this presentation, Yinger will share “Confessionals of an Intrepid Plant Collector,” then talk about his work at Pennsylvania-based Star Roses. 2:00 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis.

[www.indianapolishostasociety.org](http://www.indianapolishostasociety.org)

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**Tuesday, August 20 Fall Creek Gardens Family Night in the Garden: The Wonderful World of Worms** Did you know that worms will compost your food scraps for you and turn them into one of the best plant fertilizers available? Worm composting, or vermicomposting, is an easy, year-round, mess-free way to transform trash into treasure. Even better, your kids will love to feed their wiggly new pets. Join Keith O'Dell of [Castaway Compost](http://Castaway Compost) in the children's garden for a fun (and funny) lesson all about worms. 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., Fall Creek Gardens, 3005 Central Avenue, Indianapolis. [www.fallcreekgardens.org](http://www.fallcreekgardens.org) (See also Rain Barrel and Container Gardening workshops on this site.)

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**Thursday, August 22 Friends of Heritage Gardens Program (Fishers) Spring Bulbs and Other Ephemerals** Presented by Sue Nord Peiffer, Supervisor, Indianapolis Museum of Art Greenhouse. Yes, it's time to think about choosing spring bulbs to plant in September and October. This program will cover many of the lesser used bulbs, take a new look at some old standbys, and suggest ways to incorporate spring bulbs with native woodland plants so you can enjoy a beautiful landscape in the spring. Open to the public, \$5 donation appreciated; free to Heritage Garden Club members. Light refreshments served. 7:00 p.m., Historic Ambassador House, Terrace Meeting Room, 10595 Eller Road, Fishers. RSVP to Diane at [feendk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:feendk@sbcglobal.net).

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**Saturday, August 24 Daffodil Bulb Sale** Indiana Daffodil Society sponsors this event benefitting a scholarship fund for upperclassmen attending Indiana colleges and universities majoring in fields related to horticulture and landscaping. Members of Indiana Daffodil Society will be on hand to help select from the many varieties of daffodil bulbs offered as well as offer tips for growing. 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. [www.indianadaffodilsociety.org](http://www.indianadaffodilsociety.org)

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**Saturday, August 24 Daylily Sale** Indiana Daylily & Iris Society sponsors this sale of prized daylilies of various colors and sizes at a nominal price. Photos for viewing. Free and open to the public. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. 317-327-7180. [www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org](http://www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org)

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**Tuesday, August 27 Uncommon at the Commons (Columbus) Flower Show with Chaos** (the famous sculpture by Jean Tinguely). A standard flower show sponsored by members of Flower Lane Garden Club, affiliated with The National Garden Club, Inc. Central Region/Garden Club; and The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. Free and open to the public. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., The Commons, 300 Washington Street, Columbus. For info call Paulette at 812-526-2071 or Sally at 812-342-6097.

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**Slow Food Indy Events Understanding GMOs—An Evening with Dr. Don Huber:** Thursday, August 8, 6:30 p.m., Butler University, Room 108 in Gallahue Hall. Free, but ticket required (visit <http://donhuber.eventbrite.com/>). **Slow Food Indy Day at the Indiana State Fair:** Sunday, August 11, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Red Gold Culinary Corner in the Dupont Food Pavilion. Free with Fair admission ([learn more on the Slow Food Indy website](#)). **Farm Tour & Potluck at South Circle Farm:** Sunday, August 18, Free. 2:00 p.m., 2048 South Meridian Street. [RSVP and invite your friends on Facebook](#) **Snail of Approval Chefs appearing at Dig IN:** Sunday, August 25, noon to 5:00 p.m., White River State Park. Cost: \$40 to \$90. [More info on the Dig IN website](#) Interested in volunteering at Dig IN? Slow Food Indy is looking for a few folks that can talk up the benefits of local, sustainable food and help spread the word about our organization (plus you'll get it for free!). [E-mail us for more information.](mailto:) [www.slowfoodindy.com](http://www.slowfoodindy.com)

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**Events at Indianapolis Museum of Art Talk & Hike: Nature as Art** Art often imitates nature, and with good reason. Many plants and animals are among Earth's most beautiful creations: Objects d'art extraordinaire, and the muse for many an artist. Birder, botanist, author, and photographer Jim McCormac will delve into the beautiful world of nature and how it ties to people. He'll look at flora and fauna great and small, most of which is in or near your backyard. Free. Saturday, August 17, 1:00 p.m., The Toby & IMA Grounds. RSVP by calling 317-923-1331 x214 by August 10. [www.imamuseum.org/special-event/talk-hike-nature-art](http://www.imamuseum.org/special-event/talk-hike-nature-art) **Hummingbird Catch & Release.** At this annual event meant for all ages, see these remarkable birds up close and learn how to attract them to your garden. Tim Tolford from the Hummer/Bird Banding Research Collaborative (HBRC) will be catching, banding and releasing hummingbirds. Tim will discuss the migration and feeding patterns of the birds and how his research is important to protecting the birds and their habitat. There will be three catch and release sessions, beginning at 8:30, the second at 9:30 and the final at 10:30. Each session will last about 45 minutes. At the Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse, purchase plants and products that attract wildlife to your home. Kids can brighten up a room or someone's day with liquid watercolor bouquets. Free. Saturday, August 24, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Garden for Everyone & IMA Grounds. Sponsored by the IMA Horticultural Society. This program is eligible for three PGP (Professional Growth Plan) points. [www.imamuseum.org/special-event/hummingbird-banding-catch-release-0](http://www.imamuseum.org/special-event/hummingbird-banding-catch-release-0)

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**Events at Holliday Park Indiana Daylily/Iris Society Daylily Sale:** August 24, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Indiana Daffodil Society Daffodil Sale:** Saturday, August 24, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **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. August 2, 16 and 30, 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. August 10, 14, 24 and 28, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Holliday Park, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. Call 317-327-7180 or visit [www.hollidaypark.org](http://www.hollidaypark.org).

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**Opportunity Weigh In on Indy Rapid Transit** Public input is sought on the proposed Blue, Red, and Green rapid transit lines. Study teams have been working to develop preliminary recommendations of specific routes, station locations, and features based on information gathered in public discussions and technical analysis. We need YOU to help us assess these recommendations and finalize them. Open Houses are from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Guided discussions begin every 15 minutes. Dates and locations: Tuesday, August 6 (11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.), **The Arts Garden**, Circle Center Mall, Indianapolis. Tuesday, August 6, **Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Offices**, 1029 Fletcher Avenue #100, Indianapolis. Wednesday, August 7, **Noblesville City Hall**, 16 S 10th Street, Noblesville. Thursday, August 8, **The Steeples on Washington**, 2910 Steeples Dr., Indianapolis. Tuesday, August 13, **Washington Square Mall Center Court**, 10202 E Washington Street, Indianapolis. Wednesday, August 14, **The Monon Center**, 1235 Central Park Dr. E., Carmel. Thursday, August 15, **Martin University**, Classroom B, 2171 Avondale Place, Indianapolis. Tuesday, August 20, **Greenwood Public Library**, 310 S Meridian, Greenwood. Thursday, August 22, **North United Methodist Church**, 3808 N Meridian Street, Indianapolis. Visit [www.indyconnect.org](http://www.indyconnect.org) for additional details.

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**New Service Leave the Composting to Us** Indy's first food waste composting service is up and collecting! MyComposter! takes the work out of composting. It's designed as a small-batch composting service for small commercial food service operations, restaurants, and residences. You scrape your compost materials into their MyComposter! bin, and they pick it up and compost it for you. When the compost is ready, they use it to plant organic vegetable gardens at local schools, community supported agriculture sites, and in distressed areas to promote urban gardening. An idea whose time has come. <http://www.greenwithindy.com/mc.html>

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**Photo Notes** Ironweed is amazing this year! It seems much taller than usual, and more brilliantly colored. Maybe I'm just noticing it because I'm coming to appreciate native plants so much more, knowing that they sustain our wildlife. If you haven't read Doug Tallamy's [Bringing Nature Home](#), this might be the perfect book to bring to the cabin or the beach during your August vacation. It's an eye-opener, and will change the way you garden.

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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 accepted at 6911 Cabernet Way, Indianapolis, IN 46278; make check out to Wendy Ford.