



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central Indiana

Gardening Community | Nature mandala by [Kathy Klein](#)

Through January 5 Winterlights at Newfields Winterlights returns for a third year, making it an official holiday tradition in Central Indiana. Stroll through our spectacular Winter Wonderland, sip apple cider or hot chocolate (spiked options are available for adults) and make s'mores over a fire pit. Watch lights dance to music on the Lilly House lawn and stop to take photos at the Snowflake Bridge, Frosted Forest and other illuminated displays throughout the grounds. Special glasses will be available that transform every one of the 1.5 million lights into a shimmering snowflake. Guests can also revisit another beloved Newfields tradition, Deck the Halls at the Lilly House, during Winterlights. Each room in the elegant, historic mansion will feature decorative surprises, including beautiful holiday floral arrangements. Purchase tickets at <https://discovernewfields.org/Checkout?eid=39315&page=listeventscalendar> When purchasing tickets, please be sure to select the day you wish to attend in the drop down menu.

Saturday, January 18 Indiana Wildlife Conference Keynote speaker is Naomi Edelson, Senior Director, Wildlife Partnerships, National Wildlife Federation. She will speak on "Recovering America's Wildlife." Other presentations on Indiana's state wildlife action plan, the Indiana bobcat population, climate change impacts on birds, the return of trumpeter swans to Indiana. Conference includes catered lunch, silent auction, and guided hike. Members \$40, non-members \$60, register and join bundle \$70, students \$30. The Garrison, Fort Harrison State Park, 6002 N. Post Road, Indianapolis. Reserve tickets at www.indianawildlife.org.

Saturday, January 18 Indiana Organic Gardeners Association Gardening Tools: Beyond the Hoe Carol Michel, lifelong gardener, author, and owner of the world's largest hoe collection will give a presentation on gardening tools. A pitch-in lunch will begin at 11:00. Bring a favorite dish to share ("home-made" and/or "organic" food appreciated) and your own plate, fork, and drink. Carol Michel's presentation will begin at 1:10. Everyone welcome! Franklin Road Branch, Indianapolis Public Library, 5550 S. Franklin Road, Indianapolis. Questions, or if lost, call Margaret at 317-698-0526.

Sunday, February 23 INPS Central Chapter Tree Planting and Maintenance Techniques Thinking of placing a new tree in your landscape? Getting it to survive and thrive into maturity

takes planning, proper planting, and after care. This talk will focus on different types of planting stock (balled and burlapped, containerized, and bare root trees), choosing good trees at the nursery, and planting each type of stock correctly. You will learn how much water it takes for a new tree, types of mulch, how to mulch, fertilization do's and don'ts, and post planting care. Sponsored by Indiana Native Plant Society Central Chapter. Free and open to the public. 2:00 p.m., Pike Branch Library, 6525 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis. www.indiananativeplants.org

Saturday, January 25 Central Indiana Seed Swap (Noblesville) Join Hamilton County Master Gardeners for this free event! There will be expert speakers, seeds to buy or trade, local merchant vendors, door prizes, goodie bags (for the first 125 attendees), a "Kid's Corner" of hands-on learning, and a chance to learn about opportunities with local organizations. Food will be available for purchase on-site, with several fast-food restaurants nearby. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Hamilton County Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville. Questions? Email seedcommittee@hcmga.org or check out hcmga.org.

Good Idea Plan Your Rain Garden Fort Wayne is working hard to improve their water conservation and prevent flooding. Check out their "Catching Rain" green infrastructure initiative, which includes a detailed manual for homeowners wanting to establish their own rain garden. <http://www.catchingrainfw.org/rain-garden-101>

Community Effort Hamilton County Forming Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) Representatives from municipalities, parks departments, non-profits, businesses, advocacy organizations, and private landowners are working to form a CISMA in Hamilton County. Sometimes called coalitions, partnerships, or councils, CISMAs are formed to collectively combat the problem of invasive species spreading across the landscape. Hamilton County partners have begun work on formulating the vision and mission for their CSMA. Any individual or representative interested in addressing invasive species in Hamilton County is invited to join the effort—you do not have to be an expert. Sign up to get on the mailing list at www.hamiltonswcd.org/cisma.html.

Save the Date Inaugural CISMA Conference Invasive Species and Watersheds Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMA) are Indiana's community action initiative to curb the threat of invasive plants. Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM) and the Indiana Invasives Initiative (III) look forward to hosting the inaugural state-wide CISMA conference in Indiana on **Thursday, March 26**. Join us for a full day of learning about invasive species' impact on watershed health, forest health, and native species. CEUs available. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hamilton County, Indiana 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Center, 2003 Pleasant St, Noblesville. <http://www.sicim.info/cismaconference>

Get Organized! Spring 2020 Weed Wrangle® Indiana Contest Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management invites your community to plan a Weed Wrangle® Indiana for your county this spring. Weed Wrangle® is a national campaign that highlights the necessity to manage invasive species, celebrates our native species and ecosystems, and provides action through hands-on invasive species management in our precious green spaces. The contest is

intended to increase participation and partnerships as well as praise the efforts of Weed Wranglers throughout Indiana. Details at <http://www.sicim.info/2020weedwrangleincontest>.

Fancy a Career in Horticulture? Per the Seed Your Future project, “the fate of our world lies in the next generation embracing the importance of plants not only to humans, but to animals, and to Earth.” Who will have the expertise to provide the technology, science, art and business acumen necessary to meet the rapidly increasing demand for ornamentals, fruits, vegetables, nuts, and herbs? As avid gardeners and gardening professionals, our job is to show others the way and inspire more people to pursue “green collar” careers. Details at <https://www.purduelandscapereport.org/article/growing-green-collars-seed-your-future/>.

Subscribe Outdoor Indiana Our state's premier magazine delivers the wonders of the Hoosier outdoors to subscribers' homes and offices six times a year in 48 pages of vibrant color. For the best of state parks, lakes, wildlife, forests, trails, hunting, fishing, wildflowers and outdoorsy people, plus inside information from DNR experts, [subscribe](#) for \$15 per year or \$28 for two years. Follow the magazine staff on [Facebook](#). <https://www.in.gov/dnr/10300.htm>

Travel Garden and Nature Tours with C. Colston Burrell Experience nature’s beauty and diversity in designed and native landscapes with C. Colston Burrell, who offers personalized leisure tours to exceptional gardens and natural areas around the globe. 2020 Tours: May 20-30, Twenty English Gardens You Must See Before You Die. May 17-20, Chelsea Flower Show Pre-Tour. November 4-15, Gardens and Temples of Tokyo and Kyoto with Hiroshima Post-Tour. <https://gardenandnaturetours.com/>

Photo Notes I’m going to need a way to stay calm this year. Taking my inspiration from Arizona-based Kathy Klein, I think a new hobby might help: creating nature mandalas. Klein’s meditative art form, loosely based on the traditional Buddhist mandala, is a deeply spiritual means of centering herself in a devotional space. Made of materials found in nature (leaves, twigs, petals, cones), the works are impermanent creations she leaves to be found by lucky passers-by. Next walk around the neighborhood or in the woods, I may try this. See more examples at <http://kathyklein.org/danmala>.

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.

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