



HortusScope | What's Up in the

Central Indiana Gardening Community | Photo by Wendy Ford

Wednesday, September 2 Plant Perennial Exchange (Plainfield) Early fall is the time to divide plants. Bring them to the Plainfield Library's 13th annual Fall Plant exchange. You may pot them or bring them in a plastic bag instead of trying to fit them in a pot. Master Gardener Colletta Kosiba will give tips on growing the shrubs, grasses, and perennials before the exchange begins. This is great way to get new plants and share with other gardeners. We ask you bring 4-6 plants that are labeled. No plants? Come anyway and learn. Free. 7:00 p.m., Plainfield Library, 1120 Stafford Road, Plainfield. Info at 317-839-6602.

Thursday, September 3 Fall Decorating (Brownsburg) Use the autumn harvest of corn stalks, gourds, and pumpkins to brighten up your entrance, your yard and home. We will talk about all the flowers to plant for the fall. There are ideas on pumpkin carving, centerpieces, using luminaries, and a few cute recipes. This is a program filled with ideas for autumn decorating inside the house and outside. Master Gardener Colletta Kosiba will inspire you. Free. 6:30 p.m., Brownsburg Library, 450 South Jefferson, Brownsburg. Info at 317-852-3167.

Saturday, September 5 Native Plant Sale at Eco Logic LLC (Bloomington) Feel good about your landscaping choices! Talk with our staff of ecological restoration experts and native plant enthusiasts, then check out our selection of 100% Indiana native plants and see them in action around our facility. A portion of the sale proceeds will be donated to [MC-IRIS](#) (Monroe County Identify and Reduce Invasive Species) to support their mission of invasive species education and control. Contact natalie@ecologicindiana.com with any questions. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Eco Logic, 8685 West Vernal Pike, Bloomington. www.ecologicindiana.com

Wednesday, September 9 Herb Society of Central Indiana Joyce Miller, owner of Huckleberry Hutch in Rushville, Indiana, will present "Aromatherapy, Cosmetic and Medicinal." Public welcome. 6:45 p.m., John Hensel Government Center, 10701 North College Avenue, Indianapolis. Contact 317-834-8515 or visit www.herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org.

Friday, September 11 Indiana Wildlife Federation Fall Conservation Conference Join fellow conservationists to learn about updates on the major issues impacting wildlife and natural resources in the state. Our luncheon speaker will be Collin O'Mara, President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation. We are thrilled to have Collin join us to speak about priority wildlife issues receiving attention from both NWF and IWF. Open to the public. Registration fee of \$10 includes lunch. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., IWF Office, 708 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis. [Register](#) online **by September 4**.

Saturday, September 12 Nature Daze 2015 (Nashville) Nature Daze is an outreach event sponsored by the Brown County Native Woodlands Project to help landowners better understand the importance of managing their property to create resilient native habitat free of invasive plants. Speakers: Cara Bergschneider "Healthy Soils, Healthy Plants"; Dan Shaver "When Invasive Plants Get in the Way"; Dawn Slack "The Power of Native Plants!"; Sharon Sorenson "Birdscaping: Making Your Yard Attractive to Birds." Events include a native plant sale, interpretive hikes, herbicide giveaway, children's program, and free BBQ lunch. Free. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Camp Rancho Framasa, 2230 Clay Lick Road, Nashville. Register at www.bcnwp.org. Address questions to 812-837-9445 or bcnwpinc@gmail.com.

Thursday, September 17 A Day of Bulbs at the IMA Brent Heath, owner of Brent & Becky's Bulbs, will share his extensive bulb savvy in two events. **Workshop: Living Flower Arrangements with Layers of Bulbs** In this hands-on, take-home session, discover the best cultivars for pot culture, plus innovative methods of creating the forced container, the window box liner, the layered patio planter, or individually potted bulbs. 10:00 a.m., Lilly House. Registration required: \$50 non-IMA members, \$40 IMA members. **Lecture: Bulbs to Bridge the Gap Between Spring and Fall** Lovely long-lasting lilies, awesome Allium, comely Camassia, dancing Dichelostemma, and elevated Eremurus are among the flowering bulbs bringing color to span the summer months. Free. 7:00 p.m., DeBoest Lecture Hall. Both events at Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 North Michigan Road, Indianapolis. www.imamuseum.org

Saturday, September 19 Autumn Equinox Tree and Bulb Sale at the IMA The IMA Greenhouse is partnering with Woody Warehouse of Lizton, Indiana, to bring you locally grown trees and shrubs that are sure to thrive in your landscape. While you pick out your woodies, also purchase spring-blooming bulbs to brighten your spring garden. This is part of the campus-wide free Community Day, and IMA admission is free. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Newfield parking lot, Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 North Michigan Avenue, Indianapolis. <http://www.imamuseum.org/visit/gardens-greenhouse/greenhouse-shop>

Saturday, September 19 THRIVE! KIB's Third Annual Block Party Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Inc. is throwing the best block party Indy has ever seen, featuring a hyper-local silent auction, great food, swinging band, unique decor, and all proceeds directly supporting the work of KIB. Partake in a live art experience and have your caricature drawn by a local artist. Indulge in local food, [Sun King](#) beer, and a signature cocktail from [Hotel Tango](#). Mix, mingle, and support KIB's mission to help people and nature thrive. 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Headquarters, 1029 Fletcher Avenue, Indianapolis. [Purchase tickets](#)

Saturday & Sunday, September 19 & 20 Ford Hoosier Outdoor Experience Enjoy Indiana's largest hands-on outdoor recreation event, hosted on the grounds of [Fort Harrison State Park](#). The free, family friendly event features more than 50 activities and 120 grassroots partners. Condensed and more convenient this year, all activities are within a mile of each other. Once inside the park, this is a walking-only event. Please wear comfortable shoes, and bring small strollers and wagons if you have children or

supplies to haul. There will be no trolleys between activity areas. The event is presented by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation, and various sponsors, including Central Indiana Ford Dealers. <http://www.in.gov/dnr/5009.htm>

Wednesday, September 23 IMA Horticultural Society Scotland: The South and the Borders The IMA's Mark Zelonis recaps the Hort Soc's July 2014 visit to some of Scotland's most magnificent public and private gardens as well as art galleries, architectural monuments, and sculpture parks. Free. 7:30 p.m., 2015 Woodstock Country Club, 1301 West 38th Street, Indianapolis. <http://www.imamuseum.org/talk/scotland-south-and-borders-illustrated-garden-journey-mark-zelonis>

Thursday, September 24 Friends of Heritage Gardens Program (Fishers) Braiding the Ribbons of Life Many civilizations have flourished by the banks of the great rivers that meander like ribbons through the countryside. Sandy and Jim Wilkins of Michigan will share their experiences and uncover the incredible mosaic of these life-giving waters. Stops include the Mississippi, the Danube in Europe, the Nile in Egypt, the Yangtze in China, the Mara in Tanzania, and a special focus on the Amazon in South America and the Sepik of New Guinea. Free to members of Friends of Heritage Gardens; open to the public with a \$5 donation appreciated. Light refreshments served. 7:00 p.m., Ambassador House, 10595 Eller Road, Fishers. <http://ambassadorhouse.org/>

Saturday, September 26 Illinois-Indiana District Rose Show and Conference Stephen Scanniello, curator of Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden in NYC and president of the Heritage Rose Foundation, will speak about "Roses in Harlem"; Bruce Monroe, rose gardener, exhibitor, photographer and judge on "Photographing Roses." Rose show at noon, free. Preregistration required: \$50, includes snacks, buffet luncheon, speakers/programs. LaQuinta Inn South, Emerson Avenue exit I-465, Indianapolis. www.IndianapolisRoseSociety.com

Saturday, October 3 National Public Garden Day at the IMA Bring your family for a day in the Gardens of the IMA. We'll have garden and nature-centric activities planned all day long that are both enjoyable and educational. Check out the 400 pound giant pumpkin at the Wick cutting garden near the greenhouse! See the pumpkin and gourd display. Kids, grab a passport and the tour the Gardens to find four significant trees and receive a stamp on your passport while learning a little about why each tree is unique. Walk and Talks with the Horticulturists will take place 11:00–1:00 and 2:00–4:00. This is part of the campus-wide free Community Day, and IMA admission is free. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 North Michigan Avenue, Indianapolis. <http://www.imamuseum.org/special-event/national-garden-day>

Saturday, November 14 INPAWS Annual Conference Bioscaping: Gardening for Life Save the date and register now for this day-long immersion in native plants with the Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society. This year's program focuses on landscaping your own back yard to support the cycle of life. The featured speakers are all rock stars in the native plant world: Doug Tallamy is well known for his groundbreaking book, *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Nature in our Gardens*. Partnering with Rick Darke, noted horticulturist and photographer, they have authored *The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden*. This is a rare opportunity to see both authors together, presenting the complete approach to home gardening with native plants. Two favorites from past conferences will return: Mike Homoya, botanist with Indiana DNR, Division of Nature Preserves, known for his books and his memorable presentations; and Jim McCormac, Ohio botanist and author, whose fresh insights from his explorations of nature always inspire. Rounding out the program is Kevin Tunesvick, restoration ecologist with Spence Restoration Nursery, who will talk about the

proposed Mounds Reservoir, a project that would decimate the most significant forested corridor remaining along the upper White River. 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Hine Hall, Indiana University–Purdue University at Indianapolis, 875 West North Street, Indianapolis. Register at <https://inpaws.givezooks.com/events/copy-of-inpaws-2015-annual-conference>. Early registration discounts apply.

Events at Daubenspeck Community Nature Park Fall Migration Birding: Saturday, September 19, 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. Many birds migrate through our area as they head south for winter. We'll be looking for warblers, song birds, etc. (about 100 species of birds have been seen or heard here). Learn where they are headed and why. For novices to dedicated birders. Learn how to ID birds, and how to use binoculars like a pro. Bring: Binoculars or share ours. Dress for the weather & closed shoes. Minors should bring an adult. Leaders: Rob Ripma, Nutty Birder (NuttysBirder.com) and owner/trip leader for Sabrewing Nature Tours (www.sabrewingtours.com); and Amy Hodson, birder and bird photographer. Daubenspeck Park is at 8900 Ditch Road, Indianapolis. To sign up for program updates from the Park, write to daubpark@hotmail.com. www.daubpark.org

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. September 11 & 25, 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. September 5, 9, 19 & 23, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Holliday Park is located at 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. For questions, call 317-327-7180. www.hollidaypark.org

More Bulbs! Indiana Daffodil Society Bulb Sales IDS is offering a wide selection of daffodil bulbs. There are early, midseason, and late blooming varieties to pick from. They may be fragrant, multi flowered, dwarf, miniature, or historic. Most are not readily found in catalogs, and some are locally grown here in Indiana. September 5, 12, 19, 26 at the Bloomington Farmer's Market, 401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. www.indianadaffodilsociety.org

Be a Herbie Apprentice Herbal Studies at Hobbit Gardens (Fillmore) Hobbit Gardens Erth Gatherings Center offers an Apprentice Herbal Studies Program, led by herbalist Constance Ferry. "Our journey together with the healing plants is one of wonder and surprise," says Constance, "evolving our way of living on the earth, in community, working toward a way to live a healthier, more whole life in which the decisions and choices that create our world come from within." The Herbal Studies Program begins each year in October and encompasses one weekend for each of eight months, ending in July. The program will give you the knowledge and basis to create health and healing for yourself, your family, friends, or expand into an herbal practice. A Certificate of Completion is awarded at the finish of the program. For more information, visit hobbitgardens.blogspot.com and go to the Herbal Studies Apprentice page, or contact Constance at hobbitgardens@tds.net.

Citizen Science Report Invasive Plant Infestations "Report IN" is a fast and easy way for you to report invasive species in Indiana. There are two ways to report – by computer and by smartphone. All reports

go to the appropriate organization for verification. Details at <http://www.entm.purdue.edu/iisc/reportfinds.php>

Free Tours Medicinal Plant Garden at the Indiana Medical History Museum Free guided tours of the Medicinal Plant Garden begin at 11:00 a.m. every Saturday thru September. Group tours (charge of \$25 per group) can be arranged by emailing the museum at education@imhm.org or via www.imhm.org. The garden now features over 100 species of plants, some of which are the source of modern wonder drugs and all of which have fascinating stories to tell.

Xerces Society Project Milkweed The Xerces Society's [Project Milkweed](#) is doubling down on efforts to increase the nationwide availability of milkweed seed. Native milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.) are essential for monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) caterpillars and support a diversity of pollinators with their abundant nectar. By including milkweeds in gardens, landscaping, wildlife habitat restoration projects, and native revegetation efforts, you can provide breeding habitat for monarchs and a valuable nectar source for butterflies, bees, and other beneficial insects. To learn more about monarch butterflies and how you can participate in conservation efforts, visit the Xerces Society's [Monarch Butterfly](#) page. You can search for local seed sources here: <http://www.xerces.org/milkweed-seed-finder/#search>

Xerces Society Nourishing Our Insect Friends The Xerces Society's "Bring Back the Pollinators" campaign promotes four principles that can be adapted to any location: grow flowers, provide nest sites, avoid pesticides, and share the word. Here's an interesting observation: "Insect habitat doesn't need to be big, but it should offer a mix of nectar-rich flowers and be free of insecticides. The importance of flower choice was underscored during a recent visit to a large show garden. There were acres of gardens but butterflies and bees were limited to a very few plants. Woodland skippers loved the Pacific aster, as did a variety of bees and flies. Bumble bees were happy on purple coneflower, English lavender, and catnip. Black-eye susans and sneezeweed were humming with all sorts of bees. In between, the brightly colored bedding plants and flower-less shrubs were quiet, devoid of interest for passing bees." <http://www.xerces.org/bringbackthepollinators/>

For the Birds Amos Butler Audubon "Like" the Amos Butler Audubon [Facebook Page](#) to read about the latest bird sightings, interesting news from across the United States, and to learn more about birds. Their mission is "To promote the enjoyment and stewardship of birds in Central Indiana." To this end they host monthly educational meetings with presentations on a wide variety of topics; offer field trips throughout the state and beyond; monitor and address issues in Indiana that involve birds and their habitat. The Amos Butler Audubon chapter covers Indianapolis (Marion County) and the surrounding counties of Boone, Hendricks, Hamilton, Hancock, Johnson, Shelby and northern Morgan.

Nifty Gift Idea! NRDC's Butterfly Beauty Green Gift Card The Natural Resources Defense Council helps you take the next step for monarch recovery by [sending NRDC's Butterfly Beauty Green Gift to someone special](#). Each Butterfly Beauty Green Gift will allow NRDC to plant six milkweed plants--which monarchs need to survive--on behalf of a child, teacher, and anyone else in your life who loves the sight of these regal beauties.

Job Opportunity Central Indiana Land Trust Is Hiring! Current openings: [Stewardship Specialist](#)
[Seasonal Field Assistant](#)



Photo Notes I encountered this amazing bloom in the office of Cold Spring Environmental Studies Magnet School, thanks to Ms. Powers' green thumb. It's a barrel cactus flower, fully six inches across! The flower is attached to a stem that grows at right angles to the cactus. Who knew?

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. Your supporting donation gratefully accepted at 6911 Cabernet Way, Indianapolis, IN 46278, check made out to Wendy Ford.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Neonicotinoids (neonics for short), a systemic insecticide used to treat crop seeds and ornamental landscaping plants, have been strongly implicated in the devastating collapse of pollinator populations around the country. A study by Friends of the Earth and Pesticide Research Institute in 2014 showed that **51% of the garden plants purchased at Lowe's, Home Depot and Walmart in 18 cities in the US and Canada contained neonics at levels that could harm or kill bees**. Gardeners should know that Home Depot and Lowe's have both agreed to phase out neonics in their garden plants—but not until 2019.

Before you buy any seed or plants for your garden, ask whether they have been treated with neonics. If the answer is yes or they don't know, let them know you won't buy neonic-treated seeds or plants and walk away. If you live near farm fields, there's a strong likelihood that neonic-treated crop seed is being used and that it may be in your soil and taken up by plants in your garden. Ask questions and find out.

Watch for and comment on the Indiana Pollinator Protection Plan when it is available; it'll be on the Office of Indiana State Chemist website (<http://oisc.purdue.edu/pesticide/>) when available.

And finally—**don't be bothered by insect damage on your garden plants**. That's a badge of pride, showing that you have a healthy garden that's helping our pollinators.

This information provided by Ellen Jacquart of The Nature Conservancy. Please share with others who care.