



## HortusScope | What's Up in the Central Indiana

Gardening Community | Photo by Zac Sprunger

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**NEW! Indiana Native Plant Finder** The Indiana Native Plant Society is proud to announce the launch of a searchable database of Indiana native plants and their pollinators. This colorful, user-friendly tool can filter on numerous characteristics to present an array of plants suited to your site conditions. Garden-friendly natives are noted, as well as plants designated as caterpillar and pollinator magnets. The Finder holds 140 complete records now and will grow to 500 as details are added. Check it out at <https://finder.indiananativeplants.org>.

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**Saturday, June 4 Indianapolis Hosta Society Annual Hosta Sale (Noblesville)** Buy the newest hostas on the market, from miniatures to giants, as well as hostas you will not find in box stores. Cash, check and major credit cards are accepted. The sale will also feature vendors specializing rare and unusual plants and trees: Tree Frog Gardens, John Chapin – featuring unusual perennials, shrubs, conifers and flowering trees. Pine View Nursery, Kevin Collard – featuring ornamental trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. Lulu's Petals, Cindy Thompson – beautiful fused-glass garden totems. Utopos Gardens, Chris Turner – tropical plants. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hamilton County Fairgrounds, Exhibition Center, Hall A, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville.

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**Saturday & Sunday, June 4 & 5 Garden Fair at Minnetrista** Our annual Garden Fair is the ultimate destination for horticulturists of any level, whether you're a master gardener or looking to simply spruce up your lawn. Throughout this free, two-day community event, a wide variety of vendors will be available to help you discover beautiful plants, landscaping tools, and crafts to strengthen your summer garden. You can also speak directly with horticulture experts to get tips on your projects. Hours: Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. <https://www.minnetrista.net/garden-fair>

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**Monday, June 6 Fort Benjamin Blossoms & Shamrock Garden Clubs** All are invited to a program on Container Gardening presented by Carey Grable, Home Horticulture Educator, Purdue Extension. 6:00 p.m., Lawrence Library Community Room, 7898 Hague Road, Indianapolis.

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**Tuesday, June 7 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Daylily Hybridizing with Dan Hansen** Hansen, an ocean engineer specializing in sea ice mechanics and a commercial fisher and diver, has also run a commercial nursery, Ladybug Daylilies, for the past 25+ years. His plants are field grown, no pots, insecticides, fungicides, foliage feeding, or high-end fertilizers...allowing him to do only what his customers do. His hybridizing interests include clear colors, complex eyes, blue, doubles, teeth, and narrow form tetraploids. He has introduced several hundred daylilies and will be bringing some for auction at the meeting. Expect to be entertained by a well-seasoned hybridizer. 6:30 p.m., First Friends Church, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis. <http://www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org/>

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**Wednesday, June 8 Indianapolis Garden Club 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Garden Walk** Since 1996, the Indianapolis Garden Club has showcased beautiful private gardens across the city each summer. We continue by highlighting local artists working *en plein air* within each garden, with opportunities to purchase art. IGC proudly directs all proceeds back into the Indianapolis area and has granted over \$500,000 to conservation, civic improvement, and beautification projects within our community. This year we feature five of the city's finest urban and northside gardens. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Purchase tickets at <http://indianapolisgardenclub.org/garden-walk/>.

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**Saturday, June 11 Rosefest 2022** The Indianapolis Rose Society and the Hamilton County Master Gardeners invite you to a day filled with beautiful roses, rose growing demonstrations, a rose garden tour, free roses to first 30 guests, an ARS accredited rose show, and wonderful speakers. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Hamilton County Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville. Learn more at <https://indianapolisrosesociety.com/rosefest/rosefest-2022/>

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**Wednesday & Thursday, June 15 & 16 ACRES Land Trust Visit by Robin Wall Kimmerer (Fort Wayne area)** Ms. Kimmerer, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*, a mother, scientist, decorated professor, and enrolled member of the Citizens of Potawatomi Nation, will join ACRES Land Trust for two days of fun and exploration. Her interest in restoring ecological communities AND our relationships to land is sure to inspire. Details at <https://acreslandtrust.org/participate/events/specialevent/>.

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**Tuesday, June 21 Indiana Native Plant Society Central Chapter Working with Diverse Communities in Conservation** Join us for a virtual presentation by Rebecca Calvert, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Director of Community Engagement. Rebecca will discuss Assisting Neighbors in Beautification, Adopt-a-Block, Great Indy Cleanup, Tree Applications, Native Plant Sales, Invasive Habitat Removal and Habitat Restoration, examples of plants and flowers that are used, KIB's Community Engagement, tree planting selection method and process and the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan. Rebecca's background is in education and human development. She was raised in southern California. Her favorite place in Indy is Eagle Creek. This program is open to everyone. Program begins at 7:00 p.m. Register at: <https://bit.ly/3Mvjc4u>

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**Thursday, July 14 Indiana Native Plant Society Central Chapter Foraging and Native Plant Conservation: Expanding the Ecological Self** Humans have a fraught relationship with the natural world, says presenter Greg Monzel, a student of nature with a gift for nourishing deep connections between people and plants. Modern humans are obsessed with controlling and extracting value from natural spaces, often to the detriment of people and nature alike. For most of human existence, we depended on hunting and gathering wild foods for sustenance, which tied people directly to their habitats, but extractive foraging and forestry practices have brought about the precipitous decline of plant diversity and damage to their habitats. With this program, Greg Monzel makes the case that thoughtful foraging of wild foods and medicines can help restore connections between people and nature, increasing the value of forests and other habitats to support their conservation. He will examine how hunting practices and policies can inform foraging policies and conservation efforts, and perhaps make foraging less taboo in conservation circles. Monzel has been a practicing herbal educator, medicine maker, and grower since 2008. He and his wife co-founded Persimmon Herb School in 2015 to hold plant-centered space and build a healing community. This virtual program, open to everyone, begins at 7:00 p.m. Register at <https://bit.ly/3sW1AY3>.

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**Interesting Perennial Hope for Sustainable Agriculture** Could perennial grains take the place of our customary annual wheat, rice, corn, and soybeans? Scientists are exploring perennial crops that could

generate grain to make bread and beer while regenerating the healthy soil that we depend on as the world's largest land-based carbon sink. [Read all about it](#)

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**Volunteer Opp Hamilton County Invasives Partnership (HIP) Weed Wrangles** Hamilton County landscapes are encountering growing threats from invasive introduced plants. Join teams of volunteers, supervised by knowledgeable guides, to locate and uproot unwelcome plants such as bush honeysuckle, garlic mustard, autumn olive, English ivy, and winter creeper. Opportunities to take part in Weed Wrangles on public property can be found on the HIP website, [www.hcinvasives.org](http://www.hcinvasives.org).

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**Volunteer Opp What's Up at Keep Indianapolis Beautiful?** KIB needs your help to keep Indianapolis beautiful! Even a few hours can make a big difference. Every year we rely on nearly 20,000 volunteers to help us carry out our mission to help people and nature thrive together in our city. Whether you are interested in cleaning up litter, building pocket parks, creating greenspaces, planting trees, preparing mail, or assisting with special projects, there's a way you can help. <https://www.kibi.org/projects>

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**Volunteer Opp Circle City CISMA** Did you know that Indiana landowners and managers spend more than \$8 million annually to manage invasive plants in our state? CISMAs (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas) are forming all over the state through the [Indiana Invasives Initiative](#), and central Indiana counties are part of Circle City CISMA. Ways to get involved: Participate in Weed Wrangles and other partner events to remove invasive species and collect native seeds. Follow us on social media (Facebook, Instagram). Take our [invasive species survey](#) for property owners. Control invasives on your own property and remember, proper identification and eradication methods are the key! Learn more about how to fight invasives locally at <https://circlecitycisma.org/resources/> and find upcoming Weed Wrangles at <https://circlecitycisma.org/events/>.

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**Helpful! Creating & Maintaining a Prairie** Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District has created a new resource to guide you in establishing native plantings on your property. The new booklet, a guide for native plantings in your Indiana yard of any size, outlines planning, site preparation, planting, and maintenance for plantings ranging from small pollinator gardens to multi-acre native prairies. Free copies of the 50-page booklet are available at the SWCD office in Noblesville thanks to a Clean Water Indiana Grant. Or, you can view the booklet [online](#) and download a PDF.

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**No, no, Mosquito Joe!** The pressure is on to persuade you to hire a mosquito fogging company to rid your yard of those pesky mosquitoes and give you an itch-free summer. Please protect Nature's delicate balance with a targeted, less expensive, ecosystem-friendly solution. This video by entomologist and native plant guru Doug Tallamy tells us how: <https://youtu.be/TqcDZDNtP-0>.

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**Start a New HABITAT!® 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](http://HomegrownNationalPark.org).

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**Unleash the Wild on Your Backyard** If you've not heard Doug Tallamy's message on why we should fight invasive species and sterile landscapes by going native and going natural, here's a [Smithsonian Magazine article](#) that tells his own landowner story and eloquently states the case.

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**Photo Notes** Photos like this one by Zac Sprunger are the stars of the [Indiana Native Plant Finder](#) newly launched by the Indiana Native Plant Society. You'll get a good sense of a plant's personality from images of flowers, leaves, habit, berries, etc. captured for the most part by homegrown Indiana photographers. If you've been wondering how to incorporate some native plants into your landscape, the Finder is the place to get to know them. And when you're ready to do more, consult the INPS [Buy Natives Directory](#) to find sellers and designers who can help.

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