



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central

Indiana Gardening Community | Photo by Wendy Ford

URGENT ALERT! Rhododendrons Infected with Sudden Oak Death Indiana Department of Natural Resources says that more than 70 Walmart stores and 18 Rural King stores in the state have received rhododendron plants infected with sudden oak death (SOD), a fungal pathogen that kills oak trees. Inspectors from the DNR Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology detected SOD (*Phytophthora ramorum*) in several varieties of rhododendrons being sold in Columbus, Noblesville, South Bend, Sullivan and Tippecanoe. If you purchased rhododendrons in the last eight weeks in these communities, call 1-866-NO-EXOTIC (663-9684) or call the local county extension office at 1-888-EXT-INFO (1-888-398-4636) for instructions. For more about SOD, see <https://www.purduelandscapereport.org/issue/19-08-special-alert/>.

Monday, July 1 Native Herbs: Not Your Mother's Marjoram Sue Arnold of the Herb Society of Central Indiana will discuss herbs native to Indiana. Come learn why it's important to add these plants to our landscape, and why they are considered herbs. (Hint: trees, shrubs, vines and more are considered herbs!) We promise good information that you can take home and implement. Refreshments provided. Meeting begins at 6:30 at the Clay Township Center, 10701 N College Avenue, Indianapolis. <http://herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org/event/july-mtng/>

Thursday, July 11 Urban Ag Growers Workshop Cut Flowers at Indy Urban Acres Adding cut flowers to your farm or garden can make people happy and may help you bring in more revenue to sustain your operation. Learn from Indy Urban Acres farm staff how to manage flowers in your field and how to treat them right into a beautiful bouquet. Practice by harvesting and crafting your own bouquet. Fee \$10. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Indy Urban Acres, 7700 East 21st Street, Indianapolis. Register at: <http://www.cvent.com/d/h6qcmv>.

Saturday, July 13 Hamilton County Master Gardeners Association Annual Daylily Sale (Noblesville) Master Gardeners will be on hand at the picket-fenced daylily bed to "dig to order" on the spot. 8:00 a.m. to noon, far southwest corner of Hamilton County Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville. <https://hcmga.org/>

Saturday, July 20 Indiana Organic Gardeners Association Visit to The Teter Organic Farm (Noblesville) Teter Farm is a 3-acre certified organic farm that grows organic produce for local food pantries, food banks, and feeding programs as well as for a 36-member CSA and the Noblesville Farmer's Market. The farm is part of the 120-acre Teter Family Retreat, a ministry of Noblesville First United Methodist Church. Pitch-in lunch at 11:15 a.m. Bring a favorite dish to share (home-made and/or organic appreciated) and your own plate, fork, and drink. Gardening Q&A at noon, followed by a short business meeting. Tour starts at 1:15. Everyone welcome! Questions, or if lost, call Margaret at 317-698-0526.

Saturday, July 20 Iris Growers of Eastern Indiana Annual Iris Sale (Muncie) Hundreds of new, old, and re-blooming iris varieties for sale at great prices. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or until sold out. Minnetrista Cultural Center, 1200 North Minnetrista Parkway, Muncie. Address questions to Peggy at dpmallen52@gmail.com.

Sunday, July 21 Why Indiana Native Plants? Why do we insist on bringing in exotic plants from all over the world for our gardens when our own native plants are far better suited for that use? This presentation will look at advantages of native plants for our home gardens. The presenter, Tom Hohman, is a past president of Indiana Native Plant Society (INPS) and currently heads up the INPS Central Chapter volunteer efforts for removal of invasive plants from natural areas. Pike Branch Library 6525 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis. www.indiananativeplants.org

Thursday, July 25 Urban Ag Growers Workshop Natives for Pollinators and Pest Control at CUE Farm Strategically planting groups of native and perennial plants can help you attract pollinators and fight pests in your farm or garden. Learn tips and techniques for doing this, and which species are best for Indiana. Hosted by Butler University's Center for Urban Ecology (CUE) Farm in partnership with the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District. Fee \$10. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., CUE Farm at Butler University, Bulldog Road, Indianapolis (by the Athletic Fields). Register at <http://www.cvent.com/d/h6qcmy>.

Sunday, July 28 Native Plant Buzz Session Engaging HOAs in Native Landscaping Panel discussion and homeowner feedback sponsored by the Indiana Native Plant Society's Central Chapter. Panelists are Mary Durkin, Hostess, Spirit Lake Condominiums; Megan Dillon, Urban Biologist, Indiana Department of Natural Resources; Brenda Howard, Senior Ecologist, Department of Public Works, Indianapolis; Claire Lane, Urban Conservationist, Hamilton County SWCD; Dan McCord, Hamilton County Urban Conservation Association. 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Spirit Lake Condominiums Clubhouse, 6740 Spirit Lake Drive, Indianapolis.
<https://indiananativeplants.org/2019/central-chapter-events-may-through-august-2019/>

Wednesday, July 31 Horticultural Society of Newfields Day Trip to Franklin Park Conservatory & Botanical Gardens (Columbus, Ohio) Trip includes a private tour of the conservatory, lunch and free time to view the Dale Chihuly glass exhibit, followed by a tour of a private garden led by Chad Franer, the Tom and Nora Hiatt Director of Horticulture at Newfields. Motor coach departs Newfields promptly at 8:00 a.m., returns by 6:30 p.m. Light breakfast and coffee served on the way, wine and snacks on the way back. Hort Soc members

\$75, non-member guests \$95. [Details and registration form](#). Questions, contact Jim at Jazkincannon@gmail.com or 317-306-5313.

Thursday, August 1 Urban Ag Growers Workshop Organic Pest Control at Mad Farmers Collective Managing pests in your garden without using chemicals requires planning and creativity. See organic pest control strategies in action on a 1.5-acre farm and expand your own go-to bag of tricks for keeping the pests off your produce. A gardener or farmer of any scale can learn useful tips at this workshop. Fee \$10. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Mad Farmers Collective, 2048 South Meridian Street, Indianapolis. Register at <http://www.cvent.com/d/h6qcmv>.

Saturday, August 3 Garfield Park Workshop Harvest Your Herbs Back by popular demand! You planted some herbs but now they're massive—what do you DO with that much basil, anyway? Hosted by the Herb Society of Central Indiana in conjunction with the Garfield Park Conservatory. Learn how to harvest, dry, store, and use your herbs and take home handouts and recipes to get ready for the chill of autumn. Herbal munchies provided. 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., Garfield Park Sunken Gardens and Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. Seating is limited; call 317-327-7183 to register. <http://herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org/event/harvest-your-herbs-garfield-park-workshop/>

Sunday, August 4 Indiana Native Plant Society, Central Chapter Native Fruit and Nut Trees: Show, Tell...and Taste! Have you thought about growing fruit or nut trees or shrubs on your property? Dr. Kris Heeter will share information on common and not-so-common fruits and nuts native to Indiana. This will be an interactive presentation in a "show and tell" style with opportunities to taste some of the more unusual ones. Hosted by INPS Central Chapter in partnership with Nora Branch Library. 2:00 p.m., Nora Library, 8625 N. Guilford Avenue, Indianapolis. www.indiananativeplants.org

Monday, August 5 Herb Society of Central Indiana Wonder Drugs from the Garden Kathleen Warfel Hull, MD, introduces the Medicinal Plant Garden at the Indiana Medical History Museum and explains how some of our most powerful modern wonder drugs come from plants. Dr. Hull is professor emerita of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine and a Gold Level advanced Purdue Master Gardener. Free and open to all. Refreshments provided. Herb society meeting follows a brief intermission after the program. Those interested in learning more about our society are welcome to stay. 6:30 p.m., Clay Township Center, 10701 N College Avenue, Indianapolis. <http://herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org/>

Tuesday, August 6 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Daylily Patterns Bob Faulkner of Natural Selection Daylilies in Dayton, Ohio, will talk about his work on hybridizing pattern-eyed daylilies. Bob lives on the homestead of his childhood and grows about 2000 new seedlings each year. Hybridizing daylilies for many years, he began to concentrate on breeding for patterns in the eye of the daylily about 20 years ago. He has introduced more than 80 daylilies. Everyone welcome. 6:30 p.m., First Friends Church (parlor), 3030 Kessler Blvd., East Drive, Indianapolis. <http://indianadaylilyirissociety.org/>

Thursday, August 8 Urban Ag Growers Workshop Working with Youth in the Garden with Big Green Visit a Big Green Learning Garden to pick up new tools and techniques for working with youth in your gardens. Focusing on grades K–6, the activities you'll learn use inexpensive supplies and easily integrate into grade-level standards. Lessons and activities from Big Green and other organizations are available free to the public at <https://biggreen.org/thegreenhouse/>. Workshop starts indoors with resources and a veggie tasting demo, then heads outside for hands-on lessons, including the use of planting strings and up-cycled watering cans, exploring soil with our five senses, and more. Fee \$10. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Big Green Learning Garden at IPS 14, 1250 East Market Street, Indianapolis (park on Ohio Street). Register at <http://www.cvent.com/d/h6qcmy>.

Hamilton County Photo Contest The Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District (HCSWCD) is accepting submissions for its annual photo contest for youth and adults who reside in Hamilton County. Each age division has two categories—Fireflies and Other Beneficial Insects, and The White River. (Beneficial insects explained here: <http://npic.orst.edu/envir/beneficial/index.html>.) Digital files must be submitted **by July 5, 2019**. Photo entries will be displayed at the 4-H Fair July 18–22. Winners in each category will receive \$50. Additional information and entry forms at <https://www.hamiltonswcd.org/photo-contest.html>. Questions? Email soil.water@hamiltoncounty.in.gov or call 317-773-2181.

Good Cause Support HEC's Wildlife Habitat Protection Initiative Due to loss of habitat and other threats, more than 150 wildlife species today are considered "species of greatest conservation need," meaning they will require additional habitat to ensure their survival. Yet only 4% of Indiana lands are publicly owned nature areas, which pales in comparison with regional peers like Wisconsin at 18% and Michigan at 28%. Meanwhile, the state budget invests 90% less than it did at its peak in the 1990s, despite unwavering advocacy by the Hoosier Environmental Council (HEC) and its environmental and conservation allies at the Statehouse. Now HEC is launching a Wildlife Habitat Protection Initiative to get in front of environment-minded young professionals and baby boomers, tourist business owners, city officials, faith communities, and many other Hoosiers across Indiana to make the case for them to help advocate for new wilderness funding in the legislature. To support HEC programs, visit <https://www.hecweb.org/donate/>

Love This! Carmel Tackling Invasive Plants Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation is offering residents a free native tree or shrub (while supplies last) if they will cut down an invasive Bradford pear tree or honeysuckle bush on their property. To earn a free plant, participants should send a photo of themselves with the removed invasive species to volunteer@carmelclayparks.com.

Just Say No! In National Geographic's [A brief history of how plastic straws took over the world](#), they cite a report that 500 million straws are used in the U.S. in ONE day! Plastic straws are a single-use item having a negative impact on our environment and our health. What can you do? Ask for "no straw" when ordering beverages, and carry your own reusable straw. A number of

these are coming on the market, in material such as silicone, stainless steel, bamboo, and glass. Google can help you find one.

Travel Garden and Nature Tours with C. Colston Burrell Experience nature's beauty and diversity in designed and native landscapes. Burrell has teamed up with [Carlson Wagonlit Travel](#) and [The Minnesota State Horticultural Society](#) to sponsor Garden and Nature Tours with C. Colston Burrell, offering personalized leisure tours to exceptional gardens and natural areas around the globe. Coming up: Gardens of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley, September 3-9. <https://gardenandnaturetours.com/>

Photo Notes We're ready for Monarchs! We've got common milkweed, whorled milkweed, swamp milkweed, butterfly weed, poke milkweed—a veritable smorgasbord of the native plant family Monarch caterpillars can feed on. I've seen only one solitary Monarch investigating so far. Hope she'll tell all her friends. Meanwhile, the bees are happily buzzing about common milkweed's huge, fragrant blossoms.

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 cheerfully accepted at 6911 Cabernet Way, Indianapolis, IN 46278, check made out to Wendy Ford.