

**CALLING ALL NATURALISTS AND NATURALIST WANNA-BEs to
"WEDNESDAYS in the WILD"
Natural History Talks/Workshops/Field Trips 1-3p.m. or As Noted
JANUARY – MARCH 2017**

- Jan 11th 1-3pm The Post Glacial Geologic History of the Wabash River** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
*Despite living on the banks of our state river, very few residents know about our river's origins, physical characteristics and connections to local land forms. Join **Dr. Dean Ballotti (Purdue Depts of Curriculum & Instruction and Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences)** as he shares our local waterway's complex and fascinating natural history!*
- Jan 18th 7-9pm Indiana Raptors** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
*Winter's lack of leaf cover provides the perfect opportunity to observe predatory birds in action. **Dr. Barny Dunning (Purdue Dept of Forestry & Natural Resources)** will shed light on the fascinating lives of birds of prey that either migrate through our state or call Indiana home, including both hawks and owls.*
- Jan 25th 1-3pm Herbivory & Neonicotinoids: The Effects of Agricultural Pesticides on Milkweeds & Monarchs -- indoor—LNC**
Paolo Olaya-Arenas (Purdue PhD Student, Dept of Entomology) will share results of her research which looked at the presence of ag pesticides on milkweeds adjacent to farm fields, and the resulting use of those plants for food for monarch caterpillars. Her research is part of an ongoing effort to understand the impact that certain pesticides have on non-target insects, with particular interest in the effects these chemicals have on the imperiled monarch butterfly.
- Feb 1st 1-3pm Maple Syrup Making** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
Dr. Dan Cassens (Purdue Forestry & Natural Resources Professor) will demonstrate his equipment used for tapping trees. He will then walk us through the entire process of making maple syrup, from extracting the sap to the final tasty product.
- Feb 8th 1-3pm Native American Artifacts** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
*Artifacts help us learn and appreciate the history of people who lived in this area. Join **Angie Manuel (Prophetstown State Park Interpretive Naturalist)** for an afternoon of information and sharing. **Steve Kerkhove (local collector)** will bring items he has found on his local farm. **Archaeologist, Cathy Carson**, will also be presenting information and be on hand to do artifact identification. Guests are welcome to bring unique items that they have found.*
- Feb 15th 10am-noon The Bald Eagles of Indiana** ----- indoor/outdoor pgm—ROSS
*From extirpation to recovery, the return of the bald eagle to Indiana is an amazing success story. **Allisyn Gillett (IDNR Nongame Bird Biologist)** will share the details of the eagle reintroduction program, the current status of eagles in our state, and (weather permitting) we'll visit a local, easily observed eagle nest. **Dress for the weather & bring binoculars.***
- Feb 22nd 1-3pm Indiana's State Forests: Working for the Future** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
*Our state forests are working landscapes - working for the future of sustainable timber, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation & watershed protection. **Donna Rogler (Ind. Div. of Forestry)** will explore the history of our state forests, their purpose with respect to other public lands, and how they're being managed to provide benefits for Indiana's citizens.*
- Mar 1st 1-3pm Fire Ecology** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
*In this presentation by **Andrew Reuter (regional ecologist)**, learn why Indiana natural areas need to be burned and how the DNR safely conducts controlled burns.*
- Mar 8th 7-9pm Sounds of Spring-Wacky Woodcocks! - Dress for the weather & bring binoculars - outdoor pgm—AMPH**
*Experience this spring ritual with **Naturalist Mary Cutler & members of the Sycamore Audubon Society.***
- Mar 15th 1-3pm Habitat Assessment 101** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
*Explore the process of evaluating habitat with **Michael Mycroft (Wildlife Biologist, District 1)**. Presentation will include basic concepts and principles of addressing habitat diversity, quality, and quantity at different scales (5 acres to 5,000 acres for example).*
- Mar 22nd 1-3pm Indiana's Nature Preserves: Saving our Last Great Places** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
Tom Swinford (IDNR Asst. Director, Div. of Nature Preserves) will share the events and people that led to the establishment of the Nature Preserves Act of 1967, followed by a survey of Indiana's system of over 50,000 acres of nature preserves that will provide a glimpse of the rich tapestry that is our state's natural history.
- Mar 29th 1-3pm Tippecanoe County Bicentennial Map** ----- indoor pgm—LNC
*This large map was created as a legacy project for the Indiana Bicentennial. **Mark Ehle (Tippecanoe County GIS Administrator)** will discuss how it was created, examine a few of the historic sites in detail, and introduce us to some online resources to further investigate the current state of historic landscapes in the county.*

LOCATIONS of these FREE PROGRAMS which are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- AMPH (Tipp Co Amphitheater):** Meet in parking lot on east side of North River Rd, near Soldiers Home Rd in West Lafayette.
LNC (Lilly Nature Center/Celery Bog Nature Area): On north side of Lindberg Rd, between Northwestern & McCormick - West Laf.
ROSS (Ross House): 8815 W 50 S, WL in Ross Hills Park (turn on 875W off Division Rd just past Ravines Golf Course buildings -Tipp County).

FOR MORE INFORMATION or TO HELP WITH PLANNING, contact:

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SPONSORED BY

*Mary Cutler, Naturalist, Tippecanoe County Park & Rec Dept. — Sycamore Audubon Society — NICHES Land Trust
 Dan Dunten, Lilly Nature Center Director, West Lafayette Parks & Rec Dept. — West Central Chapter of INPAWS*