



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central Indiana

Gardening Community | [Photo by Wendy Ford](#)

Tuesday, August 1 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Hook, Line, and Sinker: An Iris Seed Survival Strategy

Presentation by Steve Poole. 6:30 p.m., First Friends Church parlor, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis. www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org

Starting Friday, Aug 4 An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power A decade after *An Inconvenient Truth* brought climate change into popular culture comes the follow-up that shows just how close we are to a real energy revolution. The documentary addresses the progress made to tackle the problem of climate change and Al Gore's global efforts to persuade governmental leaders to invest in renewable energy, culminating in the landmark signing of 2016's Paris Climate Agreement. Show times 2:15, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:40. Keystone Arts Theatre, [8702 Keystone Crossing, Indianapolis](http://8702keystonecrossing.com). [Youtube trailer](#)

Monday, August 7 Indianapolis Hosta Society Magnolias Join us for a presentation by Andrew Bunting, Director of Plant Collections at Chicago Botanic Garden. Andrew shares how to use magnolias in small gardens and tight spaces, but also as companion plants with some tried and true favorites. He details the temperature zones in which they'll grow and flower and the type of soil, sunlight, and care they need to thrive year after year. He also explains how to grow magnolias from seeds and stem cuttings, just in case you get hooked. 6:30 p.m., Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. www.indianapolishostasociety.org

Monday, August 7 Herb Society of Central Indiana Presentation by Hannah Coots of [Growing Places Indy](#). A native Hoosier, Hannah has been a farmer for five years and with Growing Places Indy for one year. She will share her knowledge of microgreens and herbs as well as an overview of the organization, whose mission is "to cultivate personal, family and community wellness through urban agriculture, food access and mind-body education." Attendees will enjoy seeing samples of the items grown at their facility. Open to the public. Refreshments provided. A business meeting will follow the presentation. 6:15 to 8:30 p.m., Clay Township Center, 10701 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis.
<http://herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org/>

Wednesday, August 9 St. Peter's United Church of Christ Native Garden Tours (Carmel) St. Peter's invites you to tour our Native Habitat and Rain Garden on the church grounds with naturalist Amanda Smith of Hamilton County Parks & Recreation. The tour is open to church members and their families as well as our neighbors and the public. Come see an award-winning prairie restoration. 7:00 p.m., St.

Peter's United Church of Christ, 3106 E. Carmel Drive at Keystone Parkway.

<http://www.stpeterscarmel.org/>

Thursday, August 10 Beekeeping Basics (Carmel) Local beekeepers share the basics of hobby beekeeping, the equipment, protective gear and helpful resources for beginning beekeepers. Learn about the importance of honey bees as pollinators of one third of global food production, the decline of honey bee populations, and environmental threats that challenge these pollinators. Hosted by the Creation Care team at St. Elizabeth Seton. 7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church of Carmel, 10655 Haverstick Road, Carmel. [Learn more](#)

Saturday & Sunday, August 12 & 13 Mudlarks Garden Club of Bartholomew County (Columbus)

Breaking the Mold 2017 Garden Show Join the Mudlarks for a brave blending of history and floral design. In Columbus, Indiana, we are surrounded by powerful historical figures who paved the way for the successes of this community. Enlighten your sense of local history with names and stories of women of Bartholomew County who were trailblazers, change-makers, and voices of equity. These women denied the gender barriers of their time and are among us now in spirit. Live flower arrangements will be accompanied by the history of the women they memorialize. Come meet women of the past who would not be unwillingly stuck in a pre-determined societal role but boldly pursued their dreams. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 524 3rd Street, Columbus. Address questions to Jenni at 812-374-9888.

Sunday, August 13 Iris Growers of Eastern Indiana (Muncie) Arilbred Irises Presented by Gary Birk. 1:30 p.m., Minnetrista, 1200 North Minnetrista Parkway, Muncie.

Saturday, August 19 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Annual Daylily/Iris Sale John Everitt & Peggy Allen, presiding. Set-up 8:00 a.m.; member buying 9:45 a.m.; public buying 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sullivan Hardware & Garden, 6955 N. Keystone Avenue, Indianapolis. www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org
[RSVP](#)

Saturday, August 26 Brews 4 Bats & Birds (& Box Turtles & Bigmouth Shiners) Metazoa Brewing Company sponsors this event to benefit Indiana's rare wildlife. Tickets include four 8-oz. craft beers, souvenir sample glass, festival area with music, cool critter info, light snacks, photo ops, and more. Fee \$25 until August 20, \$30 until August 25, \$35 at the door. Proceeds go directly to the Indiana Nongame Wildlife Fund to support more than 750 nongame and endangered wildlife species. 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Metazoa Brewing Company, 140 S. College Avenue, Indianapolis. Buy tickets [here](#).
www.metazoabrewing.com

Starting Thursday, August 31 Tri-County Indiana Master Naturalist Workshop Rotating in Vermillion, Parke, and Vigo Counties, this workshop series continues for a total of nine evening classes, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm, on most Thursdays through November 2. The Indiana Master Naturalist program aims to bring together natural resources specialists with adult learners to foster an understanding of Indiana's plants, water, soils, and wildlife and to promote volunteer service in local communities. Many of the classes will have an associated field trip or be held outside at Turkey Run State Park or Dobbs Memorial Park with hands-on learning. For more information about the Indiana Master Naturalist program see www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/6321.htm. Fee \$70 per person or \$110 per couple covers the costs of books, materials, park entrance and other fees. **Register by August 18** using the form at www.ag.purdue.edu/counties/vermillion. If you have questions or you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program contact Phil Cox at 765-492-5335 or cox119@purdue.edu;

or Jim Luzar at 765-569-3176 or luzar@purdue.edu.

Saturday, September 9 5th Annual THRIVE Party, Keeping Indianapolis Beautiful Enjoy a transformative evening of food, drink, and fun in support of Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Inc., which is keeping our city clean and green. Since 1976, KIB has helped neighbors plant more than 50,000 trees, create roughly 2.3 million square feet of community greenspace, collect thousands of tons of litter, and empower agents of change. Come celebrate the hard work that we, as citizens of Indianapolis, all put in to transform public spaces, dirty streets, and underutilized plots into an urban landscape that creates civic pride. Each ticket includes: 6:30 PM | Cocktail Hour & Silent Auction; 7:30 PM | Dinner & Program; 9:00 PM | Afterglow Event. Featured Experiences: Silent Auction | Signature Cocktails | Centerpoint Brewing | Silent Disco. Attire: Urban chic -- think cocktail with a litter-azzi twist. THRIVE is proudly presented by The National Bank of Indianapolis. Sponsorship opportunities available at kibi.org/thrive or contact Tara at 317-264-7555 x107. 6:30 to 11:00 p.m., Circle City Industrial Complex, 1125 East Brookside Avenue, Indianapolis. [RSVP](#)

Saturday, September 9 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Annual Pitch-In and Plant Exchange NCAP Daylily Auction, presided over by John Everitt & Dan Howell. Set-up 11:00 a.m.; lunch 11:45 a.m.; auction 12:45 p.m.. First Friends Church social hall, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis.
www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org

Saturdays thru September Medicinal Plant Garden Tours The Medicinal Plant Garden demonstrates more than 100 species from around the world. Informational signage tells how the plants have been used, and visitors are welcome to wander at their own pace. Free guided tours are offered on each Saturday morning in June thru September at 11:00 a.m. Group tours can be arranged by contacting the museum. More information is available at www.imhm.org and 317-635-7329. Indiana Medical History Museum, 3045 W. Vermont Street, Indianapolis. <http://www.imhm.org/>

Healing Plants Herbal Studies at Hobbit Gardens Earth Gatherings Center Begin your journey with the healing plants, a journey of wonder and surprise, evolving our way of living on the earth, in community. Our apprentice 'Herbal Studies' program will give you the knowledge and basis to create health and healing for yourself, your family, friends or expand into an herbal practice. You'll discover a way to live a healthier, more whole life in which the decisions and choices that create our world come from within. The program begins in October and continues for one weekend in each of eight months, ending in July. The weekends for 2017 are Oct 14-15/Nov 11-12/Jan 6-7/Feb 10-11/Mar 17-18/May 5-6/June 17-18/July 21-22. A Certificate of Completion is awarded at the finish of the program. To register, contact Constance Ferry at hobbitgardens@tds.net.

Sun Power Go Solar Workshops (Hamilton County) Learn how to solarize your home or business. The Go Solar Workshops are part of the Solarize Hamilton County 2017 Campaign to increase understanding of solar investments, simplify the solar installation process, enable access to program discounts and advance as many solar installations as possible in 2017. You will learn the basics about solar for your home or business, how net metering works and how to select a solar installer. You will talk to solar installers offering a group discount for the campaign. According to a new State law, solar installations completed in 2017 will qualify for full net metering rates until 2047; installations completed from 2018 to 2022 will only qualify for full net metering rates until 2032; and net metering will no longer be available for installations completed after 2022. Learn more and RSVP by going to www.carmelgreen.org and clicking on the Solarize Hamilton County link. Workshop schedule: August 3, 6:30 p.m., Fishers City Hall;

August 16, 6:30 p.m., Carmel Library; August 23, 6:30 p.m., Noblesville City Hall; August 29, 6:30 p.m., Westfield Library. www.carmelgreen.org

Employment Opp Looking for a Few Good On-Call Science Instructors Do you enjoy the outdoors? Enjoy teaching others about the outdoors? Our instructors are involved in all aspects of pre K-12 programming in the EcoLab at Marian University, including field trips, STEM summer camp, distance learning programs, public programs, girl and boy scout badge programs, and more. To learn more about this opportunity, contact Janice Hicks Slaughter at jhslaughter@marian.edu or 317-524-7701. All employment opportunities in the EcoLab can be found on our [website](#).

Food Security Grant Supports Urban Agriculture in Hamilton County A \$15,000 grant from Legacy Fund will support the District's Urban Agriculture program. The program builds on the success of the urban conservation program and supports backyard and community gardens across Hamilton County. Technical assistance is provided to help county residents start new vegetable and fruit gardens and improve their existing gardens. Comprehensive education and outreach programs are focused on alleviating food insecurity in the county and connecting residents with local food. Donations of fresh vegetables to local food pantries are supported by pairing businesses, community gardens, and service organizations with food pantries. The Hamilton County Garden Network was created to support and connect the growing number of community gardens across the county. Find more info about the Urban Agriculture program and Hamilton County Garden Network at www.hamiltonswcd.org.

Bird Hikes Eagle Creek Park: 6515 Delong Road, Indianapolis. Every Sunday year-round, 9:00 a.m. Meet at the Ornithology Center. Information 317-327-2473. **Beginning Bird Hikes at Cool Creek Park:** 2000 East 151st Street, Carmel. 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m., and every other Saturday, at 9:00 a.m. Meet in the parking lot at the bottom of the road by Cool Creek, past the Nature Center. Information 317-774-2500 or www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com **Strawtown Koteewi Park:** 12308 Strawtown Avenue, Noblesville. First Wednesday of each month, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Meet at the Taylor Center of Natural History. Information 317-774-2574 or www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com.

Garden Travel Ring Around Paris with Garden Travelers Ron & Linda Williams: Although Paris is wonderful, the area around Paris is often done in a day, and many of the great gardens close to Paris are missed because you need to rent a car. We have decided to skip Paris and focus on the area around Paris, the Loire Valley, and Brittany. We will visit the top spots like Villandry, Chateau Fontainebleau, and Chantilly but also include the private or semi-private sites that make this "the trip of a lifetime." Sept. 30-Oct. 11, 2017. Contact info@gardentravelers.com for a complete itinerary and visit our [Facebook page](#). **Spring Gardens of Virginia with Cole Burrell:** Join Cole in his home city of Charlottesville to visit a stunning array of private gardens of friends and clients who are ready to welcome you into their cloistered sanctuaries. Tour the historic homes of presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, as well as the Academical Village of Jefferson's University of Virginia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Historic Garden Week in Virginia offers additional opportunities to explore private estates only open for this unique event. April 19-25, 2018. [Info and registration](#)

Photo Notes In August, my back yard fairly glows with the stunning white panicles of *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight'. This has become my favorite summer shrub. It blooms forever and doesn't require pampering. Be prepared for it to get tall, though. It wants to rise to 6 to 8 feet, with a comparable spread. I use mine as a hedge to hide my weed-ridden veggie garden and utility area.

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