



HortusScope | What's Up in

the Central Indiana Gardening Community | Illustration courtesy Familiar Indian Flowers (1878) by Lena Lewis

Tuesday, December 3 Holiday Happy Hour at Indiana Land Trust Come celebrate Giving Tuesday, the non-profit sector's answer to Black Friday and Cyber Monday. 4:30 to 7:00 p.m., 1500 N. Delaware, Indianapolis. No need to RSVP in advance, but for questions please contact Rachel Eble at reble@conservingindiana.org.

Wednesday, December 4 Purdue Extension Horticulture Lunch & Learn Free lectures are held once a month at noon in the Purdue Extension-Marion County Classroom in Discovery Hall on the Indiana State Fairgrounds (free parking). The December topic is "Making a Winter Arrangement." You can perk up the winter landscape with greenery or cuttings from the landscape or garden centers. Advanced Master Gardener Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp will demonstrate how to create a container that will last well into winter. Noon, Discovery Hall, Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis. For more information or to register, call 317-275-9286 or email dschelsk@purdue.edu.

Wednesday–Saturday, December 4–7 Indiana School for the Blind & Visually Impaired Holiday Plant Sale & Open House: Enjoy hot spiced cider & cookies in the warm greenhouse while selecting beautiful poinsettias, Norfolk Island pines, poinsettia arrangements, and handmade swags. Plants make great holiday gifts! All proceeds support student programs. Wednesday – Friday, noon to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., ISBVI Greenhouse. **Holiday Tree Sale:** Make an unforgettable family memory and come visit a real tree farm with Scotch pines, white pines, and firs. Choose a tree and cut it yourself, or we'll cut it for you. Fresh, pre-cut trees also available, and some bargain trees too, plus holiday wreaths. Come enjoy music, a warm fire, cookies and hot chocolate. Visit with Santa Claus from 10:00 'til noon. Jingle John and his real live reindeer visit from noon 'til 1:00. No obligation--just come and check out the prettiest trees grown right here in Indianapolis. All proceeds go to student activities. Saturday, December 7, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 7725 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis, or off the Monon Trail north of 75th Street at Westfield Boulevard. Info at 317-253-1481, ext 207.

Thursday, December 5 Holiday Wreath Making at Ambassador House (Fishers) For the fourth year the "Friends" garden club is offering a wreath-making workshop where you will be provided with a variety of fresh evergreen boughs, dried cones, and flowers for your wreath. You may personalize it by bringing your own decorations and bows. You should also bring a wreath form (grapevine or wire), green floral wire/24 gauge, wire cutters, pruners, glue gun and sticks, and garden gloves. Cost is \$15 for the public, \$8 for members of the Friends garden club. 7:00 p.m., Ambassador House main floor, Eller Road, Fishers. Space is limited; advance registration required to Linda Williams at info@gardentravelers.com or 317-408-3880.

Through December 31 Conservatory Crossing at Garfield Park See the Conservatory decked out in its holiday best with a brilliant display of poinsettias; and enjoy running model trains, a train village, and thousands of twinkling lights. Monday through Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday: 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Open extended hours until 8:00 p.m. December 19, 20, 21, 27, 28. \$3 per person or \$8 per family (max. 2 adults), Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

Classes and Events at Indianapolis Museum of Art Holiday Hullabaloo: Enjoy a unique evening full of sparkle, live music, holiday shopping, and festivities at the IMA. Don't miss the Trunk Show and demonstration in the Greenhouse Atrium by renowned woodworker Jim Dupler. Thursday, Free. December 5, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., Museum Store, Greenhouse Shop & Lilly House Christmas Shop. **Winter Solstice Community Day:** This annual and hugely popular celebration of the Winter Solstice is perfect for the entire family with ice carving, art making, and music. Complete your holiday shopping in the Greenhouse and Lilly House shops, and finish off the evening by purchasing a treat in the IMA Café. Free. Thursday, December 19, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m., IMA Grounds. **Bonsai for Beginners:** Discover the art of bonsai from Indianapolis expert Paul Weishaar. All materials will be supplied; and each participant will leave with a beautiful bonsai plant in a ceramic pot. IMA members \$50, public \$70. Saturday, January 18, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., Greenhouse Atrium. Registration required; call 317-955-2339. Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 North Michigan Road, Indianapolis. www.imamuseum.org

Save the Date, February 6 Emily N. Daniels Horticulture Symposium: Smaller Garden – Bigger Impact In today's gardening world, less can definitely be more. The IMA's day-long horticulture symposium will bring together regional and national experts to discuss the challenges and joys of gardening in smaller spaces. Suitable for the novice gardener as well as the professional designer, topics will include: plant selection, ranging from moderately-sized woodies to abundantly prolific fruits and vegetables; intriguing perennials to liven up any garden or patio; and special design considerations for these new spaces. A wide selection of relevant gardening books will be available for purchase, as well as ample opportunity for one-on-one conversation with the speakers and IMA Horticulture staff. Featured speakers: C. Colston Burrell, Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp, Lee Reich, Vincent Simeone. Organized by the IMA's Division of Environmental & Historic Preservation with additional support from the IMA [Horticultural Society](http://www.imahorticulturalsociety.org). Fees: Horticultural Society \$90, Public \$100, Students \$75. Registration required; call 317-955-2339. Thursday, February 6, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., The Toby, Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 North Michigan Road, Indianapolis. www.imamuseum.org

Advocacy Opportunity Hoosiers for Ethical Hunting A new nonprofit organization aiming to preserve our conservation heritage and end canned hunting is soliciting your support. Hoosiers for Ethical Hunting seeks to preserve the traditional Hoosier values of sportsmanship and fair chase through public education and citizen-driven advocacy. The organization advocates an end to high-fence canned hunting in our state and aims to protect the environment by keeping Indiana free of Chronic Wasting Disease. Speakers are available to visit your group. Visit www.hfeh.org for more information. Contact Jerry Wheeler, Director, at jwheeler@hfeh.org or 812-272-7925.

Be Amazed Horticultural Sculpture Once every three years, there is an international competition in horticultural sculpture, called "mosaiculture," in a major city in the world. This year it was Montreal. This is not topiary but rather creating sculptures out of living plants. The greatest horticulturalists in the world, from 20 different countries, submit plans a year in advance. Steel armatures are created to support the works (some 40 feet high), then wrapped in steel mesh and filled with dirt and moss and watering hoses. Three million plants of different shades of green and brown and tan were grown in greenhouses all over Quebec, then planted in the forms at the Montreal Botanic Gardens. There were 50 major sculptures along a path two miles long. Visit a few at <http://myvirtualgarden2.blogspot.com/2013/09/mosaiculture-exhibition.html>

Web Find Dig, Drop, Done Have you planted those tulips you bought yet? The Dig Drop Done Foundation was founded to promote the joy of bulb gardening and ensure its future in North America. This diverse and committed group of companies has devoted its time, knowledge and financial support to educating consumers on the simple, surprising beauty that flowering bulbs bring to our lives. Check out their helpful website. Here's just one example, a family project: http://www.digdropdone.com/family_fun/project/keeping-the-critters-away

Repair Your Toilet, Save a Dragonfly Toilet tanks and dragonflies seem unlikely bedfellows, but water conservation efforts that reduce the volume of water flushed away and prevent wastage through leaking toilet tanks have significantly reduced household water consumption in the United States. Less water pumped out of rivers and lakes for household use means more for wildlife. Any time you reduce water use in and around your house you reduce pressure on our streams and wetlands. Here are some ways you can help make a difference: Help us increase our knowledge about dragonflies by participating in [Pond Watch](#), Find ways to [conserve water in your house](#), Build a [rain garden](#) to manage storm water. Find a local volunteer group via the [EPA Surf Your Watershed](#) website. This message brought to you by the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. www.xerces.org

Photo Notes Poinsettias to me mean my mom, who's just turning 97 this December. She dozes through some days, offers up her sweet smile other days. No longer able to leaflet in Congress, provision a homeless shelter, lead the Girl Scouts, do the Times crossword puzzle in ink, beat everybody at bridge, she's still my role model for going gracefully into old age. This holiday season, my mantra is "hug 'em while you got 'em." Poinsettias help me remember.

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 accepted at 6911 Cabernet Way, Indianapolis, IN 46278; make check out to Wendy Ford. (Thank you, Shirley Fry!)