



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central

Indiana Gardening Community | Photo by Wendy Ford

Happy 2015, Gardening Friends! With this issue HortusScope begins its tenth year of keeping you informed! I launched this e-bulletin to build community among gardeners in Central Indiana. We now have more than 1200 subscribers, and I've been richly rewarded by your sharing of information and your positive comments. So keep those news items coming! And may the new year bring you bountiful gardens and deepening friendships. Gardeners are the best!

Thursday, January 8 Fort Benjamin's Blossoms Program to be determined. 1:00 p.m., Benjamin Harrison YMCA, 5736 Lee Road, Indianapolis.

Tuesday, January 13 How Central Indiana Land Trust Helps Indiana's Birds Speaker Rachel Eble, CILTI's Associate Director, tells how Amos Butler Audubon is a significant supporter of CILTI's efforts to protect the most important remaining natural areas in Central Indiana. This partnership is especially evident in one of CILTI's current projects, preserving forested land in their Hills of Gold Core Conservation Area in southwestern Johnson County. Learn about the CILTI/ABA partnership to protect critical habitat. 7:30 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. Contact Margaret.jaicom@gmail.com or call 260-403-3172.

Thursday, January 15 Slow Food Indy Book Club Meet fun, friendly local food enthusiasts. Members and non-members welcome. This month's title: [Foodopoly: The Battle over the Future of Food and Farming in America](#) by Wenonah Hauter. "A terrific primer on the corporate control of food in the United States, and the actions of those who fight back" (Raj Patel, author of *Stuffed and Starved*), *Foodopoly* takes aim at the real culprit behind America's food crisis: the ever-growing consolidation and corporatization of food production, which prevents farmers from raising healthy crops and limits the choices that people can make in the grocery store. Hauter argues that solving this crisis will require a complete structural shift, a grassroots movement to reshape our food system from seed to table—a change that is about politics, not just personal choice. 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., Soho Café, 620 S. Rangeline Road, Carmel. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/january-2015-book-club-tickets-14846156253>

Monday, January 26 Invasive Honeysuckle Expert Tells All Ryan McEwan, Associate Professor of Ecology, Department of Biology, University of Dayton, will be visiting IUPUI to talk about his current NSF

research project on Bush Honeysuckle. The title of his talk: "Why the odds are ever in Amur Honeysuckle's favor, and what that means for the biology of forests and streams." Sponsored by CEES / IUPUI. Coffee and cookies will be served before the lecture. Noon to 1:00 p.m., University Library (UL1126), Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, 1140 W Michigan Street, Indianapolis. <http://www.cees.iupui.edu/>

Through January 30 Harrison Center for the Arts Ephemeral Nature See studio artist and Herron art teacher Carolyn Springer's display of encaustic prints of Indiana wildflowers. This body of work is the result of an Encaustic Conference at Provincetown, Massachusetts, and a workshop at the Truro Center for the Arts in Castle Hill in May of 2013 with David A. Clark. The experience exposed her to new methods of working with colored wax. The work created this fall explores encaustic printmaking and the imagery of Indiana native plants. Gallery hours 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays, Harrison Center for the Arts, City Gallery, 1505 North Delaware Street, Indianapolis. <http://www.studiocarolynspringer.com>

Tuesday, February 17 SWCD 45th Annual Meeting The Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District annual meeting features a talk by Paramount School of Excellence (PSOE) director Tom Reddicks. From its innovative framework, PSOE strives to become a dedicated "Green School." They make use of wind turbines, recycling, composting, and student gardens to keep their students and families active and aware of their impact on the environment. "Our school challenges the traditional boundaries between subject areas, creating a culture of constant connectivity within the school's Core Knowledge curriculum," says Reddicks. Free. Light refreshments will be served. 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Indiana State Fairgrounds, Discovery Hall 1202 E. 38th Street, Indianapolis. Please RSVP **before February 12** to 317-786-1776 or marilyn-hughes@iaswcd.org.

Saturday, February 21 Emily N. Daniels Horticulture Symposium The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden Save the date for the IMA's annual symposium, this year focused on native plants. Featured speakers are Dr. Douglas W. Tallamy, Professor and Chair, Dept. of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, University of Delaware; Kevin M. Tungesvick, Restoration Ecologist, Spence Restoration Nursery; Jim McCormac, Avian Education Specialist, Biologist, and Naturalist for the Ohio Division of Wildlife; and Irvin Etienne, Horticultural Display Coordinator, Indianapolis Museum of Art. \$95 IMA Members | \$90 IMA Horticultural Society Members | \$100 Public | \$75 Students. 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., The Toby, Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 North Michigan Avenue, Indianapolis. <http://www.imamuseum.org/talk/horticulture-symposium>

Advocacy Op Proposed Dam Project on White River The controversial Mounds Dam project would destroy 1,000 acres of mature hardwood forest, eliminate an extremely rare wetland nature preserve, and threaten Indiana's premier archeological site. There's lots of info online about the dam proposal and about an alternative vision, the Mounds Greenway. Get involved and make your voice heard! [Heart of the River Coalition](#) [Mounds Lake Reservoir](#) [Mounds Greenway Plan](#)

IWF Backyard Habitat Workshops What's in Your WILD Backyard? Indiana Wildlife Federation's Backyard Habitat Workshops are a unique educational opportunity for individuals and families interested in protecting the natural beauty and local wildlife of Indiana. Program participants will learn about native plants and animals, explore the links between their backyards and larger ecosystems, and develop skills to create a wildlife-friendly backyard. The Indiana Wildlife Federation, the state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation, developed this course to connect adults and children to nature in a fun and educational way. The 2015 winter and spring workshop sessions will be (1) January 29, February 5, and February 12 (Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.); and (2) March 7, 14, and 21 (Saturdays from 10:00

to 11:30 a.m.). And yes, you can still learn about and enjoy nature, even in winter! Register at <https://rec.themononcenter.com/wbwsc/webtrac.wsc/wbsplash.html?wbp=1>

Great Idea Earth Mama Compost Central Indiana's only curbside composting pickup service, Earth Mama Compost offers to collect your compostable kitchen scraps and drop them off at a local farm or compost facility, far away from landfills, all for just a small fee. Earth Mama provides a composting receptacle and 100% certified compostable liners, then picks up your food scraps weekly or biweekly (your choice) and takes them to local farmers, community gardens, and compost facilities to be turned into compost...that "black gold" that provides valuable nutrients to the soil, allowing urban and rural farmers to put great quality local food on your table. Learn more at http://earthmamacompost.com/How_It_Works.html.

Photo Notes Lucky me, to have a cuddly Cavalier King Charles Spaniel to spend the winter with. This is Rocky, my faithful companion in the garden, a Pet Partner therapy dog, and a budding agility dog. My New Year's resolution is to choreograph a freestyle dance for Rocky and me—a nice way to bide the time until gardening resumes in the spring.

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.

