NATIVE ROOTS

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

Vol 21 Issue #3 JUL-AUG 2025

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

WEST CENTRAL CHAPTER Indiana Native Plant Society (INPS)

WC-INPS PROGRAM Meetings—fourth Mondays at 7pm at Lilly Nature Center/Celery Bog Nature Area (1620 Lindberg Rd, W. Laf.)

Zoom option: Patty Jones removeinvasiveplants.wcinps@gmail.com

Pre-meeting dinner 6pm at Parthenon: 2060 Sagamore Pkwy W, W. Laf.

(open to public ~ NO PROGRAM MEETINGS MAY, JUNE & JULY)

MON AUG 25. Program not finalized as of this newsletter.

MON AUG 25 Program not finalized as of this newsletter MORE INFO: President George Kopcha gkopcha@gmail.com

NEED HELP with PLANTING NATIVE PLANTS? NATIVE PLANT GARDENING ~ "REWILDING" Landscapes

Agrestal Gardens brings Indiana's wild beauty to your doorstep! Now serving the Lafayette region! If you're looking to restore a prairie patch, attract pollinators, or simply connect with nature—Agrestal Gardens is your local guide to growing wild with purpose. Call or text 1-831-PRAIRIE (1-831-772-4743) and visit us at Agrestal-Gardens.com.

Lend a Hand in the Garden of Art (at 920 State Street, Lafayette)

Come get your hands dirty and grow something beautiful—with us!

Join us every Friday 9-11am at the Haan Museum of Art Sculpture

Garden for volunteer workdays! Help us nurture native plants, maintain
beautiful landscapes, and keep this hidden gem of Lafayette thriving.

Questions? email Nick Simms at Nick@Agrestal-Gardens.com

Habitat Creations, LLC: If you have an interest in naturalizing your property and ecosystem, Aaron Senesac is happy to discuss your needs and custom tailor a project to fit your goals. Call 765-491-6514 or email habitatcreationsllc@outlook.com Web: www.habitatcreationsllc.com

New Directions in the American Landscape (NDAL) is an educational organization dedicated to ecology-based landscape design. Larry Weaner (author of <u>Garden Revolution</u>) provides online courses for both professionals & home gardeners at <u>www.ndal.org/upcoming-events</u>.

Rewilding concepts: Rewilding aims to restore healthy ecosystems by creating wild, biodiverse spaces—a deliberate shift from human-centered, intensively managed landscapes to humans sharing their lands with the rest of nature by restoring nature's remarkable web of life, including habitats, natural processes and, where appropriate, missing species.

2025 FALL TREE AND SHRUB SALE

Orders accepted now through SEP 9th ~pick up THU SEP 25 11am-6pm SALE DETAILS/2025 Catalog at tippecanoecountyswcd.org (events) QUESTIONS? 765-474-9992x4008 or rsuseland@tippecanoe.in.gov

The LATEST BUZZ on BEEKEEPING 💹

HIDDEN HOLLOW HONEY - FREE BEEKEEPING CLASSES**

MAR 15th-NOV 8th 10-noon Third SATs(except 4/12,11/8) \sim NO OCT Class Monthly indoor classes on beekeeping with outdoor hands-on field work at 7713 US Hwy 136 W, Waynetown, IN 47990

** REQUIRED registration ~ Limited class size (IF FULL, join wait list)
For Details/To REG: https://hiddenhollowhoney.com/products/the-beekeepers-year-class-course

QUESTIONS? Contact mark@hiddenhollowhoney.com - 765-418-2248

WEST CENTRAL INDIANA BEEKEEPERS CLUB

JUL 19 9-11am Club Meeting at Camp Cullom Nature Center

Enter at the camp main entrance, 6815 West Co. Rd 200 North,
Frankfort, Indiana 46041 and drive to the Nature Center
(site #1 on the map at https://www.campcullom.org/camp-map).
Chuck Tedrick will talk about Camp Cullom and Eagle Scout David
Ranalli's bee project. David might be able to join us by Zoom or Facetime
--he will be away at Scout camp that day.

Indiana State Fair AUG 1-17 ~ beekeepers to talk to and honey to taste at the TBol (The Beekeepers of Indiana) booth in the Ag-Hort Building as well as candle making at the Pioneer Village.

TUE AUG 12 9am-9pm is West Central Club's VOLUNTEER DAY!
MORE INFO: Patty Jones WestCentralIndianaBeekeepers@gmail.com

All Times are Eastern unless noted CT for Central!

SYCAMORE AUDUBON SOCIETY (SAS) www.sycamoreaudubon.org

NOTE: Sycamore Warbler Newsletter is bimonthly on the website and it is the best way to keep up to date with its activities and birding news.

SAS PROGRAM Meetings—second Thursdays at 7:15pm at Lilly Nature Center in Celery Bog Nature Area (1620 Lindberg Rd, W. Laf.) (open to public ~ NO SAS MEETINGS IN JUNE, JULY & AUGUST)

THU SEP 11th Join us for our yearly & popular "Bring Your Own Program" 6pm carry-in dinner followed by 7:15pm program:

Share your mini collection of photos of nature, birds, plants, animals, vacation sites, etc., so others can see what you have been up to.

MORE INFO: Rachel (SAS VP/Programs) rachel.kittleson@outlook.com & Susan Ulrich (Newsletter) 765-583-2275 sueandtedulrich@msn.com

SAS FIELD TRIPS & MORE

INFO: SAS Pres. Barny Dunning 765-412-8760 jdunning@purdue.edu
NOTE: NO "Get to the Point" or "Overlook" events are scheduled for July.
MORE INFO: Chuck Tuttle 765-586-4806C, chuckt1708@gmail.com

THURSDAY EARLY BIRD HIKES: Weekly starting AUG 14 ~1 hr A fun way to start your day—birding with Barny & Chuck at Celery Bog Meet 8:00am in gravel parking lot at Celery Bog to see what birds are moving through after nesting up north, or possibly returning for the winter.

BIRDING on the FLY - Email List

If there is an unusual bird sighting locally or around the state, Barny sends people on the list an email so anyone interested can pursue the bird by themselves or often via a carpool. Contact him to be added to the list.

EVENT INFO from Phil Cox, Purdue University Extension Educator IF QUESTIONS, contact Phil: 765-492-5335, cox119@purdue.edu

SAT JUL 12 10-11:30am Tallgrass Prairie Hike at Jackson-Schnyder N.P. 3635 W. Concannon Ave., West Terre Haute, IN 47885, west of St. Mary-of-the-Woods College. Phil Cox and Dr. Jim Nardi (Retired Research Entomologist) lead hikers around the 4-acre tallgrass prairie while IDing the prairie's native & invasive flora, pollinators, and other insects.

DETAILS/LOCATION INFO: www.ouabachelandconservancy.org/events

MON JUL 21 6-7:30pm **Pollinator Celebration** at Clinton Public Library 313 S 4th St, Clinton. Learn about pollinator conservation **and** receive free pollinator plants to take home with you. Choose from 12 different species including Butterfly Milkweed, Rattlesnake Master, Purple Blazing Star, Wild Bergamot, Foxglove Beard Tongue, Black-eyed Susan, Little Bluestem, Rosin Weed, Showy Goldenrod, and Side-flowering Aster.

Events at Atherton Island Natural Area in Southwestern Parke County Parking available at 6540 W CR 800 S, Rosedale, IN,

near Lyford, 0.7 miles east of US 41 ~ NO Reservations required.

TUE JUL 22 6-7:30pm Prairie Walk led by Jim Nardi, Retired Research Entomologist who will share information about the plants, pollinators, and other insects that are encountered on the paths around the Ouabache Land Conservancy's Atherton Island Natural Area 4-acre prairie. Open to all and hosted by the Parke-Vermillion Master Gardener Association.

FOR DETAILS, email: parkevermillionemg@gmail.com

SAT JUL 26 8:30-11pm Moth Night Out at Atherton Island Natural Area Celebrate National Moth Week with Ouabache Land Conservancy—a chance for nature enthusiasts to learn about prairies, creatures of the night, "foxfire" fungi, and skygazing! An easy walk at 8:30pm is followed by nocturnal events 9:30-11pm attracting moths, ant lions, beetles & more!

DETAILS: www.ouabachelandconservancy.org/events

TUE JUL 29 7-9pm FREE Movie Night showing "Winged Migration" at The Historic Rockville Ritz Theater (210 W Ohio St, Rockville, IN 47872) Hosted by Ouabache Land Conservancy

This Oscar-nominated masterpiece used innovative techniques to follow every type of movement birds make, whatever their size, altitude, weather conditions and speed of travel, through 40 countries and seven continents. Join us as we celebrate the wonderful world of birds and nature at its finest. No reservations are required for this family-friendly movie

and concessions will be available for purchase at menu price.

PROGRAMS~STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

JUL-AUG WEDNESDAYS in the WILD programs in separate fiver AND on p. 3 of the electronic version of Native Roots

WABASH RIVERFEST 2025

SAT. JUL 12th 9am to 4pm at Tapawingo Park, West Lafayette A celebration of Indiana's historic Wabash River-

the longest free-flowing river in the eastern US!

Free to the public and great for all ages. Join us at Tapawingo Park for float trips, art classes, fishing lessons, canoe races, and much more! FREE Admission ~ Details/Schedule: www.wabashriverfest.com

PROPHETSTOWN STATE PARK NATURE PROGRAMS**

Enter park via Swisher Rd (off N. 9th St. just south of Battle Ground) Campground programs are open to the public: park at campground gate. Programming free with Park admission fee unless noted otherwise.

EVERY FRIDAY 8:30-9am Phenology Fridays - Meet at Overlook Deck Join a naturalist or park volunteer at the overlook deck (just off the far east end parking lot) to study the seasons and how things change. Look for birds, mammals, plants, and more. Bring binoculars & hiking boots.

SAT JUL 12th 10-11:45am Wildlife Hike – Meet at far east end parking lot. Join naturalist staff on this easy hike to an area of the park that is not frequented by visitors of the human-kind. This quiet spot is a great place to look for river otters, beavers, frogs, and more!

SAT JUL 19th 9-10pm Firefly Fiesta ~ at the campground campfire circle Join a naturalist to learn more about fireflies! Be sure to wear your own glowing attire and bring a container to catch fireflies for observation. (All fireflies will be released at the end of the evening.)

SAT AUG 2nd 10-11am Snake Slither–Meet at Meadow View picnic area. Join a naturalist at the Bobolink shelter to learn more about snakes in Indiana. Are they really as scary as they seem?

More INFO: Jenna Parks Freeman jparks@dnr.in.gov or 765-320-0503 EVENT SCHEDULE/DETAILS on website: on.in.gov/prophetstown **UP-TO-DATE Program INFO: www.facebook.com/ProphetstownSP

FRIENDS OF THE SANDS NATURE PROGRAMS

FULL PROGRAM LIST/DETAILS at website: friends-of-the-sands.com Children and families, and people of all ages are welcome! QUESTIONS: Jeanette Jaskula jmjaskula@yahoo.com 219-869-1004 Sorry ~ AUG info was not finalized in time for this Native Roots issue. THU JUL 24th 8:30-11pmCT Moth Ball-Celebrating National Moth Week We'll use lights to attract moths to a white sheet and gather around the sheet to gaze at just a few of the 1,400 moth species(!!) that have been seen at Kankakee Sands ~maybe giant Polyphemus Moths, Luna Moths, & several species of sphinx moths! Please RSVP AND bring a flashlight. NOTE: Meeting location is to be determined. Check with Jeanette. INFO/RSVP: Jeanette Jaskula 219-869-1004, jmjaskula@yahoo.com

Tippecanoe County Soil & Water Conservation District-SWCD QUESTIONS? Kris Gertz 765-474-9992x4001 kgerz@tippecanoe.in.gov FOR LOTS MORE INFO: tippecanoecountyswcd.org

FRI AUG 1st 3-4:30pm Invasive Plants & How You Can Help Elm/Maple Rooms in West Lafayette Public Library (208 W Columbia St.) Info on invasive plants (what makes them invasive, why they are here, strategies for defeating them), and info on native plants for landscaping!

NEED HELP EVALUATING YOUR WILDLIFE HABITAT?

Robert Suseland, Habitat Specialist for Tippecanoe County (SWCD) wrote: "Summer is a great time to evaluate wildlife habitat. The growing season highlights the good and the bad living in a field." If you would like me to evaluate your habitat, please reach out to me: Robert Suseland 765-474-9992x4008 or rsuseland@tippecanoe.in.gov This is a free service. Your land does not need to be enrolled in a program.

VOLUNTEER WORKDAY with Ouabache LandConservancy SAT AUG 16th 10am-noon Jackson-Schnyder Day Weed Wrangle will celebrate the legacy and land ethic of Dr. Marion Jackson and Julius Schnyder, the preserve's former owners and namesakes. Invasive plants and weeds will be cut and treated with herbicide in the preserve's woodlands and tallgrass prairie. Please bring loppers, work gloves, and water to this preserve at 3635 W. Concannon Ave., West Terre Haute, IN DETAILS/DIRECTIONS: www.ouabachelandconservancy.org/events Questions? Phil Cox: cox119@purdue.edu or 765-492-5335

NEED HELP with REMOVING INVASIVE Non-Native PLANTS?

WREC—Wabash River Enhancement Corporation ~ Free Tool Library You can borrow tools such as the pullerbear grip, the pullerbear cub, soil knives and folding handsaws to help remove your invasive plants. MORE INFO: wabashriver.net/tool-library

Learn more about WREC's activities at wabashriver.net QUESTIONS: call 765-420-8505 or email WREC@wabashriver.net WREC Office: 200 North 2nd St., Lafayette, IN 47901

VOLUNTEER with RIP Squad

Remove Invasive Plants to HELP PROTECT OUR NATIVE PLANTS by removing garlic mustard in the spring, stilt grass in the summer, and woody invasives in the fall.

AUGUST 2025 WORKDAYS

Removing Japanese Stilt Grass Mornings at Ross Hills Park Dates TBD depending on weather and Stilt Grass emergence. For dates, times & exact meeting locations contact:

Patty Jones removeinvasiveplants.wcinps@gmail.com or 765-463-3050 Sponsored by: West Central Chapter of INPS & Sycamore Audubon Society

in cooperation with West Lafayette & Tippecanoe County Parks

NICHES Land Trust ~ Helping Ecosystems Survive! Executive Director Shannon Stanis: shannon@nicheslandtrust.org Office: Clegg Memorial Garden 1782 N 400 E, Lafayette 765-423-1605 MORE INFO/Events/Property directions at www.nicheslandtrust.org Stay Up-to-date with e-Newsletter The Acorn: website under About/Contact

NICHES VOLUNTEER WORK

Become a Trail Steward

NICHES is always looking for volunteers to help maintain our 15+ miles of trails! Trail steward responsibilities include mowing grassy areas, clearing downed trees that fall across the trail, keeping the parking lot clear of litter. If you are interested in being a trail steward, please contact

NICHES Volunteer Coordinator Sam Cody: sam@nicheslandtrust.org

Attend a Stewardship Workday

SAT AUG 9th 10am-3pm Wildcat Creek Cleanup ~ a 5-6 mile float! Join us for a voyage from our Peter's Mill Access Site on Wildcat Creek to the Davis Ferry Access site on the Wabash River as part of our annual volunteer creek cleanup! NICHES will provide canoes, paddles, life jackets, gloves, and trash bags. A limited # of boats limits event to 11 participants. MORE DETAILS/ TO REG: nicheslandtrust.org/calendar

NICHES PROPERTY HIKES – Please REGISTER

FOR INFO/Directions & TO REG: nicheslandtrust.org/calendar JUL 26th 9pm "Awe" Mindfulness Hike at Crow's Grove Preserve ~ Warren A nighttime hike to see the fireflies with special guest entomologist Tom Turpin! Summer Creek Hike Series with NICHES Stewardship Director Bob Easter These guided hikes offer the perfect opportunity to cool off while learning about local ecosystems, stream ecology, and NICHES conservation efforts! Come prepared to walk in the creek, some areas can get over 2 ft deep. SAT AUG 2nd 10am-noon Wright Rock Creek Preserve in WarrenCounty SAT AUG 30th 10am-noon Crow's Grove Preserve in Warren County AUG 27 Weiler-Leopold hike: Wednesdays in the Wild flyer p.3 e-Native Roots

NICHES Seeks Artwork for "Found My Niche" Exhibition taking place OCT 2025 at Stalph in Pine Village

We invite members of the public to submit artwork inspired by the Indiana landscape and its diverse range of ecosystems. Eligible entries include but are not limited to: drawing, painting, fiber/textile art, photography, mixed media, oil/chalk pastels, printmaking, digital art, and/or collage. Submission deadline is July 31, 2025

Interested artists should submit an image of the artwork entry for consideration (max of 2) and complete an online form. There is no entry fee. DETAILS: https://nicheslandtrust.org/news/niches-seeks-artwork-forfound-my-niche-exhibition

VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS with DNR & Friends of the Sands RSVP: Gus Nyberg nyberggus@gmail.com 765-427-4345

WEDs JUL 9, 16, 23, 30 8-11amCT Invasive Species Removal Party Native species are winning at Beaver Lake Prairie thanks to the volunteer and staff efforts over the last couple of years to remove invasive species. Gloves, snacks and water provided. (Meeting location after RSVPing.)

SAT JUL 19 8am-11amCT Prepare for Future Prescribed Burns Join efforts to clear fire lines and facilitate Friends of the Kankakee's effort to use fire to rejuvenate the savannas that they protect. This event takes place at 407 Pike in Beaverville, IL Gloves, snacks and water provided! Sorry ~ AUG info was not finalized in time for this Native Roots issue.

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 SEP-DEC issue need to reach me by AUG 15th. To get email copy, contact me at: mohrsamuels@comcast.net or call (765) 532-3245 Joan Mohr Samuels, Editor

"WEDNESDAYS in the WILD" ~ JULY - AUGUST 2025

REGISTRATION is required by noon on Monday prior to program: 765-567-2993 or mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov

Natural History Talks/Workshops/Field Trips: 1-3pm or as Noted (listed times are EDT)

Like us on Facebook at "Wednesdays in the Wild"

JUL 2 nd 1-3pm Prairie Wildflower Walk	outdoor pgm—PSP
Take a guided hike through a restored wet prairie ecosystem with Jenna Parks Freeman (IDNR Interpretive Naturalist) in	search of early summer
bloomers and signs of species yet to come. The hike on paved or gravel trails, in full sun, will also highlight the restoration	work that occurred in
that location. \$2/person program fee, no gate fee. Meet at the Circle of Stones parking lot. Limited to 20 participants.	
JUL 9 th 1-3pm Butterflies of Tippecanoe County BINOCULARS helpful	. •
Retired Purdue Entomologist Jon Neal will give a brief outdoor presentation on identification techniques related to local	
head out into the planted prairies and savannas of Celery Bog Nature Area in search of these jewels of summer! Limited t	
JUL 16 th 1-3pm An Introduction to the Spiders of Indiana	
Dr. Marc Milne (Biology Professor, University of Indianapolis) will share an introduction to the spiders of Indiana and the	
showing how to collect and ID some of the most common species of spiders found in central Indiana. Limited to 25 particles	
JUL 23 rd 1-3pm Walking the Wildcat: A Streambed Look at Mussel Restoration	
Brant Fisher (IDNR Non-game Aquatic Biologist) will share an in-depth look at The Nature Conservancy's project to reintr kidneyshell mussels to the Wildcat Creek watershed on this physically challenging hike. Participants will hike approximate Creek, then walk upstream on the rocky creekbed, with potential water depths up to thigh/waist deep, to the site of the n Prepare for an adventure! Meeting location (SW of Pyrmont) will be shared upon registration. Limited to 20 participants.	ly 1/4 mile to Wildcat nussel reintroduction.
JUL 30 th 10am-noon Restoring the Land at Fort Ouiatenon NOTE early start time	outdoor pgm—OP
Join Angie Miller (NRCS Biologist) and Colby Bryant (Tipp. Co. Historical Assoc.) on this hike at the Ouiatenon Preserve, s	
(a National Historic Landmark) where land restoration joins both archeological and ecological conservation. Hiking up and required. Meet at the Ouiatenon Preserve parking lot. <i>Limited to 20 participants</i> .	down a steep hill will be
AUG 6 th 1-3pm A Bird in the Hand: Using Mist Nets to Capture Birds	- outdoor pgm—WNC
Join Dr. Mickey Weeks & Sally Weeks (Purdue University, Retired) as they share the scientific process of mist-netting: call to study. Birds will be caught at this presentation and participants will be allowed to ID and hold birds, if desired. Limited	
AUG 13th 7-9pm More than Dust and Drawers: Why Collections Matter NOTE evening start time	
Natural history collections are more than just rows of specimens and dusty shelves - they are living libraries of biodiversity	
In this program, Rachel Brent (Purdue Univ. FNR Collections Curator) will share how collections shape scientific research, knowledge, support conservation efforts, and inspire future generations. Come learn how these stories are changing the vin preserving them matters. Limited to 20 participants.	
AUG 20 th 1-3pm Touring Altherr Nature Park	outdoor nam—ANP
Mitch Billue (Superintendent, Monticello City Parks Dept.) will lead this hike through the varied habitats of Altherr Natur	
where successional processes are evident throughout the property, and share the history and plans for park development with a visit to the newly opened Bluestem Nature Center. Limited to 25 participants.	
AUG 27th 1-3pm Celebrating 30 Years of Land Stewardship: Weiler-Leopold Nature Preserve outdoor	r pgm-NICHES/WL
NICHES Land Trust commemorates 30 years of land conservation and stewardship in 2025; join NICHES staff members as	. •
Weiler-Leopold Nature Preserve in Warren Co one of the earliest properties acquired and restored by our local land trus	st. This beautiful property
showcases the result of years of prairie and forest restoration over the past three decades. Wear sturdy hiking shoes. Limi	ited to 20 participants.
LOCATIONS of these FREE PROGRAMS (unless otherwise noted) which are OPEN TO 1	
NOTE: limited number of participants so RSVP is REQUIRED by noon on Monday prior to pr	ogram!
ANP (Altherr Nature Park): Meet 1pm at the Nature Park parking lot, 724 S Main St, Monticello, IN 47960	
CBNA (Celery Bog Nature Area): Meet 1pm at the Celery Bog Amphitheater, 1620 Lindberg Rd, between Northwester	n & McCormick, WL.

NICHES/WL (Weiler-Leopold): Meet at 1pm in Weiler-Leopold parking lot (directions at *www.nicheslandtrust.org* – Properties - Warren Co). **OP (Ouiatenon Preserve)**: Meet 10am at the Ouiatenon Preserve parking lot, 3429 S. River Rd., West Lafayette, 47906.

PFB (Purdue Forestry Building): Meet 7pm in Room 217, 195 Marsteller St, West Lafayette, 47907.

PSP (Prophetstown State Park): Meet 1pm at the Circle of Stones parking lot. (Enter the park via Swisher Rd off N. 9th St., just south of Battle Ground.). NOTE: no gate fee, but a \$2/person program fee will be charged.

WCAT (Wildcat Creek): Meeting location (SW of Pyrmont) will be shared upon registration.

WNC (Wah-ba-shik-a Nature Center): Meet 1pm by WNC at Tippecanoe Battlefield off N. 9th St. in Battle Ground.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or TO HELP WITH PLANNING, contact:

Mary Cutler 765-567-2993, mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov ~ Joan Mohr Samuels 765-532-3245, mohrsamuels@comcast.net SPONSORED BY:

Mary Cutler, Naturalist, Tippecanoe Co. Park & Rec. Dept. — NICHES Land Trust — Sycamore Audubon Society Kyle Gebhart, Parks Naturalist, West Lafayette Parks & Rec. Dept. — West Central Chapter of Indiana Native Plant Society