



INDIANA Native Plant and Wildflower Society

NEWS

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Eight Ways to Protect Indiana's Native Flora

by Ted Harris

Do you remember the 1989 book, *50 Simple Things You Can Do to Save the Earth*? In fact, this book contains many more than fifty suggestions for reducing pollution and conserving resources. It is a useful primer for the "reduce, reuse, recycle" movement. The suggestions are good ones; but you could do everything the book recommends and still witness the slow decline of Indiana's native flora and fauna. For instance, "Plant a Tree" (Simple Thing #39) fails to distinguish between native and introduced species.

This column describes eight ways you can more directly protect Indiana's native flora. A common theme in these recommendations is the protection and restoration of natural areas: woods, wetlands and prairie remnants which are still the most important homes for native plants.

1 Buy an environmental license plate.

The Indiana Heritage Trust is an excellent program run by great people. I attended one of their committee meetings and saw their enthusiasm and their wonderful list of potential projects. The \$25 fee for the eagle-and-sun license plate supplies much of the funding. This program works in partnership with numerous other organizations, and combines with privately raised funds to acquire property from willing sellers. In its first five years, the Indiana Heritage

Trust has helped to add 17,000 acres to Indiana's system of parks, preserves and refuges.

2 Join *The Nature Conservancy*.

Dial 1-800-YES-LAND and you can speak with TNC's Indiana chapter office. TNC is the largest and one of the oldest land trusts in the country. As with other land trusts, donations to TNC are tax-deductible. TNC works in a non-confrontational way with organizations and individuals, on all levels. It has protected millions of acres in the United States and elsewhere. In Indiana, TNC has so far protected 158 properties totalling 35,000 acres. Over 14,500 Hoosiers belong to Indiana's chapter.

3 Join one or more of Indiana's regional land trusts.

These organizations work on a more local level than TNC, and can address smaller projects. The five land trusts listed below are each firmly established and are at work protecting natural areas within their regions. Most have only a few hundred members. By becoming a member/supporter, you can personally make a significant difference. In alphabetical order: ACRES (northeast) 219-422-1004; CILTI (central) 317-921-5528; NICHES (northwest) 765-583-2275; Shirley Heinze Environmental Fund (Lake Michigan area) 219-879-4725; Sycamore Land Trust (south) 812-336-5382.

4 Vote for conservation.

If plants and animals could vote, Nature would receive fairer treatment than it does currently. Conservation is a "back burner" issue for most voters and for most politicians. However, the fact remains that there are huge differences among politicians regarding their support of environmental issues. Politicians control lawmaking and also the release of funds supporting conservation projects in our state. When analyzing the track records of candidates, put "conservation" on your checklist of important concerns.

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5 Help control invasive exotics.

Garlic mustard is on a rampage this year. Many of our woodland areas are choked with bush honeysuckle. The threat to native plant populations is serious. Indy Parks, the Division of Nature Preserves, The Nature Conservancy, and others, frequently publicize volunteer workdays to control exotics. For your own education and amazement, participate in one of these events for a few hours, then show your friends what you learned. This problem needs help from all of us.

6 Oppose destruction of natural areas.

For instance: new highways, shopping centers and suburbs in the woods, conversion of wetlands to other uses, commercial timber-cutting in our national forests, open-pit mines, factory farms, landfills. Choose your "favorite" issue and let your voice be heard. Discuss your concern with your friends, organize people, sign petitions, write to the newspaper, speak at hearings. Our eco-

nomie system, wondrous though it is, places little value on nature for nature's sake. It is therefore our duty to be advocates for the natural world.

7 Become informed; stay informed.

This means more than reading just the *Indianapolis Star*, for example. Join organizations such as the Hoosier Environmental Council, 317-685-8800. Many of the national organizations produce very informative publications. Perhaps the best of these in terms of relevance and quality of writing is *Audubon*. Buy a copy at the newsstand. Subscribe to *Wild Earth*, 802-434-4077. Read Bill McKnight's *Biological Pollution*, Richard Primack's *Essentials of Conservation Biology* or Marion Jackson's *The Natural Heritage of Indiana*.

8 Restore a piece of nature.

It would help if you happen to own several acres of unused agricultural fields; but a few hundred square feet in your

back yard could be a start. After getting some native trees going, you will have a place to put INPAWS' plant rescue and auction plants. Or try some prairie species and let part of the area go through succession into woods. This is truly a "build it and they will come" project for all kinds of wildlife, and a source of endless entertainment for you. If you don't have land available for restoration, become a volunteer for The Nature Conservancy at their Kankakee Sands restoration. Jeffrey Maddox is in charge of this ecosystem-sized project. It will be many fun-filled years in the making.

I challenge every INPAWS member to become involved with three or four of these "eight ways." By so doing, our organization can be truly effective in conserving Indiana's native flora for many years to come.

Ted Harris is chairman of the Conservation Committee of INPAWS.

Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society Newsletter

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Published quarterly by the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society for members.

The Mission of the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society is to promote the appreciation, preservation, conservation, utilization and scientific study of the flora native to Indiana and to educate the public about the values, beauty, diversity and environmental importance of indigenous vegetation.

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President's Message

by Ruth Ann Ingraham

As I composed my first two official president's messages, I allowed myself the pleasure of a stream of consciousness approach by expressing ideas I hold about our own gardens as well as what each of us can do to benefit public spaces and the ecosystem.

But now I want to write about down-to-earth, practical matters related to the inner workings of INPAWS.

First, Dan Anderson has resigned as our newsletter's co-editor. This current newsletter is his last, for now. So I want to write about Dan and what his volunteer service has meant.

In the spring of 1994 when Chris Carlson, our first editor, had to step down to devote more time to her business, Dan Anderson volunteered for one of the most important volunteer jobs in INPAWS, the editorship of the INPAWS newsletter.

During these four years, Dan has done a splendid job and delighted us with his articles on wild edibles. He worked hand in hand with Anne Wilson, who does our desktop publishing. Together Dan and Anne produced newsletters which have become increasingly informative, attractive, and highly regarded.

Dan serves INPAWS in many capacities and is one of our greatest boosters. He and his wife, Sophia, speak widely about native plants and hand out our brochures whenever possible. The two of them lead a Marion County Cooperative Extension 4-H unit on native plants and have influenced many young people.

Dan, I speak for all of us who read and enjoy the INPAWS newsletter when I say, "Thank you for a fantastic job. And may you now take time to smell the roses—or, more appropriately, gather wild edibles."

Secondly, I want to write about Rolland Kontak. Rolland is best known to many in INPAWS as our auctioneer. Under Rolland's tutelage, INPAWS has realized a significant portion of its income from our annual auction and plant sales. The proceeds from these events have enhanced greatly our ability to carry out our mission—among other things to educate people about native plants, to help preserve precious environments, to endow grants and awards, and to contribute to research in eliminating noxious invasives.

Rolland also single-handedly engineered our seed sale this past winter. He spent hundreds of hours collecting, sorting, cleaning, packaging and promoting native plant seeds. Dozens of you who purchased his seeds will have brighter environments in the years to come because of his efforts. All proceeds benefited INPAWS.

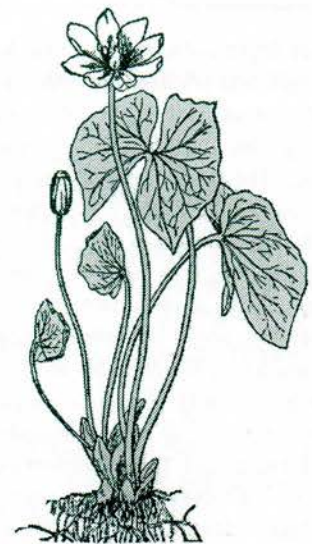
But Rolland cannot repeat this task alone. Since sources in Indiana for native seeds are rare and the demand is great, Rolland's labor of love was of tremendous significance. If we are to offer seeds again, Rolland will need helpers. If you have ideas or can help, contact Rolland or me. Without volunteers, we cannot repeat this effort.

Finally, I'm sure you know that INPAWS is committed to helping control exotic invasives or noxious weeds. Through our publications and field trips we have learned about Garlic Mustard, Amur Honeysuckle, Glossy Buckthorn, Purple Loosestrife. We have sponsored workdays to pull Garlic Mustard and worked with park managers to cut down Amur Honeysuckle. But our efforts are minuscule compared to the need and scope of the problem. Your INPAWS Board of Directors plans to create a standing committee on invasives. First,

we need volunteers on an ad hoc basis to help define the responsibilities of an Invasives Committee; Carolyn Bryson has volunteered to serve. That done, we will need a team of volunteers to go into action. We are not short on ideas, just people.

Please call, write or email me if you can help in any capacity. This is one of the most critical jobs facing the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society.

In the meantime, be on the lookout for those destructive plants and do what you can to destroy them. In Brown County, one way or another, I'm eradicating Multiflora Rose, Japanese Honeysuckle, Periwinkle or Vinca minor and, this year, my first Garlic Mustard plant. The Brown County Democrat published my letter to the editor on the threat from a Garlic Mustard invasion. In Marion County I'm now watching for and pulling up *Euonymus* when I see it sprouting in our woods. In many areas it has already crowded out all native woodland wildflowers.



Twinleaf
Jeffersonia diphylla

Prescription for Plant Preservation

by Diane H. Stippler

Anyone who reads a newspaper, visits a bookstore, or listens to television news and magazine shows is aware of the current "herbal renaissance" in U.S. health care. Almost everyone now knows that St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) is useful for mild to mod-



St. John's Wort
Hypericum perforatum

erate depression and that Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea spp.*) is the herbal treatment of choice for colds and flu (unless you have auto-immune disease). The latest hot herb on the scene, of course, is *Ginkgo biloba* leaf. Although *Ginkgo* is not native to Indiana, it is now being researched for use by Alzheimer's patients. David Hoffman, noted herbalist and environmentalist, in his *Holistic Herbal* reminds us that "the plant kingdom plays a profound role in human health and wholeness, the parameters of which we haven't even begun to glimpse." Botanical medicine and medical journals, along with the mass media, continue to release the health benefits of one plant after another.

Many of us were pleased to see "Indiana's own" Varro Tyler, pharmacognocist and former Dean of

Pharmacy at Purdue University for 20 years recognized as an "author and expert on herbal medicine" in an article in *USA Today* (October 23, 1997). However, with the knowledge of the use of each medicinal plant has come an onslaught akin to the Gold Rush by an America greedy and irresponsible in harvesting these treasures in the wild. I recall the opening line of Charles Dickens' novel *A Tale of Two Cities*, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness...it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness..."

On one hand, the U.S. population is catching up with the rest of the world and the early '70s "hippie" herbalists who already knew the health benefits of plants. Finally, we are returning on a



Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea

grand scale to the utilization of the medicine that Earth provides for us in its natural form for the first time since the 1930s. On the other hand, the demand for plant-based medicine has created a stampede for a commodity of which there is a limited supply. For decades, herbalists, including those with whom I have studied, have taught

that wildcrafted herbs were superior to those cultivated. This idea resulted from the belief that the "vital essence" in the plant was as important as its medicinal constituent content, which can be higher in cultivated plants. At least in earlier times, the plants were harvested responsibly.



Blue Cohosh
Caulophyllum thalictroides

Whether you agree with the herbalists or not, the current situation is clear. Vast numbers of plants have been and continue to be taken, many irresponsibly. For example, many wildcrafters, especially beginners, may not be knowledgeable about the proper method in which or the proper time to collect herbs so that the active constituent is available as medicine. Some plants are not stored properly after collection. Added to this, whole plants are being destroyed while only one part of the plant might be necessary for medicinal use. All of this means that much of what is gathered is wasted. As it stands now, indiscriminate wildharvesting, deforestation, and urbanization have devastated many areas of former abundance—not only in the world's rain forests but right here in the good ol' U.S. of A.

Because of the resurgence in popularity of drugs from nature, many of our "plant brothers" are in danger of extinction. Of great concern particularly are medicinals native to the United States that are habitat-specific, have a limited growing range, and reproduce more selectively. Some of these, native to Indiana, include American Ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*); Black Cohosh (*Cimicifuga racemosa*), the source of currently popular commercial Remifemin for treatment of menopause; Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*); Blue Cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*); and Goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*). They are found growing nowhere else in the world except in the United States and are in great demand by the herbal manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies both here and abroad.



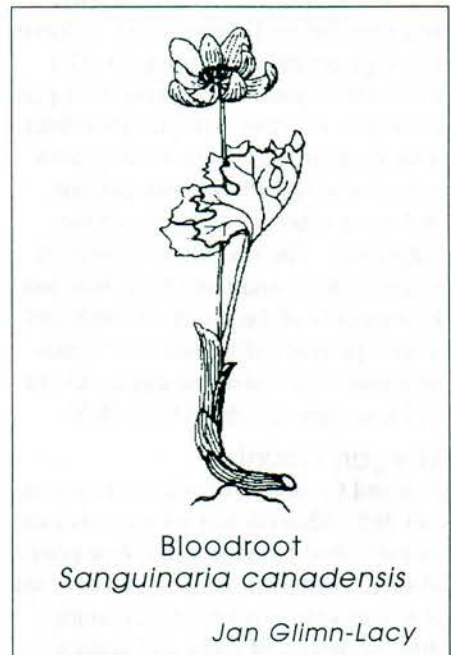
Milk Thistle
Silybum marianum

In the *USA Today* article mentioned earlier, Doctor Tyler cited the Indiana native herbs Black Cohosh and Milk Thistle (*Silybum marianum*) within the group of plants he believes will become increasingly popular as the population ages. He also mentioned the medicinal use of St. John's Wort and Echinacea, also Indiana natives, as being backed by clinical evidence. This type of corroboration nationally, while instructional to the general public, only adds to

the problem of conservation by creating greater demand for these plants. Issues are being stirred up even among naturalists regarding the ethics of identifying such plants for the general public on nature walks for fear of plant theft following presentations. The growing awareness of the clinically studied medicinal values of so many plants presents us with yet another reason to be as active as possible in plant preservation projects. This knowledge also brings up the importance plant nurseries that propagate and sell native flora play in this arena. We must encourage and support these businesses so that our medicinal plants do not become extinct as "stealing" from the wild becomes more popular. It is not enough to think we're making advances when the state of Indiana enacts "hand-slapping" laws against pilferage of goldenseal, for example, from state parks.

There is another way, too, to join in this conservationist fight. A new, non-profit, national grassroots organization, *United Plant Savers*, sprouted up in our country in 1994 to preserve our native medicinal plant species. Its focus is on organic cultivation, sustainable agricultural practices, and the replanting of native medicinal species into their natural habitats. The group reflects a great diversity of American herbal enthusiasts and includes wildcrafters, seed collectors, manufacturers, growers, botanists, practitioners, medicine makers, educators, and plant lovers from all walks of life. Current activities include compiling a resource listing to locate nursery-grown and/or organic stock of these endangered plants and establishing botanical sanctuaries (à la the vision of T.C. Steele's wife Selma to provide a "sanctuary of the future" in her garden just outside Nashville, Indiana). The organization is also sponsoring such projects as the planting of more than 5,000 Goldenseal roots by members across the nation last year and is working to identify "at risk" native American medicinal plants.

Three plants, alternatives chosen by committee under the direction of the Indiana Academy of Science to replace the current Indiana state flower (the Peony, a native of China) are on the United Plant Savers' potential "at risk" list or are being considered strongly for inclusion on it. These are Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*); Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*); and Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*), the rhizome of which is used primarily for bronchitis.



Bloodroot
Sanguinaria canadensis

Jan Glimn-Lacy

Some of you may have picked up materials on United Plant Savers at the INPAWS Annual Meeting in November. If you did not do this, but would like more information on U.P.S. or on a \$35.00 membership, you may write to them at P.O. Box 420, East Barre, VT 05649, call (802) 479-9825, fax (802) 476-3722 or email info@www.plantsavers.org. You can also visit their website at <http://www.plantsavers.org>.

Diane Stippler, a member of the American Herbalists Guild, is an environmentalist, writer, and is proud also to be a member of both INPAWS and U.P.S.

M U L T I F L O R A E

Speakers Bureau

Welcome to the two new members of the bureau—Sophia Anderson and Emily Woodworth-Roark. Recently Hilary Cox spoke to the Brown County Garden Club for INPAWS.

Native Prairies to Visit at INPAWS Members' Homes

Marion County

(north of Eagle Creek Park)
Bob and Lou Rice invite you on August 1st at 10 AM to visit their prairie sites. Please call Bob at 291-5328 at least five days before for directions, as there is bridge construction going on. The Rices invite you to bring your own picnic lunch, and they will provide drinks after the tour. Ten acres of tall prairie grasses and forbs have been planted, and many other native species have reappeared. The prairies were planted to attract birds and butterflies. Bob has kept records of the plants, animals and insects present before and after establishment. Don't miss this chance to see and learn tips first-hand from Bob!

Morgan County

Ron and Carolyn Voegelé invite you to call 765-342-0608 and set up a visit on an individual basis. Ron has four prairie plots 15x40 feet in size, started over the past four years, which contain more than 70 species of forbs and grasses. "Over 100 true native prairie plants in one location," says Ron. Last time I called him, he was out planting still more!

Colletta Kosiba 317-852-5973

Update on Plant Collection in National Forests

The collection of **Goldenseal** (*Hydrastis canadensis*) and **Ginseng** (*Panax quinquefolius*) is **no longer** permitted in national forests **under any circumstances**. Steve Olson, Hoosier National Forest Botanist, called to clarify this policy, which is consistent with the state of Indiana's policy on collection as well. In fact, there is sufficient concern regarding overharvesting for CITES (Council on International Trade of Endangered Species) to monitor trade in these two species.

For more information contact

Steve Olson
Tell City Ranger District
248 15th Street
Tell City, IN 47586
(812) 547-7051.

(Please see also *Prescription for Plant Preservation* on page 4.)



NATURE WALKS AT BUTLER UNIVERSITY

Dr. Rebecca Dolan, Director of the Friesner Herbarium at Butler University, will be leading tours on the Butler campus on the following Tuesdays at noon:

July 14

Butler Prairie, view 1

August 11

Butler Prairie, view 2

September 8

Butler Prairie, view 3

Meet behind Gallahue Hall near the greenhouse. Tours will last about 40 minutes. There is no charge and all are welcome.

If you would like to receive a monthly reminder of the walk, or wish to be dropped from the reminder list, please call Dr. Dolan at 317-940-9413, or email rdolan@butler.edu.

<http://www.inpaws.org>

Visit our website for news and information about INPAWS and native plant issues, as well as links to a wealth of like-minded organizations.

We would like to update our site with **your** news, information, comments, ideas, opinions, suggestions, in short, anything of interest to all concerned with preserving native plants and their habitats.

Please email Anne Wilson • wilson@hsonline.net.

Another Successful Spring Plant Auction!

Dianna Zamani, Auction Chairman

A very special *thank you* goes to Augusta Christian Church for giving us use of their Community Center free of charge for our May 16 auction and sale.

As usual, this auction went very smoothly due to the diligent efforts of our volunteers. A big thank you to: Carolyn and Don Bryson, Annie Cox, John and Shirley Cain, Rob Day, Ruth Ann Ingraham, Rolland and Mildred Kontak, Helen Merrill and her son,

Charles and Marilyn Spurgeon, Kevin Tungesvick, Mary Welch-Keese, Jean Vietor, Katrina Vollmer and Bonnie Carter.

Business contributors donated much to the success of our auction. They were: Spence Nursery, The Garden Center (formerly Scott's Garden Center), DesignScape, Wild Birds Unlimited, and Munchkin Nursery.

We would also like to thank all of you who donated your marvelous plants; without you there would be no auction. And, thanks to those who donated cookies.

And once again, we are grateful for the expertise and dedication of Rolland Kontak, our auctioneer extraordinaire, and Mildred Kontak, auction recorder.

Hope to see all of you at the next sale, Saturday, August 29. Details to come.

Funds Available Through INPAWS Small Grants Program

INPAWS is initiating a small grants program to support projects that are in line with the mission of the society. Toward that end, the Board voted last year to allocate \$10,000 from the general fund to an endowment account. Interest from this account will be available for grants. The Awards Committee anticipates funding two grants of up to \$300 each during 1998.

We hope that these small grants will be used in conjunction with other sources of funding for project enhancement such as signage and brochures, special plantings or purchase of native seed stock.

reviewed by the committee. Successful awardees will be announced at the Annual Meeting in November.

Following are the application procedures/requirements for the *INPAWS Small Grants Program*:

Applications are requested from groups or individuals and must be post-marked by September 1, 1998. They will be

Larger Grant Awards

At the discretion of the Board and membership, larger awards may be made from time to time from the assets of the operating budget. Requests for funds for special projects may be made at any time to the Executive Committee. All requests must be made in writing with a clear statement of how the award would further the mission of INPAWS and benefit our membership.

.....
Dr. Rebecca Dolan
Director, Friesner Herbarium
Butler University
4600 Sunset Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46208

317-940-9413
317-940-9519 FAX
rdolan@butler.edu



1. Cover sheet including

- Name of project
- Amount requested
- Location
- Applicant/contact person name, address, telephone
- New or existing project
- Category that best describes the project: research, training, education, conservation and habitat, demonstration garden, etc.

- Names of organizations involved, if any, with a brief description of each, including number of members
- Financial resources committed to the project from other sources, if any
- Anticipated starting and completion date of the project

2. Text of proposal

(not to exceed 2 pages)

- a) A summary of the project, not to exceed fifty words
- b) A clear, concise description of the project which includes the following:
 - How does the project further the INPAWS mission?
 - Why is the project needed?
 - Specific objectives to be achieved
 - Specific information on how INPAWS grant funds would be used
 - Who benefits from the project? How many? How do they benefit?

3. Budget sheet showing:

- a) Labor, material and program costs
- b) Sources and amounts of funds already raised, if any
- c) Total cost of project

Fifty percent of funds awarded will be available at the start of the project, 50% upon receipt of a final report by the Awards Committee. In addition, successful awardees must prepare a poster or other presentation to share with the membership at the Annual Meeting subsequent to completion of the project.

Mail four copies of the grant proposal post-marked by **September 1, 1998** to Dr. Rebecca Dolan.

Send us your favorite sources for native plants and related businesses.

INPAWS will be publishing its first ever source directory in 1999 and is in the process of compiling lists of businesses that specialize in the use of plants native to Indiana. Some of the categories are:

- plant nurseries—wholesale and retail
- landscape architects
- landscape designers
- prairie, wetland and woodland habitat restoration specialists.

If you would like to be included in the directory, or know of a business we should consider, please contact us by August 15, 1998.

Rob Day, Special Projects Chairman
6095 Ralston Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46220
317-253-9000 • fax 317-253-9900
email rob@robday.com

Recent Goings-On

by Dan Anderson

1998 hasn't been an ordinary year so far. Everything in my garden and in the several woods I have visited seems to be running about two weeks ahead of normal. As I write this (early May) the wild hyacinths are opening up and the sweet cicely is starting to bloom. The false Solomon's seal is almost at full height and the terminal buds are showing. Buds on the blackberries are swelling.



New England Aster

Last fall I collected a variety of seeds in the wild, and added a few packets of INPAWS seeds purchased at the annual meeting. After subjecting them to ambient temperature over most

of the winter, I sowed some outside and tried to start the rest in seed-starter mix, under a grow lamp. After six frustrating weeks of TLC, I had a bunch of spindly evening primrose, a reasonable number of purple coneflower and a few wing-stem and gray-headed coneflower. Of the 200 or so purple and swamp milkweed seeds I had collected—nary a sprout. Same for the great lobelia, cardinal flower and New England Aster.

Numerous "pups" of bloodroot, twin-leaf, and Jacob's-ladder are appearing in my wildflower garden, some of which will make it to the INPAWS plant sale, along with some Green Dragons which I have rescued from our woods before the deer had a chance to eat them. I did notice that a few others may possibly have a virus disease, showing a network of lighter areas in the leaves. Has anyone else noticed this?

The Wildflower Foray at T.C. Steele Nature Preserve was a great success, possibly due to the excellent writeup in the *Indianapolis Star*. Among the hike

leaders were Ellen Jacquart, Roger Hedge and Dr. Kay Yatskievich, along with the resident naturalists. Kay assured me that her book on Indiana wildflowers is almost done, but offered the consolation that another volume of hers on the botany of Venezuela has been published. There were about twice as many attendees as there were last year, and several groups had to be split up. Several highlights for me were seeing two hillsides covered with clumps of twinleaf, finding a small patch of goldenseal, and seeing some fire pink in full bloom.

Orchard in Bloom got off to a rainy start for the third or fourth year in a row, but that didn't stop Hilary Cox and many other INPAWS members



Green Dragon

from setting up a beautiful INPAWS micro-garden. Our thanks to Gene Bush, of Munchkin Nursery, for letting us have some beautiful specimens on consignment, and donating many others to the INPAWS Plant Sale and Auction. I seem to notice more wild leeks each year in areas where I volunteer—has anyone else noticed the same thing? Of course, garlic mustard seems to be thriving also, and pulls have been held at Brown County State Park, Broad Ripple Park and Holliday Park in Indy, the latter attracting about 35 eager volunteers. Park Naturalist John Schaust is happy that the pest has been at least temporarily eradicated in a number of critical areas.

The morel season is just about over, and Sophia and I haven't found a large number, but this year the yellow morels we found were of jumbo size. We also found some oyster mushrooms, and sampled a common polypore (*Polyporus squamosus*) that is reported

to be edible. Sophia selected what appeared to be the tenderest parts. After cooking, some pieces were pleasant-tasting if chewy, and others were too tough to swallow.

Another successful event was the Garden Club of Indiana's *Wildflower Workshop*, held at Brown County State



Morels
by Sophia Anderson

Park on May 6th. INPAWS members Helen Merrill, Amy Mason and Katrina Vollmer have been active in the event, which drew more than 60 interested gardeners from all

over the state. The heavy rains made traveling difficult, but didn't discourage many of the conference participants, who ventured a nature hike at 3:00 PM, when the rain let up for a while.

The following programs were presented. *Wild Edibles*, by Sophia and Dan Anderson, featured slides, specimens and many tasty samples. Sue Nord showed many flower slides, with a description of the uses of each, particularly the medical properties. After lunch, Bill McKnight hauled in his bags of garlic mustard, honeysuckle, vinca and other undesirables, and discussed the nature of invasive plants and the desirability of planting native species. The final presentation, *What Plant is That*, was given by Dr. Victor Riemenschneider, who discussed the use of keys in plant identification, and showed many variations of flower form and structure. A wide variety of free information was offered, and there seemed to be a great deal of interest in INPAWS among the attendees who were not already members.

We look forward to a continuation of Dan's series Free for the Picking, as well as his observations in general.

Carnes Mill Field Trip almost ruined by native inhabitant.

A small group turned out for the May 2nd trip to this beautiful nature preserve along the Little Blue River in Crawford County, led by DNR Heritage Biologist and expert botanist Roger Hedge.

On the way to the site hundreds of rare French's Shooting Stars (*Dodecatheon frenchii*), designated of "federal concern," were spotted on sandstone ledges (the plant's only habitat).

Near the mill, our good intentions of pulling out a patch of Japanese honeysuckle overtaking a rocky ledge almost ended badly for our President Ruth Ann Ingraham. After being urged to "keep pulling," Ruth Ann dutifully reached under the leaves to get at the roots of the noxious weed, when she startled a resting Copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen*), who didn't seem pleased. Luckily, we did not need the expertise of herpetologist Sherman Minton in treating a snakebite. He had ironically turned back on the trail a little earlier and never got to see the handsome reptile who

quickly retreated after rearing its head and evaluating the situation.

We were very happy to make the acquaintance of four members of the Cincinnati Wildflower Preservation Society, led by Dr. Victor Soukup who is president of the society and an INPAWS member as well. He wrote:

It was great getting together at the Carne's Mill property. Enclosed is the list of significant plants we saw. Most citations are of blooming plants but some, of course, were not blooming. The latter are listed because they elicited considerable comment. Not listed is Staphylea trifoliata (Bladder Nut) the shrub which was mentioned several times. . .

P.S. A brief search of the literature did not turn up any references to Synandra hispidula with purple buds (resulting in floral parts with lavender backs. This is most probably a first finding of this color form.

Plants seen at Carne's Mill on 5/2/98:

Phlox (divaricata or pilosa or both), Geranium maculatum, Delphinium tri-corne, Senecio aureus, Isopyrum biter-natum, Podophyllum peltatum, Jeffersonia diphylla, Actaea pachypoda, Polemonium reptans, Dentaria hetero-phylla, Viola striata, Trillium recurva-tum, Trillium sessile, Trillium flexipes, Stellaria media, Valeriana pauciflora, Stylophorum diphyllum, Phacelia bipin-natifida, Hydrophyllum appendiculatum, Hydrophyllum canadense, Mertensia vir-ginica, Clematis virginica, Allium tricoc-cum, Asarum canadense, Smilacina racemosa, Polygonatum sp., Arabis (lae-vigata or canadensis), Solidago flexi-caulis, Mitella diphylla, Aquilegia canadensis, Blephilia hirsuta, Hepatica acutiloba, Osmorhiza longistylis, Synandra hispidula.

Ferns: Glade, Silvery Glade, Marginal, Christmas, Bulblet, Fragile, Sensitive, Broad Beech, Maidenhair, Polypody, Resurrection and Goldie's.



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1 9 9 8 I N P A W S E v e n t s

**Saturday, June 27 and
Sunday, June 28**

Two-day bus trip to southwest and south central Indiana. On Saturday we will visit Section Six Flatwoods Nature Preserve and Twin Swamps Nature Preserve in southwest Indiana to see post oak flatwoods and cypress swamps respectively. We will stay overnight in Evansville and then visit Hemlock Cliffs and Boone Creek Barrens to see a variety of beautiful habitats on Sunday.

Saturday, August 1

Program on re-establishing native plant communities on

your property. We will discuss converting portions of your property back to native vegetation. We will cover soil type, planting methods and maintenance. Location to be announced.

Saturday, August 29

Seed and plant sale, time and location to be announced.

Saturday, September 12

Mushroom hike at Guin Woods, a beautiful old-growth woods owned by Ball State University. Meet in Muncie to carpool to the site.

Sunday, October 18

Fall plant identification hike at Scott Starling Nature Sanctuary at the north end of Eagle Creek reservoir. Learn to identify all of those annoying plants that stick to your socks!

Saturday, November 14

INPAWS Fifth Annual Meeting, location to be announced.

*More information to follow.
Kevin Tungsavick
765-354-2775*



INDIANA NATIVE PLANT
and Wildflower Society

6106 Kingsley Drive
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