



## HortusScope | What's Up in the Central

Indiana Gardening Community | Photo by Wendy Ford

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**Monday & Tuesday, June 5 & 6 Shamrock and Fort Benjamin's Blossoms Garden Club You Can Garden Anywhere:** Jerry LeCount, Bronze Master Gardener from Hancock County Master Gardener Association, focuses on gardening in small spaces and non-traditional gardening. Monday, 6:30 p.m., Lawrence Branch Library, 7898 N Hague Road, Indianapolis. **Complimentary Friends in the Garden:** Barbara Johnson, Advanced Master Gardener, and Elaine Whitfield, Silver Master Gardener, present an overview of vegetables and flowers that grow well together, focusing on combinations for containers and small spaces. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Lawrence Branch Library, 7898 N Hague Road, Indianapolis. Address questions to [snsmls@aol.com](mailto:snsmls@aol.com).

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**Tuesday, June 6 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society** Presentation by Charles & Cynthia Lucius, Amity Bloom, Columbus, Ohio. 6:30 p.m., First Friends Church parlor, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis. [www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org](http://www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org)

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**Tuesday, June 6 Herb Society of Central Indiana** Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc. will offer a tour of their impressive roof garden followed by a talk about the organization. Horticulturist Emily Wood, Director of Greenspace, will share her enthusiasm and knowledge about this unique facility. There is ample parking at the site. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., KIB Headquarters, 1029 Fletcher Avenue, Indianapolis. <http://herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org/>

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**Wednesday, June 14 St. Peter's United Church of Christ (Carmel) Native Gardens Tour** St. Peter's invites you to tour our Native Habitat and Rain Garden on the church grounds with environmental educator Mary Hayes. The tour is open to church members and their families as well as our neighbors and the general public. Come see an award-winning prairie restoration. Additional tours will be offered on July 12 (with Mary Hayes) and August 9 (with Amanda Smith). Each month will be different. Blooming prairie plants and their accompanying insects attract birds and animals that change throughout the season. 7:00 p.m., St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 3106 E. Carmel Drive at Keystone Parkway. <http://www.stpeterscarmel.org/>

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**Wednesday, June 7 Indianapolis Garden Club 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Garden Walk** Information about the beautiful gardens and a link for the online purchase of tickets can be found on the website. Funds raised by this event are donated back to the community. Fees: \$35 for Garden Walk and \$25 for optional luncheon at Woodstock Club. 9:00 a.m. to 3 :00 p.m. [www.igcgardenwalk.com](http://www.igcgardenwalk.com)

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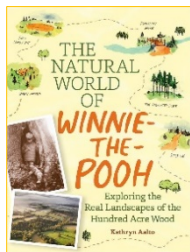
**Friday, June 9 Indianapolis Hosta Society Gardener's Day at the 2017 American Hosta Society National Convention** View the National Hosta Leaf Show and shop to your heart's delight from vendors around the country for the newest hosta, rare plants, conifers, Japanese maples, succulents, troughs and garden art. The hotel has a buffet lunch or BYO (there are no restaurants within walking distance). Plan to have fun, learn about hosta, and shop until your trunk is full. Make it an educational outing with your club or road trip with your gardening friends. Noon to 6:00 p.m., Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis. <https://www.indyhosta2017.com/#home-section>

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**Saturday, June 17 (rain date June 18) Fourth Annual Shalom Garden Tour (Lebanon)** Come see beautiful Boone County gardens and get ideas for your garden. All proceeds fund the Shalom House and the Kids' Sack Lunch program. Fees: \$12.00 in advance and \$15.00 the day of the Garden Tour. Children 12 & under free. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For tickets contact Shalom at 765-891-9065 or [lebanonshalomhousedirector@gmail.com](mailto:lebanonshalomhousedirector@gmail.com). Tickets also available at Lebanon Public Library, Thorntown Public Library, and Parkside Pharmacy.

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**Friday, June 23 Author Presentation (Carmel) The Natural World of Winnie-the-Pooh** Fans of A.A. Milne's beloved children's books are familiar with the real-life Christopher Robin and the stuffed bear that inspired Winnie-the-Pooh. Now meander through Pooh's physical world with this handsomely illustrated exploration of England's Ashdown Forest, the inspiration for the Hundred Acre Wood.



Landscape historian Kathryn Aalto begins with biographies of Milne and his longtime collaborator, illustrator E.H. Shepard, before leading readers through the village and farm the Milnes called home, then deep into Ashdown Forest. Explore the stream where Christopher Robin and his friends discover the North Pole, Roo's sandy pit, and Galleons Lap (real name: Gills Lap), along with the lush flora and fauna still to be found in the forest today. Book sales and signings will follow the presentation. 6:30 p.m., Carmel Clay Public Library, 55 4th Ave SE, Carmel. For more information please call or email the CCPL Foundation office [karland@carmel.lib.in.us](mailto:karland@carmel.lib.in.us) or 317-814-3984.

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**Saturday & Sunday, June 24 & 25 Plainfield's Ninth Annual Garden Tour (Plainfield) Gardens in Bloom** Creative ideas and beautiful landscapes are on display as Plainfield area homeowners open their private gardens for this spectacular tradition. Stroll down a garden path or soak in inspiring garden designs as you enjoy distinctly different landscapes, from pocket-sized patio spaces to DIY and professional gardens. Field experts will be available to answer questions at several gardens. Take pictures, take notes, and bring a friend on this self-guided tour. The event is presented by the Friends of the Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library and sponsored by Cumberland Trace. Proceeds will be used to supplement funding for educational programs at the library. Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and are available at the Plainfield library, Plainfield Marsh Supermarket, and Do It Best "The" Hardware Store. For more information, please visit [www.plainfieldgardentour.com](http://www.plainfieldgardentour.com).

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**Saturday & Sunday, June 24 & 25 Southwestern Indiana MG Association (Evansville) "Tour de Fleur" Garden Walk** Heavenly hydrangeas, delightful daylilies, and a woodland wonderland are just a few of the spectacular sights to experience on this biennial tour. Thirteen private gardens in Vanderburgh and

Warrick counties as well as the always-interesting Master Gardener Display Garden will be adorned in their summer finery and ready for appreciative visitors. In addition, a variety of succulent planters will be on display at the Master Gardener Display Garden. The gardens will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. CT both days. Garden location/description booklets are distributed with admission tickets. Prior to the Garden Walk, admission tickets are \$15 and may be purchased in Evansville at Schnucks, Colonial Classics Landscape & Nursery, Judy Schneider Kron Greenhouse, Wild Birds Unlimited, and Purdue Vanderburgh Extension Office. Advance tickets are also available at Robin's Nest in Boonville. During the garden walk, admission tickets will be sold for \$20 at the Master Gardener Display Garden and other participating gardens. The Display Garden is located south of Lloyd Expressway between Stockwell Rd. and Vann Ave., next to Eykamp Scout Center at 3501 E. Lloyd Expressway. For more information about the Garden Walk, contact Karen at [kflitt@aol.com](mailto:kflitt@aol.com) or Sandy at [slmehling@wowway.com](mailto:slmehling@wowway.com).

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**Saturday, July 8 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Daylily Show** Members are judged on their most prized daylilies, ones you don't see at local garden centers. Laurel Richardson, Show Chair & Janet Wilke, Co-Chair. Set-up 8:00 to 10:30 a.m.; judging 10:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.; public viewing 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Sullivan Hardware & Garden Pavilion, 6955 N. Keystone Avenue, Indianapolis.

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**Saturdays thru September Medicinal Plant Garden Tours** The Medicinal Plant Garden at the Indiana Medical History Museum 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 of the garden 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](http://www.imhm.org) and 317-635-7329.

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**Update on Milkweed Plants Treated with Neonics** Last month we cautioned that Home Depot might be selling milkweed plants treated with systemic neonicotinoids, which are poisonous to Monarch caterpillars. The National Garden Club looked into this and received the following response from Ron Jarvis, the Chief Environmental Officer of Home Depot: "You are correct that the Nature's Nutrients line of plants are all 100% free of Neonics. That's why I was concerned when we found ["treated with nionics"] labels in the pots. Of all the scenarios that could have played out a human error in mislabeling is the best option. I have spent the last 4 years researching neonics and their role in CCD [colony collapse disorder]. I am sure that you have seen that the connection is fuzzy. We are tracking around 90% Neonic free across the country in all plants. Many of our growers have had plants in the ground for 4 years so it is tougher to go 100% free overnight. If a pot does not have a sticker then it is not treated with neonics. We are the only retailer that has provided this level of insight for neonic treated plants. All of our seeds are neonic free and by 2018 the balance of our plants will be as well. We know that our biggest impact is from the products that we sell. We do the due diligence to make sure that we are environmentally and social responsible. We hope that we are making the same decisions that you would if you were in our shoes."

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**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](http://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](http://www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com).

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**Garden Travel Early Autumn in Oregon with Mark Zelonis:** Join Indy's own Mark Zelonis on September 13 -19, 2017, to see why many consider Oregon to be one of the most attractive places in the US to live, work, and play. Highlights include: The Oregon Garden, featuring the designs and plants of the state's many expert nurserymen; historic Deepwood Gardens, an early 20th century estate designed by the firm of Lord-Schryver; a visit to Swan Island Dahlias, whose fields should be in peak bloom; Portland's International Rose Test Garden, Japanese Garden, and Lan Su Classical Chinese Garden - all considered to be among the best of their type in the country; historic Pittock Mansion with its eagle-eye view of the city of Portland; and a special day-long tour through the spectacular Columbia River Gorge; and an opportunity to tour Cherry Hill Winery, owned by Jan and Michael Sweeney of Indianapolis. Book before April 1 and save \$100. Limited to 25 participants. Call 317-913-0387 to register. **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](mailto:info@gardentravelers.com) for a complete itinerary and visit our [Facebook page](#).

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**Photo Notes** It's spirea time! Not everyone esteems this diminutive shrub, but I find its hot pink flowers cheerful at this time of year. Delicate foliage in shades of gold or lime lights up the garden all summer long, fall color is good, and you get a nice shrubby texture in winter, unlike perennials that disappear at the end of the season and leave bare ground. Pictured is *Spiraea japonica* 'Magic Carpet' interplanted with *Festuca glauca* 'Elijah Blue.'

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