



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central Indiana

Gardening Community | Photo by Wendy Ford

Thru May 31 Spring Kickoff at the IMA Experience the IMA campus as never before when the gardens come alive with a quarter of a million blooms for [Spring Blooms: Celebration of Color](#). Take in the scenery and sip on a drink in the new family-friendly Beer Garden just outside the Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse. Enjoy the gardens during our regular museum hours, as well as newly expanded hours in the gardens and Beer Garden on Thursday through Saturday evenings until 9:00 p.m. Experience [Audubon: Drawn to Nature](#), an exhibition featuring the lifelike drawings by John James Audubon. Cost included in general admission and free for IMA members. Indianapolis Museum of Art, 4000 Michigan Road, Indianapolis.

Monday, May 1 thru Saturday, May 13 Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Plant Sale One of Broad Ripple's best kept secrets is the greenhouse at ISVBI. Students enrolled in the Horticulture Program, along with Master Gardener volunteers and the horticulture teacher, tend the greenhouse, growing and propagating plants. Four times a year we hold a sale which is open to the public. This sale includes annuals, perennials, herbs, hanging baskets, native plants, and vegetables (including heirloom varieties). We accept cash or checks but not credit cards. Weekdays noon to 5:00 p.m., Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., closed Sundays. Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 7725 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis. Contact 317-253-1481 ext. 207.

Wednesday, May 3 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Tropical Butterfly Adventures Around the World Presentation by Mark Druckenbrod, Cleveland Botanical Garden, followed by NCAP Daylily Distribution by John Everitt & Dan Howell. 6:30 p.m., First Friends Church parlor, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis. www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org

Thursday, May 4 Fort Benjamin's Blossoms Garden Club We will make terrariums to sell at the plant sale. Chris Lawson and Dianne Gardner will purchase supplies and members will donate containers. Terrariums will be available to GC members to purchase before the plant sale, and completed terrariums will be sold at the plant sale. Guests are welcome to observe and learn the process. 1:00 p.m., Benjamin Harrison YMCA, 5736 Lee Road, Indianapolis. **May 11 & 12**, Annual Plant Sale Fundraiser at the Benjamin Harrison YMCA.

Friday & Saturday, May 5 & 6 Hancock County Herb Society & MG Association Plant Sale (Greenfield) Get expert advice and select from a large array of plant choices. The Herb Society offers a variety of culinary, medicinal, decorative, and craft-use herbs, along with home-grown perennials and vegetable plants. Master Gardener choices include an extensive variety of perennials, vegetable and house plants, tree starts and geraniums. Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Hancock County Fairgrounds, 4-H Show Arena, 620 N. Apple Street (southwest corner of Apple and Park Streets),

Greenfield. For more information, call Carolyn (HCHS) at 317-326-2274 (www.facebook.com/HerbiesofHancockCounty) or Jane (HCMGA) at 317-861-8145 (<http://hancockmga.com>).

Saturday, May 6 13th Annual Garden Celebration Creating a Pollinator's Paradise (Franklin)

Sponsored by the Johnson County Garden Club and Purdue Master Gardeners. Featured will be 40+ flower, plant, and garden-art vendors. Educational seminars include "What's the Buzz about Honeybees?" at 9:30 a.m. by Roger Graham. At 11:00 a.m. Christena Taylor of Eco Logic LLC of Bloomington will present "Native Plants for a Pollinator Paradise." Eco Logic specializes in natural area assessment, ecological restoration, GIS mapping, and storm water management. Seed packets along with tree saplings (tulip, black gum, sugar maple and button bush) will be given away, first-come first-served. New this year will be garden-related family activities. Breakfast and lunch available for purchase. Admission is \$2.00 at the door. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Scott Hall, 250 Fairground Street, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Franklin. Questions? Visit Johnson County Garden Club's Facebook page or email jcgardenclub@gmail.com.

Tuesday, May 9 Herb Society of Central Indiana Lindsay Potter, program manager for Random Acts of Flowers Indy, will provide an overview of their organization. The non-profit works to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of individuals in healthcare facilities by delivering recycled flowers, hope, and encouragement. The group offers many volunteer opportunities. Members and guests are asked to bring any spare vases to gift to the organization. Refreshments 6:30; program at 6:45 p.m., Clay Township Government Center, 751 E 108th Street, Indianapolis. <http://herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org/>

Wednesday, May 10 Sustainable Living Seminar Climatology Meets Foreign Policy Hear about climate scientist Gabe Filippelli's year in Washington DC as a Senior Science Advisor at the State Department and get his perspective on international climate action. Also hear from Citizen's Climate Lobby Indianapolis coordinator Dori Chandler about the Carbon Fee & Dividend proposal presented by Republican elder statesmen to the Trump administration. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Carmel Clay Public Library, 55 4th Avenue Southeast, Carmel, [RSVP](#).

Saturday, May 13 INPAWS Native Plant Sale & Auction: Planting an Invasive-Free Landscape

Something for everyone at this popular annual event sponsored by the Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society. On offer will be native plants for shady, sunny, and wetland settings, a different selection every year. The choicest, rarest plants are set aside for the plant auction, an entertaining and informative opportunity to learn about Indiana natives. The pre-sale speaker is biologist/botanist Dawn Slack, who works as a land steward for The Nature Conservancy and chairs the Invasive Plant Advisory Committee for the Indiana Invasive Species Council. Dawn will talk about the role invasive plants play in our environment, and the importance of replacing them with Indiana native plants. The \$10 fee for the talk entitles ticket holders to start shopping 15 minutes before the general public and get a discount off an auction purchase. Alongside the plant sale, INPAWS will sell select books on plant families, naturalistic gardening, conservation, and related topics. Pre-sale talk begins at 9:30 a.m. Plant and book sale open 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Live auction begins at 11:15 and continues until every plant is sold. Park Tudor School, Upper Gymnasium, 7200 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis (use the 71st Street entrance). <http://www.inpaws.org/gatherings/native-plant-sale-auction>

Saturday, May 13 Madison County Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale (Alexandria) Hundreds of plants, including a stunning variety of perennials, annuals, vegetables, and native plants, will be for sale to the public. Plants are grown by local Master Gardeners, and are acclimated to Indiana's climate. All prices are well below local garden centers. Bring your tools to participate in our tool sharpening clinic.

There will be garden decor, gloves, and treasures for sale or to just enjoy. The day will also include free educational materials and lectures covering many aspects of gardening. Our Ask a Master Gardener Service is there to help answer your questions and provide gardening advice. Proceeds support students in Madison County interested in horticulture-related careers, as well as community activities supporting sound horticultural practices in Madison County. 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Exhibition Hall, Madison County 4-H Fairgrounds, Alexandria.

Thursday–Saturday, May 18–20 2017 Median Iris Convention (Lafayette) Several guest gardens will feature new introductions by median iris hybridizers as well as past award winning irises. For more convention information contact Barbara at store130@aol.com.

Saturday, May 20 Garfield Park Master Gardeners’ Annual Plant Sale We are looking for plants to sell. They can be divisions from your perennial garden, plants grown from seed, bulbs, vegetables, herbs, annuals, houseplants, trees (small enough to pot up) or shrubs. Plants will need to be potted and ready for sale when you bring them in. No plants with mildew or other problems. And, please, no invasives. Some pots will be available at future meetings. If you have any clean, empty pots, please bring them to the meetings as well. We need 3” and 4” plastic pots as well as 1-5 gallon size. We don't accept plants until May 19—the night before the plant sale. However, if you need help preparing plant labels in advance, please let us know. Of course, we also need help the day before and the day of the sale—setting up, tearing down, assisting customers—as well as needing shoppers! If you would like to help, please contact Kay Martin-Pence at gui-targirl929@gmail.com. 9:00 a.m. to noon, Garfield Park, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis.

Saturday, May 20 Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab Inaugural Native Plant Sale Celebrate spring and learn how to add pizzazz to your gardens using native plants, how to make your yard more wildlife friendly, and how you can help our pollinators. Choose among 30 species of native flowers, grasses, and sedges, with knowledgeable staff on hand to help you make the right decisions for your outdoor space and personal preferences. Additional activities include: native plant and pollinator workshop in the Nina Mason Pulliam Nature Center; beekeeping demonstration, where our amazing EcoLab volunteers will teach you about the European honeybee and the joys of keeping hives; EcoLab tours, and more. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab, Marian University, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. <https://www.marian.edu/about-marian/nina-mason-pulliam-ecolab>

Saturday, May 20 Nineteenth Annual Hamilton County Master Gardeners Plant Sale Over 12,000 plants will be available for sale to the public. In addition to the dazzling selection of perennials, annuals, vegetables, and trees, bearded iris are available and will be dug to order at the Iris/Daylily bed. A marvelous selection of native plants will be offered. Plants are grown with care by Master Gardeners, are acclimated to Indiana’s climate and are priced well below local garden centers. The day will also include educational materials covering many aspects of gardening at no charge. As always, Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer any questions and offer expert advice. Proceeds from the sale support scholarships for students in Hamilton County interested in horticulture-related careers, as well as numerous community activities supporting sound horticultural practices in Hamilton County. The sale also supports a Small Grants Program for local groups and schools with qualified horticultural programs. 8:00 am to 3:00 pm., Exhibition Hall, Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, Noblesville.

Sunday, May 21 Annual Iris Growers of Eastern Indiana’s Iris Show Entries accepted: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Judging: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Open to public for viewing: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Minnetrista, 1200 North Minnetrista Parkway, Muncie.

Monday & Tuesday, June 5 & 6 Shamrock and Fort Benjamin's Blossoms Garden Club You Can Garden

Anywhere: Monday, presented by Jerry LeCount, Bronze Master Gardener from Hancock County Master Gardener Association. Focus on gardening in small spaces and non-traditional gardening.

Complimentary Friends in the Garden: Tuesday, Barbara Johnson, Advanced Master Gardener & 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.

Tuesday, June 6 Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Presentation by Charles & Cynthia Lucius, Amity Abloom, Columbus, Ohio. 6:30 p.m., First Friends Church parlor, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis.

www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org

Wednesday, June 7 Indianapolis Garden Club 22nd 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

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. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis. <https://www.indyhosta2017.com/#home-section>

Grow Native Where to Shop for Native Plants The Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society is sponsoring a retail incentive program that rewards local businesses for selling native plants and not selling invasives. Look for these logos and patronize these businesses to confirm your interest in purchasing native plants. Visit the interactive website to locate a participating seller near you.

www.grownativeindiana.org



Urgent Alert! Beware of Milkweed Plants Treated with Poisons Be aware that certain big box stores such as Home Depot may be selling milkweed plants treated with systemic neonicotinoids, which are poisonous to Monarch caterpillars. Be on the lookout for tags placed in plants that indicate they have been thus treated. Contact Home Depot Headquarters now at

http://www.homedepot.com/c/Contact_Us and explain that the contaminated plants must be recalled

nationwide immediately. State that you are contacting the EPA to report Home Depot's environmental negligence. <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/report-environmental-violations>

Bee Part of the Buzz! Pollinators need your help! Did you know that pollinators—everything from bees to birds and butterflies to bats—help create about 30% of the crops we eat? They also aid in the reproduction of almost all wild plants. Honey bees alone account for nearly \$20 billion worth of products every year, and our native pollinators, like bumblebees and hoverflies, contribute even more. Sadly, pollinator populations are in a steady decline due to a combination of habitat loss, pesticide toxicity, disease, and parasites. You can help protect pollinators. Clear Choices Clean Water, in partnership with Purdue Pesticide Programs and the Office of Indiana State Chemist, invite you to visit www.Indiana.ClearChoicesCleanWater.org/plants and learn all the ways you can make a difference. Take an action pledge today, and bee part of the buzz.

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.

Book Beat **Like a Good Garden Rant?** Botanist and experienced gardener Bill McNight has produced a book that's chock full of facts, tips, and diatribes about plants and the mistakes people make in their landscapes. It's called *Rantings of a Mad Botanist: A Comprehensive Guide to Gardening and Land Use Practices Emphasizing Central Indiana*. Great for browsing and shaping up your gardening practices! Available only at select local stores or by mail order. Learn all about it at Bill's [website](#).

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 for a complete itinerary and visit our [Facebook page](#).

Photo Notes Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society had a fabulous presence at this year's Earth Day Indiana celebration at Military Park, Indianapolis. Visitors posed for cameras wearing Monarch butterfly garb and walked away with free native plants! The fun continues May 13 at INPAWS Native Plant Sale &

Auction. It's a great chance to learn about native plants and discover a fun group that's working to increase biodiversity in our landscapes.

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.

Thank you Indiana Daylily-Iris Society and Steve van Zant for your generous contributions.