



## HortusScope | What's Up in the Central

Indiana Gardening Community | Photo by Wendy Ford

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**Seeking Your Support Help Save Our Ashes** The Indiana Parks Alliance is working with Indiana State Parks and Nature Preserves to protect 100 mature, seed-producing ash trees in state parks and state-owned nature preserves across the state. The invasive Emerald Ash Borer has decimated the ash tree population in northern Indiana, and is rapidly advancing southward. Within the next 10 years, 95% of all the ash trees in Indiana will be lost. This is significant, as ash trees make up almost 20% of Indiana's forests. The cost to treat a large tree is about \$200, but a contribution of any amount will help. Protecting Indiana's ash trees is preserving a significant part of Indiana's natural heritage. To learn more and donate to the Save Our Ash Trees campaign, visit [www.indianaparksalliance.org](http://www.indianaparksalliance.org).

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**Saturday, November 4 Sustainable Food Advocacy Workshop (Noblesville)** Join the Hoosier Environmental Council for an educational workshop on factory farms. Learn about the impacts of CAFOs on Indiana's environment, economy, and human health; the role that food choice plays in ensuring a healthy environment—and livable climate—for all; and what you can do to help build the sustainable agriculture movement. This workshop is FREE, and includes a vegan/vegetarian lunch. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Parks & Recreation Annex, Ivy Tech Community College, 300 N 17th Street, Noblesville. [Read more and register.](#)

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**Sunday, November 5 Spirit & Place Festival Creating Power for Real Climate Change Solutions** The Festival is screening the National Geographic film *Years of Living Dangerously*, which examines human dependence on power generated with fossil fuels. This is followed by a solutions-focused conversation with a panel of community leaders: Rabbi Scott Fox of the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation; David Holmquist, regional director of Citizens Climate Lobby, Chicago; Stanley Njuguna, IU Law and Public Policy Student, CCL Intern, and SPEA Congressman, Bloomington; Cadyn Waxingmoon, Youth Power Indiana; and Paul Severance, Elders Climate Action. 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Athanaeum, 401 E Michigan Street, Indianapolis. [Learn more & RSVP](#)

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**Monday, November 6 Herb Society of Central Indiana Herbs, Not Just for Food Anymore** To Michelle Plummer, chef and registered dietitian, food has become a canvas rather than just a meal. She uses herbs as garnishes, table decorations, and conversation starters. In this session, she will talk about spicing up fish dishes, the new trend of meals-in-a-bowl, and grilled fruits as side dishes. Refreshments provided. Business meeting follows the presentation after a brief intermission. Free and open to the

public. 6:15 p.m., Clay Township Government Center, 10701 N College Avenue, Indianapolis.  
<http://herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org/>

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**Monday, November 6 Leaf Collection Begins in Marion County** Indianapolis Department of Public Works provides guidelines for disposing of or composting leaves [here](#). For contrasting guidelines from a conservation perspective, see **Leave the Leaves!** from the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation [here](#).

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**Saturday, November 11 Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden (Ohio) Native Plant Symposium** Keynote will be [David Mizejewski](#), the National Wildlife Federation's media personality. [John McGee](#) is an acclaimed landscape designer who works in the D.C. area, primarily with native plants. He is also co-host of the Native Plant Podcast. Bill Barnes, considered the geniuses' genius in top plant circles, will talk about the potential of native plants to enter the general horticultural market. The Zoo's Brian Jorg will discuss the role of public gardens in conservation. Also featured is Meg Hanrahan, who is wrapping up production on a PBS documentary about legendary local plant pioneer, [Lucy Braun](#). Mark and Nan Plunkett, owners of a very fine suburban native garden, will talk about their garden and what it has meant to them. Tickets are \$65.00, which includes Zoo admission, parking, food, social hour. For more information and to register, visit [http://cincinnati-zoo.org/horticulture/horticulture\\_events/](http://cincinnati-zoo.org/horticulture/horticulture_events/). Register ASAP, as previous symposia have sold out early. <https://discovernewfields.org>

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**Sunday, November 13 Tales from the Field with Jeff Corwin (Muncie)** The host of ABC's Emmy Award winning wildlife adventure series, *Ocean Mysteries*, offers his perspectives on wildlife conservation, empowering audiences to join the movement to save our natural world for future generations. 7:00 p.m., Emens Auditorium, Ball State University, Muncie. [Learn more & get free tickets.](#)

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**Wednesday, November 15 Green Gift Shop (Carmel)** Looking for ways to make your holiday shopping a little greener? The Green Gift Shop offers earth-friendly gift options for family and friends that are local, organic, natural, recycled, reused, or repurposed. 1:30 to 7:00 p.m., Carmel Clay Public Library, 55 4th Avenue Southeast, Carmel. [Participating businesses](#)

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**Friday, November 17 Winterlights at Newfields Begins** Trees are changing color now at the venue formerly known as the Indianapolis Museum of Art, but just wait until they're blue and red and green! Winterlights at Newfields will be a dazzling display featuring more than a million lights covering the trees and Lilly House lawn. Bring the whole family for a fun evening celebrating the holiday season. Save 20% and more when you buy tickets ONLINE. Members save an additional \$5. Member Preview Nights (\$10 fee) are November 17 and 18. The show opens to the public November 19 and continues through January 7. Access ticket sales here:  
(<https://discovernewfields.org/Checkout?filter=f|winter&page=listeventscalendar> Newfields, 4000 Michigan Road, Indianapolis. <https://discovernewfields.org>

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**Friday, November 24 – Sunday, December 31 Conservatory Crossing Holiday Poinsettia & Train Display** Come enjoy our winter wonderland! See Garfield Park Conservatory decked out in its holiday best with a brilliant display of poinsettias, model trains and villages, and thousands of twinkling lights. Fee \$4 per person or \$10 per family (2 adults max.). Hours: Monday thru Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Special evening hours until 8:00 p.m. December 15, 16, 21, 22, 23. Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis.  
[www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org](http://www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org)

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**Saturday, December 2 10th Annual Greening the Statehouse Innovations in Life, Innovations in Advocacy** Join Hoosier Environmental Council as we celebrate a decade of hosting our annual forum, Greening the Statehouse! This year's event will be held at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds in Danville, Indiana. This is Indiana's largest annual gathering of environmental-minded citizens, and your best opportunity to get up to speed on Indiana's environment, to celebrate our movement's successes, and to meet kindred spirits from across the state. Hendricks County Fairgrounds. Register at [www.hecweb.org/gts2017](http://www.hecweb.org/gts2017).

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**Kudos The Garden at Newfields** Two horticulturists at the venue formerly known as the Indianapolis Museum of Art have been recognized for important achievements within the public garden industry. The Arts Council of Indianapolis has selected Chad Franer, Director of Horticulture, as a 2017-2018 Creative Renewal Arts Fellow, which carries a monetary grant to use toward activities that the recipient believes will refresh their creativity and recharge their work. The Chanticleer Foundation has named Gwyn Rager as recipient of the prestigious Chanticleer Scholarship in Professional Development, which promotes creativity and leadership among public garden staff. Congratulations to Chad and Gwyn for this well-deserved recognition.

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**Apply for 2018 Now KIB's GreenKids Outdoor Classroom Program** Did you know the average American child spends 7.5 hours per day in front of a screen? That's over 2,737 hours a year that kids spend indoors with their eyes glued to televisions, computers, tablets, and smart phones. Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB) hopes to counter this growing epidemic through its GreenKids program, a two-year partnership between KIB and a school, during which time KIB will help build an outdoor classroom right on school grounds for students to experience. The outdoor classroom will consist of a native plant garden, a fruit tree orchard, and a nature play area, each area supplemented with environmental education programming. These three spaces further KIB's mission of helping people and nature thrive. Find an information packet and online application at <http://www.kibi.org/programs/youth-programming/greenkids/>.

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**Apply Now Indiana Watershed Leadership Academy** Your chance to: engage in basic and advanced level watershed topics covering leadership principles, watershed science, organization and communication, technology and GIS, stakeholder involvement techniques and policy skills; meet, learn from, and build a network of peers; interact with topic experts; gain strategies, skills, and resources for successful watershed management; and earn a Professional Certificate in Watershed Management. Register **by November 3** at <https://engineering.purdue.edu/watersheds/academy.html>. For more information contact Sara Peel, [iwlasub@ecn.purdue.edu](mailto:iwlasub@ecn.purdue.edu).

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**Advocate for the Planet Climate Solutions Caucus** Carmel's Green Initiative urges you to ask your representative about the bipartisan [Climate Solutions Caucus](https://www.facebook.com/Carmel-Green-Initiative-151779035744/), which it sees as our best hope for bipartisan climate action at the national level. <https://www.facebook.com/Carmel-Green-Initiative-151779035744/>

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**Volunteer Opps Central Indiana Land Trust** CILTI has many hikes and fun volunteer events coming up this fall, including a Thanksgiving Weekend hike at the beautiful Shrader-Weaver Nature Preserve and plenty of opportunities to help care for CILTI's spectacular preserves. <http://www.conservingindiana.org/events/>

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**Bird Hikes Eagle Creek Park:** 6515 Delong Road, Indianapolis. Every Sunday year-round, 9:00 a.m. Meet at the Ornithology Center. Information 317-327-2473. **Beginning Bird Hikes at Cool Creek Park: 2000**

East 151st Street, Carmel. 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m., and every other Saturday, at 9:00 a.m. Meet in the parking lot at the bottom of the road by Cool Creek, past the Nature Center. Information 317-774-2500 or [www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com](http://www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com) **Strawtown Koteewi Park:** 12308 Strawtown Avenue, Noblesville. First Wednesday of each month, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Meet at the Taylor Center of Natural History. Information 317-774-2574 or [www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com](http://www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com).

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**Garden Travel Spring Gardens of Virginia with Cole Burrell:** Join Cole in his home city of Charlottesville to visit a stunning array of private gardens of friends and clients who are ready to welcome you into their cloistered sanctuaries. Tour the historic homes of presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, as well as the Academical Village of Jefferson's University of Virginia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Historic Garden Week in Virginia offers additional opportunities to explore private estates only open for this unique event. April 19-25, 2018. [Info and registration](#)

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**Photo Notes** Love my tatarian aster (*A. tataricus*) which surprises and delights with periwinkle blue, golden-centered blossoms in the late fall garden. Mine fill a wild area at the back of my yard, forming an impenetrable ground cover of fresh green leaves.

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