



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central

Indiana Gardening Community | Photo by Wendy Ford

Monday October 4 Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation World Habitat Day Tree Planting World Habitat Day urges us to reflect on the basic rights of all to adequate shelter and reminds the world that we all have the power and responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns. Habitat for plants and animals is a very important aspect of our ecosystem. Removing non-native plants and replacing them with native species is a way to provide essential food and shelter for the wildlife that call our parks home. Come join us for an afternoon of planting trees in the Vera Hinshaw Park & Preserve. This 10-acre woodland is adjacent to the Monon Trail and north of the 96th Street Trailhead. Preregistration required [here](#).

Monday, October 4 Indianapolis Hosta Society Color in the Garden Have you ever pondered how color theory can assist you in the garden? Which colors add depth, which color combinations give a feeling of calm, which colors make certain plants pop and add excitement? These are a few of the questions that Ron and Linda Williams, owners of Garden Travelers, will answer in this program focusing on design with the use of color. Free and open to the public. 6:30 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. indianapolishostasociety.org

Thursday–Saturday, October 21–23 ISBVI Fall Plant Sale Hanging baskets, starter plants, succulents, unique containers, scented geraniums, all grown by students and volunteers at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Proceeds benefit the ISBVI Horticulture Program. Cash or check only. Masks are required in the greenhouse. Hours: Thursday, October 21, 12 noon to 5:00 p.m.; Friday, October 22, 12 noon to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, October 23, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ISBVI, 7725 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis.

Saturday October 23 Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation United Nations Day Food Forest Planting *A man has made at least a start on discovering the meaning of human life when he plants shade trees under which he knows full well he will never sit.* —D Elton Trueblood. Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation is proud to partner with the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation who is awarding us a grant to plant 100 native fruit and nut trees in Founders Park. This legacy project will create what is known as a "food forest" and will serve the residents of Carmel for decades to come. Once the trees mature and bear fruit, the public will be welcome to enjoy these gifts of nature. Join us for this tree planting, coinciding with United Nations Day, to contribute to a beautiful project in your community. 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Founders Park, Carmel. Preregistration required [here](#).

Wednesday, November 3 Traditional Uses of Indigenous Plants Karen LaMere, INPS Central Chapter board member, Carmel-Clay Parks Naturalist, and descendent of the Ho-Chunk Nation will discuss the use of plants and animals in the daily life of her ancestors. Her grandfather was born in a wigwam in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Karen has been working in the field of natural resources for 30+ years and is currently the naturalist for Carmel-Clay Parks and Recreation. Her past experiences include naturalist work at Eagle Creek Park, Merry Lea Environmental Center, Wisconsin DNR, and River Bend Nature Center. She received her Bachelors degree in Biology from Olivet College and a Masters in Fisheries and Wildlife from Michigan State University. This free event is open to everyone, but registration is required by midnight November 2. Program is at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. Register at <https://bit.ly/3nrTiKk>.

Saturday, November 8 Indianapolis Hosta Society Turning Trash into Treasure & Blocking the View Jason Reeves, horticulturist, curator of the University of Tennessee Gardens, and a well-known garden speaker, will deliver two programs. "Turning Trash into Treasure" will inspire you to repurpose your own castaway into a whimsical garden creation. In "Blocking the View," Jason will talk about successful screen plantings. Between the two programs there will be time for socializing and appetizers. Free and open to the public. Noon to 4:00 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. www.indianapolishostasociety.org

Saturday, November 13 Indiana Native Plant Society Virtual Annual Conference Wild Indiana & Wilding Indiana Gardens One of Indiana's premiere nature events, the INPS Annual Conference draws environmentalists, gardeners, nature photographers, bird lovers, landscapers, ecologists, seed planters and more. This year's theme highlights the variety and beauty of our native flora and how our own gardens might employ them to support native wildlife. Paul Rothrock, sedge guru and emeritus curator of the Indiana University Herbarium, will explore the legacy of "Charles Deam, The Great Hoosier Botanist." Two of Indiana's best botanists will talk about the natural landscapes they know best. Mike Homoya will share tales of "Southern Exposure: Indiana's Land of Bluffs, Bayous, and Barrens." Scott Namestnik will visit our northern border as he reveals "True North: Indiana's Territory of Prairies, Lakes, Forests, and Wetlands". Popular nature blogger Jim McCormac will speak on "Gardening for Moths in the Midwest." Between sessions, participants will enjoy a nature trivia quiz and learn the winners of the 2021 Photo Contest and the inaugural 2022 Native Plant of the Year. Registration is open now until November 12. Participants who register and pay the \$25 fee will be sent an email with instructions on obtaining their own personal Zoom link. Find links to registration and sponsorship at <https://indiananativeplants.org/inps-sponsored-events/annual-conference>. Details of speaker credentials and talks are at <https://indiananativeplants.org/wild-indiana-wilding-indiana-gardens/>.

Grant Opportunities Indiana Native Plant Society INPS supports well-conceived grant projects that are in line with its mission to promote the appreciation, preservation, scientific study, and use of plants native to Indiana and to teach people about their beauty, diversity, and importance to our environment. The state organization funds two grant programs, each with its own emphasis, application process, and timelines, and two regional chapters have recently launched their own small grant programs. Explore the possibilities at <https://indiananativeplants.org/about-us/grants-home/>.

Get on the Map! Homegrown National Park™ Doug Tallamy's remarkable book *Nature's Best Hope* outlines a grassroots approach to conservation that homeowners everywhere can participate in. Relying

on the initiatives of private individuals, this approach is immune from the whims of government policy, and is practical, effective, and easy. When you've planted some native plants, add your property to the national map of the growing Homegrown National Park™. Learn more at HomegrownNationalPark.org.

Garden Wisdom Sunday Classes with the Mad Botanist Rare, unique, non-credit, self-improvement educational opportunity including outside activity (participants need to be ambulatory). Every class is different and tailored to the participants (8 maximum); come ready to ask and answer questions (Socratic Method). [General Syllabus](#) [Testimonials](#) 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., 1st & 3rd Sundays through November; rain date the next Sunday. Check "Class" at themadbotanist.com for particulars.

Plant Shopping! Buy Natives Directory Indiana Native Plant Society makes it easy for you to locate native plants for sale. Our interactive Buy Natives Directory lets you find sellers and designers near you who offer native plants and do not use or sell invasive plants. A new URL takes you there directly: www.BuyIndianaNatives.org

Plant Shopping! Native Plants from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Native plants play a vital role in capturing stormwater, supporting native bee and pollinator populations, and beautifying our city. KIB is growing spring, summer, and fall blooming plants from seed, and new plants will be available throughout the summer and fall. In fact, many 2" plant plugs are ready TODAY for a new home in your yard or neighborhood greenspace. [All plant purchases must be placed online](#) and picked up from KIB's office (1029 Fletcher Ave) on Wednesdays or Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. When you arrive, show your email or printed receipt as proof of purchase. Nursery boss Ethan Olson can answer any questions you may have at eolson@kibi.org.

Free Seeds Indianapolis Public Library Seed Library Fall cover crop seeds are available at Pike and Glendale locations. Guidance on using oats and crimson clover seed packets is available at marionswcd.org/plantcovercrops.

Volunteer Opp Join HIP Weed Wrangles® in Hamilton County Lend a hand in volunteer invasive species removal events brought to you by the Hamilton County Invasive Species Partnership (HIP). Weed Wrangle volunteers learn how to manage a targeted invasive species and get to work as part of a collaborative effort to improve a natural area. Weed Wrangles are led by experts, so are a great opportunity for hands-on learning about invasive species and their management. Find Weed Wrangle volunteer opportunities at www.hcinvasives.org/weedwrangle. Registration is required, and new events are being added all the time. Address questions to 317-773-2181.

Photo Notes Emergence of the twinkly white flowerlets of frost aster (*Symphotrichum pilosum*) signals high time to dig and divide those perennials before our first frost. "Moving furniture" I call it. I've waited all summer for the cooler weather that lets me rearrange the garden to correct design mistakes and rejuvenate my beds. Now its crunch time, but oh what fun. Clement weather, the promise of rain, and cheery billows of frost aster mingling with New England aster, abuzz with bees. I love fall.

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.