

NATIVE ROOTS

To promote the enjoyment & stewardship of natural areas in West Central Indiana!

Vol 11 Issue #4 SEP-DEC 2015

NATIVE TREE and SHRUB SALE

ORDER by OCT 2nd DEADLINE. Plants (37 native species) come from a local nursery in Hendricks County specializing in native species.
PICK UP on FRI OCT 16th from 5-8pm or **SAT OCT 17th** from 9am-noon at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds on Teal Road in Lafayette.
Sale is sponsored by Tippecanoe Soil & Water Conservation District.
INFO/Order Form: www.tippecanoecountyswcd.org 765-474-9992 x3

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

West Central Chapter of INPAWS - Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society

WC-INPAWS PROGRAM Meetings—fourth Mondays at 7pm at Lilly Nature Center in Celery Bog Nature Area (West Lafayette)
Dinner with the speaker is at 6pm in the MCL Cafeteria-West Lafayette
~ open to the public ~

MON SEP 28 “Indiana’s Treasures”

Ed Zschiedrich, local nature photographer, gives a photographic tour of some of his favorite plants and places in Indiana—both rare and not so rare.

MON OCT 26 “A Wildflower Tour of Southern England”

Greg Shaner, Purdue Botany Professor Emeritus and WC –INPAWS President, will give a presentation on a 2013 tour he and his wife took that included exploring the native plants of Southern England as well as visiting several famous botanical gardens there.

MON NOV 23 “Restoring Meadows & Prairies” plus INCA Update

Double program by David and Jane Savage. David will talk about restoring meadows (based on his article in the INPAWS Journal) and Jane (INPAWS Conservation co-chair) will give an overview of the upcoming legislative session and INCA’s priorities. (“INCA” stands for Indiana Conservation Alliance in which INPAWS participates.)

PgmChair: Susan Ulrich 765-583-2275 sueandtedulrich@msn.com

FALL PLANT SEMINARS

SAT OCT 3 8am-3:30pm ADVENTURES in GARDENING 2015: POSSIBILITIES OF STRUCTURE

at Hendricks County 4-H Complex: 1900 E Main St, Danville, IN

Frederick Rice—Structure & Structures, Vines & Climbers

Broch Martindale—Container Gardening Presentation and a 2:30-3:30

Fall Container Wkshop (supplies provided to make your own container*)

David King/Elizabeth Garvey/Dan McCord Gardening Unconventional Places

REGISTRATION FEE: \$40 (incl b’fast/lunch)+ **\$20*** (if attending workshop)

REG/INFO: www.hendricksgardeners.com

SAT NOV 14 8:15am-4:30pm INPAWS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“BIOSCAPING: Gardening for Life”

at IUPUI Indianapolis – University Tower and Hine Hall

Keynote speakers: Doug Tallamy & Rick Darke, co-authors of *The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden*, present complete approach to home gardening w/ native plants.

Mike Homoya promises a new angle on his view of our natural world.

Jim McCormac returns with fresh insights from his explorations of nature.

Kevin Tungesvick talks about the proposed Mounds Reservoir—a project that would decimate the most significant forested corridor remaining along the upper White River!

REGISTER before Oct 31 for discount (after that, full cost thru Nov 7)

Details/CONF REG: www.inpaws.org

Indiana Master Naturalist (IMN) 8-Week Course

Hands-on opportunities to learn about Hoosier natural resources!

SEP 30 thru NOV 18th Wednesday Evenings 5:30-8:30pm

SEP 30 thru NOV 4 at Tippecanoe County Library – Downtown Branch

NOV 11 & NOV 18 at Lilly Nature Center (Celery Bog Nature Area)

Class size is limited, so sign up early to reserve a spot! **

****REG: Chris Remley chris.remley@in.nacdn.net 765-474-9992 x3**

Other IMN classes are listed at: www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/6323.htm

SYCAMORE AUDUBON SOCIETY (SAS)

www.sycamoreaudubon.org

SAS PROGRAM Meetings—second Thursdays at 7:15pm at Lilly Nature Center in Celery Bog Nature Area (West Lafayette)
Dinner with the speaker is at 6pm in the MCL Cafeteria-West Lafayette
~except for SEP 10th which is a carry-in dinner at Lilly Nature Center.
~ open to the public ~

THURS, SEP 10 “Invitational Bring Your Own Program”

Bring a 5-10 minute program of vacation slides, nature, birds, etc.
Carry-in dinner at 6pm (before the meeting): bring a dish to share, and enjoy good food & conversation. A great night to bring a friend along!

THURS, OCT 8 “An African Birding Safari”

Rick & Debbie Read went on a two-week adventure Jan-Feb 2015. Their guided tour visited four countries in southern Africa, and included safari vehicle drives, boat trips, elephant rides, helicopter tours and zip lines. You will see and hear birds, mammals, Victoria Falls and more in their multi-media presentation—the next best thing to being there!

THURS, NOV 12 “All Over Ecuador + Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest = Birding Heaven”

Sycamore Audubon VP Wes Homoya shares his incredible 4-month experience birding not only NW Ecuador’s Andean slopes, but the country’s Amazon, Galapagos, & southern (Tumbesian) regions, and a long stint at Reserva Ecológica da Guapiaçu in Brazil. Enjoy tonight’s vicarious visit, then see these places for yourself (with Wes!) next year.

THURS, DEC 10 “A Summer of Bird Banding in Southern Indiana”

Patrick Ruhl, Barny Dunning’s Ph.D student, gives this program on his 2015 summer bird research in southern Indiana—mistnetting & banding birds at six different sites in the Morgan-Monroe and Yellowwood State Forests. Beautiful birds-in-the-hand photos and unexpected findings!

PGM CHAIR—Wes Homoya: 317-452-5355, whomoya@yahoo.com

SAS FIELD TRIPS/HIKES led by Barny Dunning (and Others)

Meet in Celery Bog gravel parking lot off Lindberg Rd in West Lafayette (unless noted otherwise)

SAT SEP 19 Celery Bog Bird Ramble (1/2 day)

Meet 7:30am. This time of year should be near the peak for many fall migrant land birds, in addition to lots of waterbirds moving through.

SAT SEP 26 Audubon at the Overlook - observing birds & other wildlife

Join SAS members between 3 and 7pm at the Prophetstown State Park Overlook (located at the east end of the main park road, a short walk from the parking lot). Stop for a few minutes or a few hours. Learn about birdwatching tools and techniques to improve your birding skills.

SAT OCT 17 Eagle Creek Park Bird Hike (full-day depending on birds)

Meet 7:30am to carpool. One of best birding areas in the Indianapolis area. Good time of year for loons, grebes, ducks, and gulls.

SAT OCT 24 Annual Excursion to Lake Michigan Shore (full-day)

Meet 6:30am to carpool. May see unusual birds of the season such as scoters, gulls, mergansers, maybe a late jaeger or early Snow Bunting.

SUN NOV 22 Jasper-Pulaski FWA Sandhill Crane Viewing

Meet 3pm to carpool. See the fall concentration of thousands of Sandhill Cranes (+ a Whooper??). Returning around 6:30pm.

SAT DEC 5 Brush Up on your Winter Birds (morning trip)

Meet 8:30am. Practice/review for the DEC 19th Christmas Bird Count.

THURSDAY EARLY BIRD HIKES -- SEP 3rd thru ~ mid-NOV

Meet at 8:00am in gravel parking lot at Celery Bog Nature Area!

Info: Barny Dunning 497-3082h, 494-3565w, jdunning@purdue.edu

WINTER BIRD COUNTS

WINTER FEEDER BIRD COUNT: 20th-25th of NOV, DEC, JAN, FEB

REPORT FORMS are available at SAS meetings or on-line at www.indianaudubon.org (click on activities). Send completed form by March 15 to: **John Castrale jsascastrale@gmail.com**

LAFAYETTE AREA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT – SAT, DEC 19th

An all-day count covering a 15-mile diameter circle centered on Lafayette. Find out details/sign up at DEC 10th SAS meeting.

For more info or to get a territory: Ed Hopkins 765-463-5927

UPCOMING PROGRAMS (cont'd)

SEP-DEC WEDNESDAYS in the WILD pgms in separate flyer
AND on p. 3 of electronic version of this issue of Native Roots

NATURE PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

JUNIOR NATURE CLUB (JNC) meets at Lilly Nature Center in Celery Bog Nature Area—Lindberg Rd betw Northwestern & McCormick
Hands-on lessons, hikes (weather permitting), games, crafts & treats!
2015-2016 school yr: K through 8th Graders—no membership fees
Classes this school year are split into three age groups by grade;
each class meets once every three weeks (no classes in Dec & Jan):
K – 2nd grades meet Tuesdays from 6pm to 7pm.....starting **AUG 18**
FALL DATES: SEP 8, 29, OCT 20, NOV 10
3rd – 5th grades meet Thursdays from 6pm to 7:30pm...starting **AUG 20**
FALL DATES: SEP 10, OCT 1, 22, NOV 12
6th – 8th grades meet Tuesdays from 6pm to 8pm.....starting **AUG 25**
FALL DATES: SEP 15, OCT 6, 27, NOV 17
FALL TOPICS: *Floating on Air, As the World Turns,*
Batty About Wildman, and Litter, Litter, Everywhere

For full JNC schedule and lots more info: www.hands-future.org
Sponsored by Sycamore Audubon Society & Hands of the Future
To volunteer or donate, contact: **Ms. Zonda (Bryant) 765-366-9126**

NATURE PROGRAMS AT PROPHETSTOWN STATE PARK**

Enter park via Swisher Rd (off N. 9th St, just south of Battle Ground)
SEP 16 & OCT 7: see Wednesdays in the Wild flyer for pgm details.
SAT/SUN SEP 12-13 Archaeology Weekend: hikes, activities, pottery...
SAT/SUN SEP 19-20 Importance of White-tail Deer, Historic Interpreters
SAT SEP 26 10am-noon National Public Lands Day: Prairie Projects
These are just a few of the fall programs included in cost of the park admission fee, and led by Interpretive Naturalist Angie Manuel.
** Current Month's Schedule: www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2971.htm
MORE INFO: **Angie Manuel 765-567-4919** amanuel@dnr.in.gov

Gibson Woods Wild Ones NATIVE NEWS Events

SAT SEP 12th 10am CST "To Bee or Not to Bee" – Victoria Jostes
Presentation on the wonders of honeybees and their current plight.
SUN SEP 27th 1pm CST Popped Secret: The Mysterious Origin of Corn
Documentary film on the story of the genetic changes that produced corn from what may seem like an unlikely ancestor: teosinte, a wild grass. **16+**
Both these programs at Gibson Woods: 6201 Parrish Ave, Hammond
MORE INFO/TO REGISTER: 219-844-3188 or www.gw-wildones.org
SAT OCT 31st 11am-3pm CST "Insects of the Dunes"
Learn the importance of the most numerous animals on earth from this presentation by Chicago Field Museum expert Jim Louderman.
At Paul H Douglas Ctr for Environmental Educ: 100 N Lake St, Gary
MORE INFO – Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore pgms: 219-395-1882

DNR Div of Nature Preserves Co-Sponsors HIKES 10-12noon*

MORE DNR HIKES/DETAILS/REG: www.in.gov/dnr/naturepreserve
SAT SEP 26 Pine Station NP (with INPAWS) – Lake County
10-12 **CST** Hike led by Emily Stork (DNR)
Questions? Emily Stork 219-688-0632, estork@dnr.in.gov
SAT OCT 10 Dustin NP (with ACRES Land Trust) – Allen County
10-12 **EST** Hike led by Ben Hess (DNR) & Casey Jones (ACRES)
Questions? Ben Hess 260-368-7594, bhess@dnr.in.gov
* Limited space so REG early & note whether EST or CST time!

KANKAKEE SANDS VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS – Newton Co.

on 2nd Saturdays led by staff from The Nature Conservancy in Indiana
SAT SEP 12 9am-1pm **CDT** and **SAT OCT 10** 9am-noon **CDT**
Seed Harvest Days at Kankakee Sands Nursery (ALL AGES)
Seeds will be harvested using scissors, hand scythes, and fingertips, and then put into paper and fabric bags. The harvested seeds will be transported to the seed barn facility for drying and planting this winter. NO EXPERIENCE needed. *Don't wear fleece since it collects seeds!*
Meet at Native Plant Nursery: 1492 W 250 N, Morocco
RSVP/INFO: Alyssa Nyberg anyberg@tnc.org or 219-866-1706
SAT NOV 14 9am-noon **CDT** and **SAT DEC 12** 9am-noon **CDT**

BRUSH CUTTING OF INVASIVE TREES & SHRUBS

Work will be lightly to moderately physically strenuous using "hack & squirt" method to kill the larger trees
NOV 14: Unit H planting has a stand of cottonwood trees which are negatively impacting plant diversity in the area.
DEC 12: Unit C prairie planting is being invaded by sassafras trees.
Training & protective gear supplied, but dress for the weather, wear a good pair of cold-tolerant work boots & bring a water bottle.
Meet at Nature Conservancy Office: 3294 N US 41, Morocco
RSVP/INFO: Tony Capizzo acapizzo@tnc.org or 219-285-2184

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Help RIP Squad Volunteers Remove Invasive Plants

FALL 2015 Workdays: Tuesdays & Thursdays 3-5pm OCT 6–NOV 12
Cutting/lopping/sawing invasive shrubs; spraying herbicide on cut stumps
Long sleeves, long pants, gloves and boots are recommended.
Bring loppers if you have them. Herbicide will be provided.

Tuesdays at Prophet's Rock Woods ~ OCT 6, 13, 20, 27 & NOV 3, 10
Meet at the little parking lot near Prophet's Rock on Prophets Rock Rd, just north of 600N in Battle Ground.

Thursdays at Ross Hills Park ~ OCT 8, 15, 22, 29 & NOV 5, 12
Meet at parking lot for Ross House in Ross Hills Park: turn on 875W off Division Rd just past Ravines Golf Course buildings -Tippecanoe Co

Sponsored by
West Central Chapter of INPAWS and Sycamore Audubon Society
FOR INFO, Workday E-mail Reminders, or IFFY Weather Questions:
Patty Rader patricia.w.rader@gmail.com or 765-463-3050

NICHES Land Trust - Helping Ecosystems Survive!

Website: www.nicheslandtrust.org ~ Office: 765-423-1605

NEXT BOARD MEETINGS – 6:30pm TUES, OCT 27th & DEC 1st at the NICHES Office – CLEGG Memorial Garden: 1782 N 400 E, Lafayette

STEWARDSHIP WORKDAYS at NICHES Properties

Property directions/info: www.nicheslandtrust.org or 765-423-1605

SAT SEP 19 10am-noon **Macroinvertebrate Sampling** – Clinton County
All ages can help sample the water at the **Ferguson Preserve** for crayfish, stoneflies & other critters, and learn about the creek's water quality. *Meet 9:30am at Frankfort Public Library: 208 W Clinton St.*

SAT SEP 26 10am-1pm **Wildcat Creek Clean-up**
Will start at Monitor Access and work toward Wildcat Creek Park.

FRI OCT 9 1-5pm **Iroquois Access Installation** – near Rensselaer
Native seed collected from a NICHES preserve will be planted here.

SAT OCT 24** **Controlled Burn Training** – Roy Whistler Wildlife Area
NICHES uses controlled burns as a management technique in restoring & maintaining natural areas. Learn how to be a part of this valuable stewardship program with Exec Dir Gus Nyberg and Land Stewards Bob Easter & Brad Weigel. ****RSVP to Brooke by OCT 20 to attend.**

QUESTIONS: Brooke Criswell brooke@nicheslandtrust.org

NICHES ACTIVITIES

MORE EVENTS/DETAILS in calendar at www.nicheslandtrust.org

Wednesday Nature Walks at Clegg Memorial Garden

SEP 9 through OCT 28 5:00-6:00 pm – Meet at the porch.

Naturalist Nick Harby shares his knowledge of the woodland flora.

FOR MORE INFO: nickharby@yahoo.com or 317-370-2895

THU SEP 24 6:30-7:30pm **NICHES Natural Places & Wildcat Creek Art**
Reception at Frankfort Library includes presentation on the Wildcat by Garry Hill & readings from NICHES project "Reflections on the Wildcat."

WED OCT 7 5-7:30pm **Wildcat Creek Float to Peter's Mill**
Leaving Wildcat Creek Park at 5pm: 5201 Eisenhower Rd, Lafayette
To use a NICHES canoe, you must contact Brooke in advance:
Brooke Criswell 765-423-1605, brooke@nicheslandtrust.org

WED, OCT 14th 1-3pm **Indian Creek Fall Color Hike**–Bob Easter

WED, NOV 4th 5:10-6:10pm **November Crane Experience**–Gus Nyberg
DETAILS in Wednesdays in the Wild flyer or p. 3 of e-Native Roots

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP

FRI SEP 11th 2:30-5pm **WABASH SAMPLING BLITZ 2015**

Help collect water samples, measure stream temperature & turbidity.

TO VOLUNTEER: www.wabashriver.net/blitz-registration

QUESTIONS: Sara Peel 765-420-8505

TUES NOV 10 7-8pm **WABASH RIVER CORRIDOR INITIATIVES**

Tony Roswarski (Lafayette Mayor & President of Wabash River Enhancement Corporation/WREC) gives an update on the Old National Bank development & river promenade.

Stan Lambert (WREC Executive Director) discusses other initiatives underway in Laf, WL, & Tipp Co, as well as the larger effort to monitor and promote best environmental practices in the watershed.

Presented by the League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette
MORE INFO: Liz Solberg 765-743-5955 or www.nicheslandtrust.org

Why this newsletter?

If you're like me, you'd like to have all your nature news in one place —so you don't miss out on some interesting natural history programs or stewardship opportunities. That's my intent here.

Submissions for JAN-MAR issue need to reach me by DEC 15th.
Please send your info to mohrsamuels@comcast.net

or call (765) 567-7023.

Joan Mohr Samuel, Editor

CALLING ALL NATURALISTS AND NATURALIST WANNA-BEs to
"WEDNESDAYS in the WILD"

Natural History Talks/Workshops/Fieldtrips – 1-3pm or As Noted (Eastern Time)

SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2015

- Sep 9th 1-2pm Monarch Migration & Tagging Demo** ----- indoor/outdoor pgm—LNC
Starting mid-August, the monarch butterfly population east of the Rocky Mountains will start its annual migration to Mexico. **Local Monarch Conservationist Reni Winter-Evans** will teach about the migration, and demonstrate how she and thousands of other citizen scientists raise monarchs indoors and then tag the migrating generation to help researchers track the fall and spring migrations. Eggs being laid now will be part of that migration. Help tag and release migrating monarch butterflies.
- Sep 16th 1-3pm Foods from Field & Stream** ----- **Bring a lawn chair if you have one** ----- outdoor pgm—STPK
Join **Angie Manuel (Interpretive Naturalist)** for a leisurely stroll to the Prophetstown village. Then sit under the shade shelter while we prepare foods at the cooking hearth – dishes will include duck, mussels, corn, beans, and more. **\$2/person program fee**
- Sep 23rd 7:30-9:30pm Meet our Moon** ----- **Bring binoculars!** ----- indoor/outdoor pgm--LNC
The Wabash Valley Astronomical Society will introduce us to Earth's closest companion - the Moon. Eclipses, phases, features and interesting lunar facts will be shared. Free and low-cost smartphone apps for astronomy will also be discussed. If weather permits, we'll observe the night sky with telescopes & binoculars.
- Sep 30th 1-3pm Bird Watching Tips & Photo Poems** ----- indoor/outdoor pgm--LNC
Barb Lucas (passionate birdwatcher for decades) will present beautiful bird photo poems while sharing some "Birding 101" info. Indoor presentation will be followed by practicing with Sycamore Audubon's binoculars outside—weather permitting.
- Oct 7th 1-3pm Prophetstown Fen Nature Preserve Hike** ----- outdoor pgm—STPK
Join **Tom Swinford (Asst Director & Ecologist for IDNR's Div. of Nature Preserves)** for an introduction to the beautiful world of fens: unique wetland communities which are dependent on groundwater. **\$2/person program fee (gate fee is waived)**
- Oct 14th 1-3pm Indian Creek Fall Color Hike** ---- **CARPOOL leaves LNC 12:30pm** ----- outdoor pgm—IC/NICHES
Join **Bob Easter (NICHES Land Trust Stewardship Manager)** for a walk at Indian Creek Basin to view the beautiful fall colors of the surrounding hills, and talk about the challenges of managing properties in the Wabash floodplain. Bob will read a short historical account from local pioneer historian Sanford. C. Cox, who tells of a "truly fearful adventure" that he experienced in June of 1835 in the very "Indian Hills" whose foliage we will be admiring. Bring binoculars for some long distance tree identification!
- Oct 21st 1-3pm Migration: A Twice a Year Birding Extravaganza!** - **Bring binoculars!** - indoor/outdoor pgm—LNC
Susan Ulrich (avid birder & naturalist) gives an indoor waterfowl & fall migrant talk followed by a birding walk around the marsh.
- Oct 28th 7-9pm The Savage Garden: Growing Carnivorous Plants** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
Found in nearly every region of the world, carnivorous plants must supplement their nutritional needs by luring, capturing and consuming insects in a variety of clever ways. **Doug Osman (from Purdue's Brian Lamb School of Communication)** will introduce us to a variety of these plants and show us how to grow them at home.
- Nov 4th 5:10-6:10pm November Crane Experience** -- **CARPOOL leaves Battle Ground 4:10pm** -- outdoor pgm—J-P
Join **Gus Nyberg (NICHES Executive Director)** at the Jasper-Pulaski Sandhill Crane Tower to watch the largest gathering of greater sandhill cranes in the world! Meet at the crane tower at 5:10 PM ET (4:10 PM CT) to watch the cranes fly in for the night.
- Nov 11th 1-3pm Great Smoky Mountains National Park** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
John MacDonald (Purdue Entomologist) will give a presentation based on three research projects involving aquatic insects in this park. Enjoy a photographic visit, while learning about his findings and the experience of doing research in such a popular park.
- Nov 18th 1-3pm All About Gourds** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
Ida Kennedy (President of the Indiana Gourd Society) will cover a variety of gourd topics including historical uses, growing techniques, varieties available, decorating options and interesting uses.
- Dec 9th 7-9pm The Pollinator Project** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
Purdue University Environmental Education students will present an educational program which promotes the development of pollinator gardens. In addressing the growing decline of native pollinators, the program hopes to educate individuals and teachers about garden development and provide curriculum designed to engage students in pollinator projects of their own.
NOTE: NOV 18th & DEC 9th are our last programs in 2015. Wednesdays in the Wild programs will RESUME mid-JAN 2016.

LOCATIONS of these FREE PROGRAMS (unless otherwise noted) that are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

IC/NICHES (Indian Creek Basin): Meet at 1pm in property parking lot (directions at www.nicheslandtrust.org) **OR 12:30pm at LNC to CARPOOL.**

J-P (Jasper-Pulaski Fish & Wildlife Area): Meet at 5:10pm ET at Crane Tower (5822 N. Fish & Wildlife Lane, Medaryville) **OR join CARPOOL 4pm ET at Battlefield Monument parking lot off N. 9th St. In Battle Ground.**

LNC (Lilly Nature Center/Celery Bog Nature Area): In WL, on north side of Lindberg Rd, between Northwestern & McCormick.

STPK (Prophetstown State Pk): Enter the park via Swisher Rd (off North Ninth St, just south of Battle Ground. **SEP 16th: meet at Park Visitors Ctr. OCT 7th: meet at Prairie View Picnic Area – Blazingstar Shelter. NOTE: Park is charging a \$2/person program fee (gate fee is waived).**

FOR MORE INFORMATION or TO HELP WITH PROGRAM PLANNING, contact:

Mary Cutler 765-567-2993; Dan Dunten 765-775-5172; Joan Mohr Samuels 765-567-7023, mohrsamuels@comcast.net

SPONSORED BY

Mary Cutler, Naturalist, Tippecanoe County Park & Rec Dept. — Sycamore Audubon Society — NICHES Land Trust

