



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central

Indiana Gardening Community | Photo by [Gene E. Bush](#)

Monday, March 2 Herb Society of Central Indiana Herb of the Year: Rubus Come learn about the *Rubus* genus which includes raspberries and blackberries and other brambles. Members will give short presentations on the history and folklore of brambles, their medicinal properties, their culinary uses, and how to grow a bumper crop. Refreshments will be provided that always include a variety of herbal teas and homemade dishes, not just sweets. A business meeting follows. This is our precursor to our 20th annual Spring Symposium, highlighting the herb of the year, held the following month. Come to the meeting to hear more about THAT special event. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Clay Township Center, 10701 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis.

Tuesday, March 3 Indiana Daylily & Iris Society Demystifying Hydrangeas Presentation by John Chapin of Chapin Landscaping in Danville. John is a retired elementary school teacher who has been landscaping professionally for more than 30 years. Recently, John has been transitioning to growing and selling unusual perennials, shrubs, and dwarf conifers. He writes a bi-weekly gardening column for the [Hendricks County ICON](#). 6:30 p.m., First Friends Church parlor, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis. indianadaylilyirissociety.org

Thursday, March 5 Ft. Benjamin Harrison Blossoms Garden Club Ben Miller, president of the Mud Creek Conservancy, will discuss the MCC and the Sargent Road Nature Park project. Light lunch at 12:30 p.m., speaker at 1:00 p.m.; Benjamin Harrison YMCA, 5736 Lee Road, Indianapolis.

Saturday, March 7 Newfields Volunteer Recruitment Fair We will have information and staff available to discuss all volunteer opportunities. Opportunities exist throughout The Garden and Art and Nature Park this season to contribute to the beauty of Newfields. 9:00 a.m. to noon, Deboest Lecture Hall, Newfields, 4000 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis. Refer questions to kkorte@discovernewfields.org.

Saturday, March 14 Indoor Seed Starting People of all ages are invited to learn how and when to plant seeds to start growing plants indoors for transplanting into the garden. Presented by Purdue Extension Marion County Master Gardeners. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Glendale Branch, Indianapolis Public Library, 6101 North Keystone, Indianapolis.

Saturday, March 14 Madison County MG Spring Gardening Workshop (Anderson) Get your garden on at this day-long workshop where we teach you all the skills needed to participate in a community garden or just increase your knowledge for that great looking veggie garden in your own backyard. We will have six 30-minute classes taught by our own Master Gardeners in an open format so you can “drop in” to any session during the day, and lots of home gardening information and resources to answer your questions. 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Anderson Public Library, 3rd floor, Cardinal Room, 111 E 12th Street, Anderson. See the class schedule at madisoncountymastergardener.org (scroll down the page to find it).

Saturday, March 14 – Sunday, March 22 Indiana Flower & Patio Show Bursting with color like never before, this year’s show has bountiful buds to make you green with excitement! Experience the wow factor from the Showcase Gardens, courtesy of the area’s top landscape professionals. Enjoy speakers and celebrities, including our own Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp and Carol Michel. “Deck wars, “ make-and-take flower arrangements, garden tea party tips, plant market, and more. West Pavilion and Expo Hall, Indiana State Fairgrounds. Tickets and schedule at <https://indianaflowerandpatioshow.com/>.

Saturday, March 21 Introduction to Newfields Garden Guides Volunteer Guides provide various tours to Newfields guests, supplying information on the garden and park design, and the property history. This role requires basic garden and historical knowledge and plant identification skill. Training for this role is monthly, and full certification requires regular training, shadowing existing Guides, and testing. 9:00 a.m. to noon, Deboest Lecture Hall, Newfields, 4000 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis. Refer questions to kkorte@discovernewfields.org.

Sunday, March 22 Indianapolis Hosta Society Topiaries of the World to Your Garden Kevin Collard, Owner of Pine View Nursery, Leitchfield, Kentucky, and Ron and Linda Williams, Owners of Garden Travelers, team up to present a class on topiaries in the garden. Ron and Linda will present an overview of topiaries they have visited around the world, including large public gardens like Levens Hall in England and Le Jardin Plume in France and private gardens both in and out of the U.S. Examples of topiary from simple to elaborate will be shown. Then Kevin will take over and give an interactive demonstration on how to begin a topiary project. There will be plenty of time to answer how-to questions. Free and open to the public. 2:00 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. indianapolishostasociety.org

Thursday, March 26 Inaugural CISMA Conference: Invasive Species and Watersheds Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs) 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) will host this state-wide CISMA conference. All are invited to join them for a full day of learning about invasive species’ impact on watershed health, forest health, and native species. Fee \$25. CEUs available. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hamilton County, Indiana 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Center, 2003 Pleasant

Street, Noblesville. Information and registration at <http://www.sicim.info/cismaconference>.

Saturday, March 28 Indiana Phenology Introduction to Nature Observation Join Indiana Phenology for this hands-on workshop to learn how to use Nature's Notebook to document seasonal changes as an Indiana Backyard Observer. We will talk about phenology, the importance of record keeping, and how you can help document the timing of leafing, flowering, and fruiting in Indiana. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. Email info@indianaphenology to register.

Saturday, March 28 Morgan County Master Gardeners (Martinsville) Gardenfest 2020 Features our 25th annual pansy sale. Speakers on poison in the garden (Colletta Kosiba), the wild side of mushrooms (David Mow), and backyard apple orchards (Tom Flatt) Food truck and yard/garden vendors. Free trees (first come first served) and garden seed giveaway. Gardenfest proceeds benefit Morgan County Master Gardeners, community educational projects, demonstration garden, and Purdue Scholarship. Free to the public. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Hoosier Harvest Church, 4085 Leonard Road, Martinsville. Questions answered at mcgardenfest@gmail.com.

Sunday, March 29 The Impact and Significance of Invasive Plant Species in Indiana Dawn Slack, Director of Stewardship with The Nature Conservancy, will share the significance and highlights of our amazing native ecosystems and how each of us impacts those systems with our landscape choices. Reviewing a few invasive species and their native look-alikes, she will cover the impact of invasive plants and what we (collective group of citizens and agencies) are doing to manage them in Indiana and in the region. She will discuss the role each citizen plays in the health of our protected places and green spaces. Hosted by Indiana Native Plant Society Central Chapter. Free and open to the public. 2:00 p.m., Pike Branch Library, 6525 Zionsville Rd Indianapolis 46268. [More INPS Central Chapter events](#).

Tuesday, April 7 Indiana Daylily & Iris Society My Favorite Flowers Presentation by Lana Wolfe, Northeastern Indiana Iris Society President. 6:30 p.m., First Friends Church parlor, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis. indianadaylilyirissociety.org

Saturday, April 11 Herb Society of Central Indiana Symposium Brambling Herbs The genus *Rubus* (raspberries, blackberries and other brambles) is featured in a day of programs to entice you to keep learning and experimenting with the herb at home. Herb author Susan Belsinger will show how to blend usual and exotic herbs for your kitchen creations; Susan Betz of Michigan will intrigue you with garden phenology (magical moons and seasonal cycles); and local celebrity Bill McKnight, the Mad Botanist, will inspire you to plan your landscape with fragrance in mind. A Tai Chi instructor, Christine Bhe, will move the winter out of your muscles and ready you for spring. See the day's agenda [here](#). Local vendors have booths for you to browse full of herb plants, art, crafts, and handmade herbal jams. Our large silent auction offers a diverse assortment of garden related items. Fee 52\$ members, \$57 nonmembers. Lunch by [Juniper Spoon](#) included. 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Hamilton County Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant

Street, Noblesville. [MAP](#) Register **by April 3** at <http://herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org/symposium/>

Apply for Tree Planting KIB Community Forestry Sometimes, keeping our city beautiful is as simple as planting a tree. Trees enhance our lives in more ways than you might think. Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB) coordinates a number of programs dedicated to planting, preserving, and educating people about trees. Our goal is to increase Marion County's tree cover by planting 100,000 large trees—with trunks 1" in diameter or larger at planting time—in strategic locations. Together we can grow our city's tree canopy and make Indianapolis a better place to live, work, and play. Apply [here](#) for trees to be planted in your neighborhood! You can also download a printable version [here](#)

Green Wedding Anyone? Sustainable Event Planning Here's someone who can help you or your business live up to your environmental values at your next event. A "sustainable events consultant"! Who knew? <https://www.juliaspangler.com/2019-results-year-in-review/>

Plant Shopping! Native Plants Unlimited George Peregrin has finalized his 2020 Native Plant Catalog and is ready for your advance orders. You can download the order form at <https://www.nativeplantsunlimited.com/plantsale.htm>. Advance orders are **due by Saturday, March 21**. There is a 16 plant minimum order, and payment is due with the order. Otherwise, you can find George selling a wide variety of native plants at Geist Nursery in Fishers, daily from May 1 through May 17.

Plant Shopping! The Greenhouse at ISBVI Houseplant Sale On offer are hanging baskets, starter plants, succulents, unique containers, terrariums, and scented geraniums. All proceeds directly benefit the Horticulture Program at Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Hours: **Thursday & Friday, March 5 & 6**, noon to 5:00 p.m.; **Saturday, March 7**, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 7725 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis. www.isbvik12.org

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 This early bloomer, *Adonis amurensis*, heralds the arrival of a new book from our shade gardening friend Gene Bush, of Munchkin Nursery and speaking fame. It's called *A Gardener Grounded: Meeting Life's Challenges Post Diagnosis*. Wondering how you'll cope with eventual aging and infirmity when you are passionate about gardening? Follow Gene through his own life-altering events and discover how gardening frustrates but also heals. Illustrated with colorful photos of his own shade plants, the book is available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

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.

Thank you, Amy Perry, for your generous support of HortusScope.