

WEED 'EM AND REAP

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DELAWARE COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION | FEBRUARY 2020

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QUESTIONS?

Contact the helpful staff of the Delaware Co. Extension Office Room 202, 100 W. Main Street Muncie, IN 47305-2879 Phone: 765.747.7732

NEWSLETTER SUBMITTALS

To submit an article for the upcoming newsletter or to report an error in the publication, please email kdkoger@gmail.com

Upcoming Meeting

Join the Delaware County Master Gardener Association for the next meeting on **Wednesday, February 26, 2020.**

Senior Scientist Crystal Renskers will discuss Cardno Native Nursery in Walkerton, Indiana. The 130-acre nursery provides native seed and plant material for restoration and native landscape projects across the U.S. Cardno Native Plant Nursery is certified as an Invasive-Free Grow Native business by the Indiana Native Plant Society (INPS).

Social time and refreshments will be served at 6:30 pm followed by the monthly presentation at 7:00 pm. A brief business meeting will follow. All are welcome to attend! Contact Mary Ippel with questions.

Did you know?

In 2019, **2,737** active Purdue Extension Master Gardeners reported more than 39,840 educational hours and 170,190 volunteer hours. The level of educational services provided by these Extension Master Gardeners was estimated to be worth **\$4.1 million.**

Source: Purdue University, College of Agriculture.

March 12, 2020
Plant a Flower Day

March 20, 2020
First Day of Spring

March 22, 2020
World Water Day

March 22-28, 2020
National Agriculture Week



Follow us on Facebook!
[@DelcoMGAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/DelcoMGAssociation)

Remember to report your volunteer and educational hours at www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener.



Stay connected with the DCMGA by visiting delcomastergardener.org to learn more about upcoming activities, view photos from recent events, and read the latest edition of the newsletter.

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran.

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2019 Audit Report

Delaware County Master Gardener Association

Date Prepared: December 15, 2019
Date of Report: January 2019 to December 2019
Prepared by: Mary Ippel, Barb Crawford

Background

The Audit Committee, consisting of Extension Master Gardeners Mary Ippel and Barb Crawford, met to reconcile the financial bank statements, checks, and check registers for 2019. Current Delaware County Master Gardener Association Treasurer, Kate Bell, provided these documents to the committee. Three different months (April, June, and October) were chosen at random for review. These three months had significant financial activity and were a good representation for the year.

Overall Assessment

The audit evidence obtained on the amounts and disclosures in the financial report were all sound. The Audit Committee saw no risk of fraud or error.

Recommendations

It was with much appreciation by both auditors that financial records for 2019 were well organized. It made the auditors' job clear and straightforward. The committee wishes to express their appreciation to the treasurer, who has been an invaluable resource to the Delaware County Master Gardener Association.

No action is required.

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 23, 2019



MONTHLY PROGRAM

36 Extension Master Gardeners and guests were in attendance.

Vice President Mary Ippel introduced Monica Guillaud as the special guest speaker. Monica, a native of Yorktown, is a close childhood friend with Mary's children. Monica is a Purdue Extension Master Gardener and licensed landscape architect with the architecture and planning firm, Ratio Architects. She, along with her husband and infant son, live in Indianapolis.

Monica presented "Backyard Beekeeping Basics". Monica stated that she started to establish two beehives in her backyard a few years ago. Monica said that she participated in the Beekeepers of Indiana Beekeeping School and read a lot of literature on the subject before investing in the beehives. She also had a mentor to help guide the start-up of her hives.

Monica indicated it is always best to talk to your neighbors before starting a hive in your backyard. Inform them of your intent to build a hive, educate them, debunk myths, and address any concerns they may have.

A beekeeper should verify that all the necessary resources are nearby for a healthy and successful colony. Bees need a food (nectar) and water source. Many native hardwood trees provide resources for bees.

Monica introduced the audience to the various components of a Langstroth hive. She used her own Langstroth hive as well as handouts to demonstrate the structure of the hive. The Langstroth hive is a common hive used by beginner beekeepers. It features removable wood frames.

The top layer is the lid, followed by an inner cover that prevents unwanted insects and diseases from entering the bee colony.

Below the lid is a series of wood box “supers” that house the frames for honeycomb and honey production. A lateral “queen excluder” board is placed between the supers and the lower level to prevent the queen from laying eggs in the honey production chambers.

The larger box located below the supers is the brood chamber. The brood chamber includes 10 frames. Here, the queen bee lays eggs in the colony’s nursery.

The brood chamber sits on top of a bottom and landing board, which is the main point of entry into the hive. The bottom board is stacked on a stand, which may be constructed of CMU blocks, a wood frame, or other common materials.

Consideration should be given to the orientation of the hive. The direction of the hive opening may play a role in how the bees navigate to a food source. Avoid placing the hive entry towards a neighbor’s yard or your own back porch if in the route of the nectar source.

Monica said the size of the main entry needs to be larger in the summer and smaller in the winter. In the winter, the entry hole needs to be about 3/8” to 1/2” wide due to the colder temperatures. A beekeeper can use a small piece of wood to block off the opening.

Monica indicated that when the hive can weigh as much as 60-80 pounds when completely filled with honey.

Monica said she creates a “candy board” to help feed the bees during winter. The candy board is constructed of a wire mesh frame and newspaper. The board is filled with sugar (nectar) and protein (pollen). A colony has a 1/3 chance that it will survive the winter.

Monica said that Varroa mites are one of the most destructive pests to a colony. They have the potential to spread disease and lay mite eggs in the beehive. Monica said that the best solution to reactively treat a Varroa mite infestation is to allow the pests to lay their eggs in a frame. Once complete, the beekeeper may freeze the frame to kill the mites.

Monica said that bees produce a sticky resin called “propolis” in their abdomen from mixing their saliva with tree resin and sap. The propolis is used as a glue to seal off undesired holes in the beehive. The propolis may build up within the hive. Bees also produce beeswax in order to construct the cell walls of the hive.

Monica said that the build-up of propolis in her hive caused her colony to collapse last year. She is currently attempting to rebuild her hive with a new swarm of bees.

The male bees are called “drones”. They comprise about 10% of the total colony’s population. They are physically bigger in size than the female bees. Their primary purpose of the male bee is to mate with the unfertilized queen bee. The female bees are known as the worker bees.

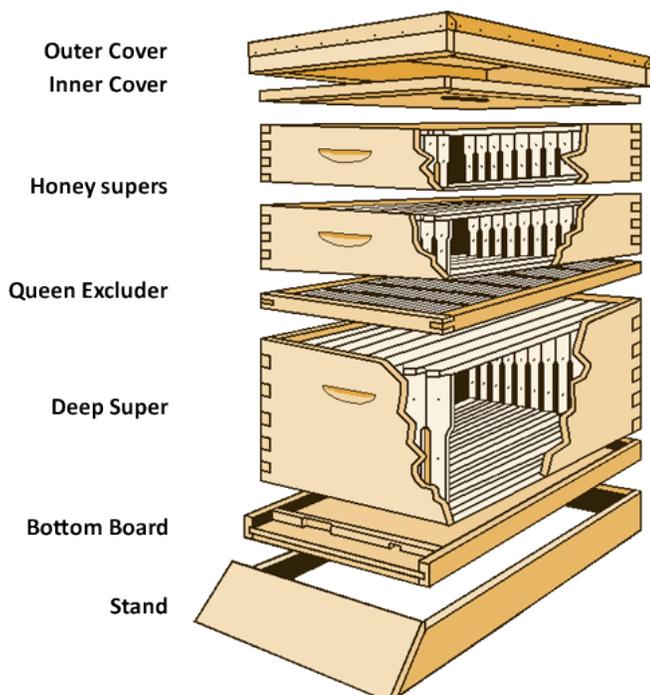
Monica concluded her presentation by answering questions from the audience. She recommended avoiding giving honey to infants younger than 12 months due to food poisoning caused by botulism. She cited Girl Next Door Honey as an excellent resource to purchase a hive.

A brief intermission was held.

CALL TO ORDER

President Sarah Kreps called the business meeting to order at 8:08 pm.

photo: honeybeemyteacher.com



above: Langstroth Hive

DCMGA 30th Anniversary

Treasurer Kate Bell announced that 2020 marks the DCMGA's 30th anniversary. Each month the anniversary committee will be presenting a topic relating to the celebration. January's theme is the "Beginning of the Association". February's theme will be the "Heart of the Organization".

A special video presentation was played from Purdue Extension Master Gardener State Coordinator John Orick. John congratulated the organization on its accomplishment and provided a brief historical overview of the Purdue Extension Master Gardener program. The Extension Master Gardener program was established in 1972 by the Washington State University Cooperative Extension program. The Indiana Extension Master Gardener program began in Allen, Lake, Martin, and Vanderburgh Counties in 1978. By 1984, the program had grown to seven counties. During the same year, the Purdue Extension Master Gardener program developed its motto of, "Helping Others Grow". By 2001, the program had expanded to 69 counties. In 2012, the official Master Gardener manual was published. 2,600 Master Gardeners recorded over 106,000 volunteer hours in 2018. Today, there are over 50 active Extension Master Gardener programs in the state of Indiana. The Purdue Master Gardener program was recently renamed "Extension Master Gardener" program to better align with national standards.

MEETING MINUTES

October 2019 meeting minutes were published in the November/December edition of the newsletter. The minutes were approved as written.

SECRETARY REPORT

Secretary Deanna Hines provided no new information.



above: Varroa mite on the back of a bee

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Kate Bell reported that one transaction was made during the month of January. It included a \$10 membership due deposit. Kate reported a current association balance of \$13,401.17. Having no objections, the monthly treasurer's report was accepted as reported.

Kate also announced that members could pick up their 2020 membership booklets. Paid members need to sign the form to verify they received their booklets. Membership booklets will also be available at the February meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mini-Master Gardener Camp

Dottie Kreps announced that she would be co-organizing the event with Martha McClurg. The camp is scheduled for Saturday, April 18th from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Mansfield Park Lodge. Camp registration is open to children ages 5 to 9 and limited to 50 participants. The theme for this year is "TREEmendous Trees". Presentations, crafts, and other activities will focus on trees. A planning meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 15 at Maring-Hunt Library. All are welcome to participate.

Future Gardener Camp

The Future Gardener Camp will be on Saturday, April 25 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Mansfield Park Lodge. Registration is open for up to 50 children, ages 10 to 13. The theme for the camp will focus around trees.

Growing Through Gardening

Committee chairperson Sandy Kreps announced that a planning meeting has been scheduled for February 20 at Minnetrista from 6 to 7 pm. Planning meetings will continue to occur the third Thursday of each month. All are welcome to attend and provide their input.

Delaware Co. Farm Fest

HC Cross, Kate Bell, and Mary Ippel will be co-organizing a booth at the annual Delaware County Farm Festival. The festival is scheduled for March 17 and 18th at the Delaware County Fairgrounds. Children will be able to plant seeds in cups full of soil. A volunteer sheet was available on the front table.

Tree Committee

HC Cross, Kate Bell, and Mary Ippel will also be the co-chairpersons for this committee. The committee is planning a community event with Red-tail Land Conservancy that will plant small tree seedlings or whips on one of the Red-tail's managed lands. Master Gardeners will help teach children how to plant the trees. The committee is working with a new staff member at Red-tail. A date for the tree-planting event has yet to be determined.

Farmers' Market Booth

Mary Ippel and John Huber are the co-chairpersons for the committee. Volunteers are not needed for the Minnetrista Winter Farmers' Market. The outdoor summer market will begin in May. The DCMGA will be hosting an informational booth every other week at the Farmers' Market.

Currently, the DCMGA booth is located away from the vendors. The committee would like to obtain a more prominent spot. Master Gardeners must be able to sell something in order to have a booth in the vendor area of the market. Mary indicated that the DCMGA holds a nursery dealer license that would allow them to sell plants.

Indiana Flower and Patio Show

Mary Ippel announced that all volunteer time slots have been filled. Volunteers will work two-hour shifts from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Purdue Plant Info To-Go booth. The Indiana Flower and Patio Show occurs from March 14-22, 2020 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

DCMGA Plant Sale

Nancy Reynolds is the chairperson. John Huber, Don Vogelgesang, and Pat Sickmann will be co-organizing the annual plant sale. The annual Plant Sale will occur on Saturday, May 9 at the Delaware County Fairgrounds from 8am - 12pm. The plant sale will occur in Building 22 this year. Set-up will occur during the afternoon of Friday, May 8. Nancy reminded all members to begin planning and planting for the sale now. A sign-up sheet will be available at a future meeting.

Minnetrista Garden Fest

The Minnetrista Garden Fest will be a two-day event during June 2020. The DCMGA anticipates hosting a booth at the event that commemorates the organization's 30th anniversary. Dottie announced that chairperson(s) are needed to help

organize for this event.

Hospitality

Mark Kreps acknowledged and thanked the members of the Executive Board for providing refreshments for the evening's presentation. A sign-up sheet to provided refreshments for the February and March meetings was located at the front of the table. Mark reminded members that the April Banquet will be at Riverside United Methodist Church. The main dish will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish to share and a drink.

Arbor Day Celebration

Laura Shadoin is the chairperson for this event. More information will be provided at a later date.

Washington Street Festival

Laura Shadoin is the chairperson for this event. The festival will occur on Saturday, September 19 and Sunday, September 20th. Master Gardeners will demonstrate how to plant bulbs in paper pots. More information will be provided at a later date.

Garden Walk

Nancy Miller is the chairperson. She announced that she is looking for a co-chairperson as she would like to step down from her position after this year. The Garden Walk is scheduled for Sunday, June 14. A pre-tour will be hosted on June 13 for all volunteers. A planning meeting is scheduled for February 6th, 6:00 pm at Riverside United Methodist Church. Contact Nancy to suggest a garden to be featured on this year's tour. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be available at a later meeting.

Book Club

The second DCMGA book club series is scheduled for the summer of 2020. Extension Master Gardener Barb Crawford is the organizer of this event. She passed out flyers about the upcoming book club. Participants will be reading the book, "Where are You Eating" by Kelsey Timmerman. Meetings will be held at the Maring-Hunt Public Library Community Garden. Muncie Public Library will be purchasing two copies of the novel for the Kennedy and Maring-Hunt branches.

OLD BUSINESS

Barb Crawford indicated that Extension Master Gardener Andrea Long's design, "Sprout", has been selected at the new DCMGA mascot. A puppet of the mascot has been made. Sprout's sidekick is "Powel the Grouchy Trowel". The group hopes to use the new mascot for children activities and other outreach programs.

Sarah reminded that the DCMGA Committee Budget Tracker form needs to be completed and returned by all committee chairpersons at the end of the year.

A new DCMGA Project Request form has also been created. New projects should be submitted to the Executive Board for review and approval. Master Gardeners can obtain a form from any of the Executive Board members.

NEW BUSINESS

R.A.C.

Barb Crawford introduced a new community service project: "Random Acts of Kindness". The project requires Master Gardeners to approach local business owners and offer to remove bagworms off of their plants in the landscape. Once the bagworms are removed (and the business owner has granted permission), a sign is placed on the tree or shrub to inform the public about bagworms and proper removal procedures. She listed several local fast food restaurants that have bagworms on plants near the drive-thru. Barb had several copies of the signs and passed them out to members.



above: A bagworm sac hangs from the branch of a cedar tree.

Bucket to Bowls

Sarah and Dottie indicated that the Hamilton County Master Gardener program would also be organizing a service project as part of the 2020 Master Gardener State Conference. All members from Indiana's Master Gardener chapters are encouraged to grow 2-3 vegetable plants in a bucket on a porch or patio. The ripened food produced from the plants should then be donated to a local food pantry to combat food insecurity in the community. Contact Sarah Kreps for more information on this program or to learn how to participate.

Sarah also announced the next Extension Master Gardener Basic Training Course will tentatively begin on Tuesday, August 11th, 2020. Classes will occur each week from 6:00-9:00 pm in Muncie. Contact Extension Educator Laurynn Thieme to register or inquire about the class.

A "thank you" card was received by the Muncie Food Summit committee and read aloud to the group.

Central High School Lunch Program

Julie Mason discussed a new Central High School lunch program initiative. Local businesses and community members are invited to set up a booth during the lunch period throughout the semester. The goal of the program is to fellowship and share wisdom with the youth. The DCMGA will attend a lunch period on April 17th from 11:45-1:30pm. Volunteers will be needed for this event.

Seed Swap

Maring-Hunt Library will be hosting a seed swap on February 15th from 1-3 pm.

Marketing Committee

The Executive Board determined that a marketing committee was needed. Kate Bell and John Huber will be co-chairing a new Marketing Committee. The committee will explore methods to promote the DCMGA and basic training course. Contact Kate or John to volunteer on this committee.

State Conference

The 2020 Purdue Extension Master Gardener state conference will be hosted in Hamilton and Howard Counties from September 10 through the 12. The Executive Board would like to see several Delaware County Master Gardeners attend

this event. Kate Bell attended the previous state conference and expressed her enjoyment for the event. A scholarship program will be available to pay for registration for two members. More details will be announced at a later date. The Executive Board is also looking into hosting a booth at the conference.

Summer Program

Becky Byrum is working with Ball State University students on an Immersive Learning project at Camp Adventure this summer. Becky is looking for Master Gardeners who would be willing to teach 15 children, ages 8-10 about "butterflies" or "pollinators". Volunteers would need to be at Camp Adventure from 3-4pm, Monday-Thursday during a week in June. Contact Becky to volunteer.

EXTENSION REPORT

Extension Educator Laurynn Thieme announced the Whitely County Master Gardener Symposium would be held on February 22, 2020 in Columbia City.

Laurynn also indicated that a call-out meeting has been scheduled for 5:30 pm on February 26 (before the Master Gardener meeting) at Minnetrista for the new Invasive Species Management program. The event is co-sponsored by the Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasive Management, Purdue Extension, Red-tail Land Conservancy, and the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District. All are encouraged to attend to learn about invasive plants.

Laurynn indicated that there are several volunteer opportunities at Minnetrista for Extension Master Gardeners. Opportunities include being a docent and creating seasonal interpretive signage for the gardens. Interested volunteers should contact James Edwards, Horticulture Manager at Minnetrista.

Laurynn announced the Newfields Horticulture Symposium on Saturday, February 29th in Indianapolis. Registration is \$80 (Newfield members) and \$95 (non-members).

Laurynn announced that she would be a full-time Extension Educator in Delaware County. She will no longer have to split her time between Delaware and Blackford counties. In addition, Extension office secretary, Carrie Neal has resigned from her

position. The Extension office is currently looking for candidates to fill her role. Master Gardeners should continue to direct questions and inquiries to Laurynn at this time.

Laurynn announced the Inspire Academy wants to offer outdoor activities for children this summer. She is looking for several Master Gardeners to help teach a lesson on pollinators to the students. Contact Laurynn to learn more.

Laurynn announced that the Purdue Extension Master Gardener Policy and Program Guide has been updated. The new guide is effective for the 2020 year.

ADJOURNMENT

January birthdays were recognized.

Having no other items for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna Hines



Volunteers Need for Summer Learning at Camp Adventure

Master Gardener Becky Byrum is looking for volunteers to help with a summer learning project at Camp Adventure this summer. The program, part of Ball State University's Immersive Learning program, will teach campers, ages 8-10 years old, about gardening. Extension Master Gardeners will work alongside BSU student leaders during the camp. Volunteers would need to dedicate 1 hour each day, from 3-4 pm, during a week of choosing during June.

Contact Becky Byrum, rhbyrum@gmail.com or 219-477-8195, if you are interested in volunteering for this rewarding event.

Indianapolis Hosta Society's
Hosta Show & Plant Sale
June 6 | Indianapolis

Mark your calendars for the Indianapolis Hosta Society's annual Hosta Show and Plant Sale on Saturday, June 6, 2020. This annual event is a great way to exchange ideas, learn about the diversity of hosta cultivars, and share a love of growing hostas with other gardeners.

The event's plant sale gives attendees an opportunity to add new hostas - some rare and unusual- to their gardens. The leaf show showcases members' prized hostas in various judging categories, including twelve cut-leaf divisions, a container-grown division, trough/container gardens, and artistic arrangements.

Public participation in the plant sale and leaf show begins at 2:00 pm and runs through 4:00 pm. Anyone may register to participate in the leaf show, but awards will be provided to AHS members only. The special event will be hosted at the Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. For more information or to learn how to register for the leaf show, visit indianapolis-hostasociety.org.



The Many Names of Daffodils

The name daffodil means
"that which cometh early."

Daffodils are also known as *Narcissus*. This mythical word (narcotic) derives from classical Greek mythology where a beautiful youth became so entranced with his own reflection that he pined away for himself. As a punishment for his vanity, the gods turned him into the yellow daffodil flower.

Additionally, the English call these flowers the Lent Lily due to their long association with the fasting period of Christianity.



Upcoming Meetings

Various Dates | Muncie

Want to learn more about garden topics from local experts? Consider attending one of the Urban Garden Coalition's (UGI) upcoming meetings. Join UGI on **Tuesday, March 24** to hear from Josh Gruver, Associate Professor of Natural Resources and Environmental Management, as he discusses food hubs and the local Muncie Food Summit. Minnetrista Horticulture Manager, James Edwards, will speak of the spring ephemerals found in the gardens of Minnetrista on **Tuesday, April 28**.

Formed in 2016, the Urban Gardening Coalition and its dedicated members have worked together to impact the community through the cultivation and distribution of free produce, education of others about sustainable gardening practices, and providing resources to others who wish to establish their own community gardens. The Urban Garden Coalition is a relaxed group, filled with friendly gardening enthusiasts of every skill level.

All are welcome to attend monthly meetings, held on the 4th Tuesday of every month from 5:30pm – 6:30pm. Contact Ryan Mast, rmast@keihin-na.com, with questions.



Minnetrista Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for a way to volunteer in the community this year while also enjoying the beauty of flowers in the garden? Consider becoming a docent at Minnetrista. Docents lead tours through the herb, orchard, rose, and museum gardens at Minnetrista as well as help answer questions from visitors. Hours are flexible and the friendly staff at Minnetrista will provide any necessary training.

Contact Horticulture Manager James Edwards (jedwards@minnetrista.net) to learn more.

American Rose Society's
Rose Show & Conference
June 6 | Alton, IL

Mark your calendar for the Illinois-Indiana District Rose Show and Conference on Saturday, June 6. The 2020 conference will be held at the Nan Elliott Memorial Garden in Gordon Moore Park, Alton, Illinois. The theme for the 2020 show is "Rose Gardens: a restful oasis of color and fragrance".

The keynote speaker will be rose hybridizer Ping Lim. Ping is the hybridizer of the Easy Elegance Collection® of roses as well as a new line of roses called True Bloom™. Ping has devoted his life to researching and developing hundreds of varieties of roses renowned for their color, fragrance, hardiness, and disease resistance. He believes that a good rose is one that brings beauty, joy, and health to the people and planet. Ping has exceptionally high standards for quality, which often requires his hybrid roses to more than 10 years of field trials before being offered on the market.

For more information on the conference, including how to register and where to stay, visit the Illinois-Indiana District website at illinoisindianadistrict.org.



Native Plants Unlimited
Native Plant Sale
March 21 | Fishers

Now is your chance to purchase native plant plugs from Native Plants Unlimited. Plants may be pre-purchased now through Saturday, March 21. Simply complete the order form found at nativeplantsunlimited.com. Mail payments to 13600 Conner Knoll Parkway, Fishers, IN 46038 or pay via credit card online. A minimum of 16 plants must be ordered. Quantity discounts are available for larger orders.

Plants must be picked up Friday, May 1 - Sunday, May 3 at Geist Nursery, 9890 Mollenkopf Road in Fishers.

Johnson Co. Parks & Recreation
**Native Trees For
Hoosier Landscapes**
Saturday, May 9 | Franklin



This first annual Native Trees For Hoosier Landscapes event will feature an on-site tree sale and several educational sessions. IDNR Community & Urban Forestry, Indiana Nature, LLC, Cardno Native Plant Nursery, and Johnson County Soil and Water Conservation District staff members will be on hand to answer questions from the public.

Educational session topics will include:

- * Tree ID basics & Benefits
- * Ecology: Trees & The Food Web
- * Invasive Trees & Shrubs
- * Plant For A Better Tomorrow:
 - How to select the perfect tree for your site
- * Native Landscape Tour at McClain Cabin
- * Tree Planting Demonstration

Water, coffee and snacks will be provided. Please bring a sack lunch to enjoy during the lunch break.

This event is FREE but RSVP is required to attend. Spots are limited! RSVP to: Megan Bowman-mbowman@co.johnson.in.us or call 812-526-6809 ext 101. Deadline for registration is May 7th or until spots are filled.

The tree sale will occur at the Johnson County Parks Maples Building, 3133 East 32nd Street, Franklin.

Tree/Shrub Species List and Price List will be sent to attendees ahead of time. They will be sold first come- first served on the day of the event, and must be paid for with check or cash.

Forest Flower Shop's
Plant Propagation 101
Saturday, March 21 | Indianapolis



Take your love of houseplants to the next level by learning how to grow your collection by propagation. Our staff will demonstrate the most common forms of propagation: division, water rooting, soil rooting and leaf cuttings, and discuss which types of plants will work best with which method.

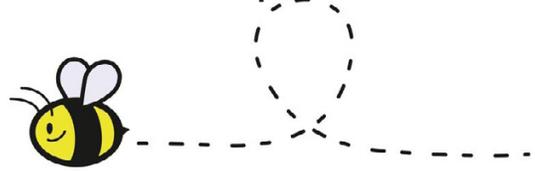
Each class participant will go home with a propagation chamber, a bag of seed & cutting soil, and several cuttings to get started. You will also be eligible for 10% off any additional full price purchases you make at the shop on the day of the workshop.

Registration is required. Visit www.facebook.com/events/1048304775543837/ to purchase your ticket. Cost to participate is \$25.

The Forest Flower Shop is a locally owned and operated full-service garden center and has been helping gardeners grow for more than 40 years. The shop is located at 3205 West 71st Street, Indianapolis. The class begins at 1:00 pm.



Eastern Indiana Beekeepers'
March Meeting
March 17 | Richmond



Are you an avid bee lover or someone who wants to learn more about beekeeping? Join the Eastern Indiana Beekeepers for their monthly meeting to discuss various beekeeping topics. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17 at Hayes Arboretum, 801 Elks Road, Richmond. The meeting begins at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.



Indiana Organic Gardener Association's
Meeting & Plant Auction
April 18 | Carmel



Join the Indiana Organic Gardeners Association (IOGA) for their next meeting on Saturday, April 18 at the Cool Creek Park Nature Center. The meeting, open to all, will feature a delicious pitch-in lunch at 11:10 am followed by the annual Plant and Garden Auction. Plants, books, and garden items will be available for auction. Auction proceeds will be used to fund future IOGA programs.

Attendees are asked to bring a favorite dish to share (homemade or organic preferred), a plate, fork, and drink. Cool Creek Park is located at 2000 E 151st Street, Carmel.

IOGA quarterly meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of January, April, July, and October at various locations. Meetings include a pitch-in, fellowship, and an educational lecture on organic gardening. Meetings are open to the public. Visit gardeningnaturally.org to learn more or call Margret Smith, 317-698-0526.

Red-tail Land Conservancy
Wake Up, Woods Hike
March 21 | Selma

Celebrate the first day of spring with the Red-tail Land Conservancy on Saturday, March 21st at 9:30am in Munsee Woods, a nature preserve open to the public only a few days each year. This free hike will take you winding through the forest into grasslands and past vernal wetlands just beginning to thaw. Experience the woods as they wake up from a season of slumber and set the mood for your spring-time exploration in the coming months.

Parking is available on site. There are no restroom or water facilities at this property. Please bring water and dress for the outdoors. Munsee Woods is located at 5701 S CR 475 E, Selma. Contact Kelley Phillips, 765-288-2587, with questions.



Indiana School for the Blind
and Visually Impaired

Greenhouse Houseplant Sale
7725 N College Ave., Indianapolis

Hanging Baskets, Starter Plants, Succulents,
Unique Containers, Terrariums, Scented Geraniums

Thursday, March 5 (12-5pm)
Friday, March 6 (12-5pm)
Saturday, March 7 (9-4pm)

All proceeds directly benefit the Horticulture Program at the ISBVI. Cash or Check only. Call 317-253-1481 or visit isbvik12.org to learn more.

Hamilton Co. Master Gardeners'
Preparing Your Garden
Monday, March 9 | Fishers

It's hard to wait when the sun is shining, but a little planning can go a long way to a lush, beautiful garden. Join the Hamilton County Master Gardeners for tips and ideas on how you can have the best garden yet.

This lecture is free and open to the public. The presentation will begin at 7:00 pm at the Fishers Library - Fishers Center, 5 Municipal Drive, Fishers.

Registration is requested. Visit www.hepl.lib.in.us to attend. Call 317-579-0307 with questions.



Hamilton Co. Master Gardeners'
Backyard Composting
Monday, April 13 | Fishers



Composting doesn't have to be a complex science. When done right, the outcome produces healthy soil and healthy plants. Join the Hamilton County Master Gardeners for a lecture on the basic principles of composting.

This lecture is free and open to the public. The presentation will begin at 7:00 pm at the Fishers Library - Fishers Center, 5 Municipal Drive, Fishers.

Registration is requested. Visit www.hepl.lib.in.us to attend. Call 317-579-0300 with questions.



"The seeds of some ephemeral species, such as a Bloodroot, are dispersed by ants. Bloodroot seeds have external appendages called **elaiosomes**, which are made up of a nutritious fatty substance that attracts ants. The ants carry the seed back to their nest where the elaiosome is eaten by their young, and the seed then discarded. The seeds are undamaged by this process and germination of the seed is enabled by the fertile environment within the nest. Seed dispersal by ants is local and takes place within a few meters of the parent plants."

Source: Prairie Nursery

Allen County Master Gardeners'
2020 Garden Symposium
Saturday, March 21 | Ft. Wayne

Join Allen County Master Gardeners for the **2020 Purdue Extension Gardener Symposium: Spring Brings Flower Power** on March 21st, 2020 at Purdue Fort Wayne, Walb Union Classic Ballroom, Union Circle Drive, Fort Wayne.

Spend the day with like-minded gardeners, learning about everyday sustainability and more to enhance your home landscape. All decorations and utensils will be reusable or compostable!

SCHEDULE

8:15 am	Registration Opens
9:00 am	Closed loop farming small scale Geoffrey Parker, Wildwood Farms
10:00 am	Planting for Pollinators with Natives Marissa Renz, Purdue Fort Wayne Instructor
11:00 am	Everyday Sustainability Aiste Manfredini, Allen Co. Dept. of Environmental Mgmt.
12:00 pm	Lunch Catered by Apple Spice Junction
1:00 pm	Rain Barrels & Rain Gardens Sharon Partridge, Tristate Watershed Alliance
2:00 pm	Fruit Guilds 4 Better Fruit Production Scott Kreig, Three Rivers Fruit Growers Club

Registration and refreshments start at 8:15am. Lunch will be provided. Educational talks continue throughout the day and will end at 3pm.

This day long educational symposium is open to the public. However, participation is limited to 120 people. Master Gardeners will receive 5 CE hours for attending. Fee is \$40 and includes a goodie bag, reusable coffee cup, and fabulous lunch from Apple Spice Junction.

Due to the popularity of this workshop, checks must be received within 5 business days of registration. If your registration includes a manual it will not be shipped until payment is collected.

Visit www.cvent.com/events/gardener-symposium-spring-brings-flower-power/event-summary-72b8ec44a900441188429ed036184502.aspx to register.

Garfield Park Conservatory
Upcoming Spring Events
Various Dates | Indianapolis

Pack up the family and take a quick weekend trip to the Garfield Park Conservatory this spring.

Spring Bulb Show February 28-March 6

See stunning displays of tulips, daffodils, and other spring flowers bloom against the backdrop of the Conservancy's permanent tropical collection. The bulbs on display will be for sale on March 7. Admission is \$4 per person or \$10 for family.

Spring Herb Workshop Saturday, March 7 | 10 am

There's nothing quite like the taste of fresh-picked greens. Join instructors from the Herb Society of Central Indiana and learn how to grow greens in containers or in the ground. Learn how to liven up those salads with easy and delicious herbal dressings. Attendees will be able to make 3 dressings using fresh herbs to take home. Please bring a sharp 5-6 inch knife to chop herbs and a small cutting board. Registration required.

Gnome Away from Home Saturday, March 21 - Sunday, April 5

It's spring break and garden gnomes from far and wide have gathered at the Conservatory. Visit the Conservatory to see the whimsical display of garden gnomes. Try to spot them all! Admission is \$4 per person or \$10 per family.

Gnome & Fairy House Workshop Saturday, March 28 | 10:15 am

Bring your creativity and have some fun making small gnome and fairy houses and figures out of natural objects. Registration required by March 23. Please register for 1 spot for each house you want to make. Cost to participate is \$10 per craft.

Bonsai 101 Saturday, March 28 | 1-4 pm

Join instructors from the Indianapolis Bonsai Club as they discuss the basic of this unique form of art and botany. Cost to participate is \$5 and due the day of the program.

(continued on next page)

Orchid Show April 18-19

Garfield Park Conservatory is located at 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis and is open to the public 10 am - 5 pm, Monday-Saturday and 1-5 pm, Sunday. Visit garfieldgardenconservatory.com to register and learn more.



Newfields' Spring Bloom March 20 - May 17 | Indianapolis



Watch the magic of spring unfold with half a million blooms in the garden and the galleries of Newfields. The season begins with beautiful displays of orchids, along with small, outdoor floral gems. Then come the daffodils and hyacinths. Pansies, peonies, and cool-season veggies. Wildflowers in the woods. Don't miss the crescendo, typically in April, when redbuds, dogwoods, and lilacs fill the garden with a floral haze.

Newfields staff and volunteers planted 125,000 new bulbs for this year's exhibition. Visit often to see new bursts of color and creativity, and to discover take-home inspiration.

Make sure to visit the gardens on Saturday, April 18 (11am-4pm) and Sunday, April 19 (11am-3pm) for Perennial Premiere. Guests will have the opportunity to purchase plants found throughout The Gardens as well as seek expert advice from the Newfields horticulture team.

Newfields, the campus of the Indianapolis Museum of Art is located at 4000 Michigan Road, Indianapolis. Admission to Spring Blooms is included within the \$18 museum fee.

Indiana Daylily-Iris Society March Meeting Tuesday, March 3 | Indianapolis

Join the Indiana Daylily-Iris Society (IDIS) for their first meeting of 2020 on Tuesday, March 3. Guest presenter John Chapin will present "Demystifying Hydrangeas". John is retired education who began professional landscaping over 30 years ago. Over the last few years, John has transitioned to growing unusual perennials, shrubs, and dwarf conifers. John resides in Danville, IN and writes a bi-weekly garden column for the Hendricks County ICON newspaper.

Future dates and topics include the following:

- April 7** - My Favorite Flowers
- April 28** - Hybridizing in the Tundra
- May 16** - IDIS Iris Show
- May 17** - AIS Region 6 Spring Meeting (Muncie)
- June 2** - Elusive Iris Colors: The Hybridizing Quest
- July 18** - IDIS Daylily Show
- Aug. 4** - Front yard, Backyard, & Side yard Hybridizing
- Aug. 15** - Annual Daylily/Iris Sale
- Sept. 12** - Annual Pitch-in and Daylily Auction
- Sept. 19** - AIS Region 6 Fall Meeting (Fort Wayne)

The Indiana Daylily-Iris Society meets monthly from March to September at the First Friends Church, 3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive in Indianapolis. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm and are held on the first Tuesday of the month. Meetings are open to the public.



Red-tail Land Conservancy's Weed Wrangler March 26 | Middletown

Join the Red-tail Land Conservancy to learn about invasive plants in Fall Creek Woods. Attendees are encouraged grab a pair of loppers and help clean up the beautiful woodland area. This family-friendly event will include planting an oak tree in remembrance of Indiana conservationist, Sam Shine.

Fall Creek Woods is located at 5975 N Mechanicsburg Road, Middletown. The event begins at 1:00 pm. Visit fortheland.org for more information.

Herb Society of Central Indiana

March Meeting

March 2 | Indianapolis

Come join the Herb Society of Central Indiana and learn about the 'Herb of the Year'. This year, we are honoring plants in the genus 'Rubus', which includes raspberries and blackberries. Members will give a short presentation discussing the herb's history and folklore, their medicinal properties, growing requirements, and how to use them in culinary applications.

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Clay Township Center, 10701 N College Avenue in Indianapolis. The special presentation begins at 6:30 pm and is followed by a brief business meeting. Members and guests are invited to attend. Visit herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org to learn more.



Indiana Rose Society's

March Meeting

March 10 | Zionsville

Join guest speaker John Chapin as he discusses how to incorporate roses into the design of your garden. John, a retired teacher and owner of Chapin Landscaping, enjoys growing rare perennials, shrubs, and dwarf conifers at his Danville home. A roundtable rose question-and-answer session will follow John's presentation. Bring your questions!

Future meeting dates and topics include the following:

April 14 - Fertilizer Basics

May 12 - Friends in the Rose Garden: Bees, Hummingbirds, & Butterflies

June 9 - Rose Show

August 15 - Annual Garden Party Pitch-in

September 8 - Rose Season Recap: The good, the bad, and the ugly

The Indiana Rose Society meets at the Sullivan Munce Center, 225 West Hawthorn Street, Zionsville. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm. For more information about this and other upcoming events, visit indianapolisrosesociety.com.

Herb Society of Central Indiana

20th Annual Herb Symposium

April 11 | Indianapolis

Join the Herb Society of Central Indiana for this noteworthy annual event that honors the 2020 Herb of the Year as chosen by the International Herb Association. The day is full of fun and interactive programs that will encourage you to keep learning and experimenting with the herb once you've returned home. This year, the event will showcase herbs in the genus 'Rubus', which include brambling raspberries and blackberries. Guests will be able to participate in lectures and hands-on workshops, bid in the silent auction, visit various vendors, receive recipes and handouts, as well as taste several delicious treats. A lunch is also provided to all participants by the local farm-to-table caterer, Juniper Spoon.

The symposium will be held at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville on Saturday, April 11. Registration is required. Cost to participate is \$52 for members and \$57 for non-members. Visit herbsocietyofcentralindiana.org to register.



Indianapolis Hosta Society's

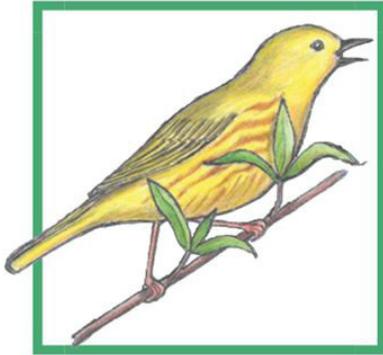
March Meeting

March 22 | Indianapolis

Join Kevin Collard and Ron and Linda Williams at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 22 as they present a class on topiaries in the garden. Ron and Linda, owners of Garden Travelers, will present an overview of topiaries they have visited around the world. They will also highlight local topiaries from private gardens in the United States. Kevin, Owner of Pine View Nursery in Leitchfield, KY, will provide an interactive demonstration on how to begin a topiary project. Plenty of time will be allocated for questions by attendees.

Society meetings are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided. The Indianapolis Hosta Society meets at Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis. For more information, visit indianapolishostasociety.org.

SAVE THE DATE!



EAGLE CREEK PARK

3rd Annual

BIRD FEST

May 9th, 2020

ORNITHOLOGY CENTER

INTRODUCTION

Celebrate all the birding opportunities Eagle Creek Park has to offer during the height of migration season on Saturday, May 9th, 2020. Enjoy free guided hikes, workshops, and activities all day. Plus, you can register for the morning west-side van tour (program #21175) or the afternoon canoe excursion (program #21176) for only \$20/person. We will also have a Hummingbird Workshop (program #21670), a Raptor ID and Conservation Program (#21671) and a Photography Workshop (Program #21678).

No birding experience required! For the free guided hikes and activities, park admission is \$6. The park entry fee is waived if you sign up for one of the paid activities (van tour, canoe excursion, photography workshop, etc.).

Eagle Creek Park and the Eagle Creek Ornithology Center are located at 6515 Delong Rd, Indianapolis.

FREE HIKES

Marina Hike | 8:00-10:00 am

Come on this early bird hike for warblers and waterfowl. Don't forget to check out the bald eagle nest across the water!

Birding 101 Hike | 9:00-10:00 am

Join one of our naturalists on this hike to learn some of the common bird species you are likely to see in Eagle Creek Park and in your own backyard! Learn a few tricks to identifying the birds you see on this family friendly hike! Great hike for beginners and families.

Indiana's Breeding Warblers | 10:00 am-12:00 pm

IndiGo Birding Nature Tours owner and guide David Rupp will highlight some of his favorite places to find our nesting warblers, while also giving tips on behavior, habitat preference, and vocalizations that will increase your chances of finding these lively birds.

Following his presentation, David will take you on forest trails in search of warblers, tanagers, vireos, and other songbirds that inhabit the forests of Eagle Creek during migration. A special focus will be put on identifying birds by their songs and cooperating as a group to find the birds we hear. A great walk for beginners and experts alike!

Bird song hike | 10:00-11:00 am

Ever hear a bird song and wonder which bird was calling? Join one of our naturalists on this hike to learn common bird calls and put your skills to the test! Great hike for beginners and families!

Birds and Native Plants | 11:00 am-12:00 pm

Join one of our naturalists on this hike to discover the relationships between native plants found in Eagle Creek Birds and the many resident and migratory bird species that depend on them for food, hunting, shelter, communication and more!

Coffer Dam Hike | 1:00-3:00 pm

This 2 mile loop takes you from the forest to the water's edge, offering a wide array of bird species. Enjoy beautiful views of the Eagle Creek reservoir and the bird sanctuary on this hike!

(continued on next page)

Hotspot Caravan | 2:00-4:00 pm

Caravan with your own vehicle behind one of our naturalists for this 'hike' which will highlight several of the birding hotspots in Eagle Creek Park. This is a great way to explore the different habitats and areas of our park with a guide!

Lilly Lake Hike | 3:00-4:00 pm

Join one of our naturalists on this hike to the nearby Lilly Lake! This hike goes through forest and circles around the lake.

FREE PROGRAMS

Bird Feeder Count | 10 am and 2 pm

Come watch birds at our backyard habitat feeder room and help us keep track of the birds who visit! At both 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. we will count the bird species and try to guess the number of birds who come to the feeders over a fifteen minute period. This is a great program to attend if you want to learn your common backyard birds and want to see some of the feeders and bird seed we use to attract these birds!

Migration Obstacle Course (All Day)

Think you have what it takes to be a bird during migration season? Come try your hand at our migration obstacle course! Just like the real journeys birds take during migration, you will have to make your way over mountains, cross polluted rivers, find safety in a city, avoid getting caught by a cat and maneuver through a rope course! This activity is great for children (and their parents)!

Birds of the World with Dr. Stephen Nawrocki, University of Indianapolis | 1:00-2:00 pm

This program will take the audience on a whirlwind tour of Europe, Africa, and Central America, focusing on the major bird species that can be found with a little work and a pinch of luck. While many species will seem familiar because they belong to the same families as those in Indiana, other do not and therefore will seem strange and exotic.

Raptor Feeding Time | 2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Join a naturalist at the Ornithology Center and watch us feed and train one of our live birds of prey. Learn fun facts about our birds and see how we care for them.

Whooping Cranes and Migration | 3:00-4:00 pm

Whooping Cranes are an endangered migratory bird species and conservationists are working hard to keep them around! Learn about what makes the whooping crane unique, how they became endangered and all the ways they are being helped in this interactive program!

PAID PROGRAMS AND EXCURSIONS

Photography Workshop | 8:00 am-10:00 am

(Program #21678) \$20 per person

Join photographer Kevin Carlsen for a two-hour wildlife photography workshop and adventure! This in-depth workshop will include a one-hour classroom lesson and an hour of practice in the field. We will review the basics of light, aperture, shutter speed, exposure, and composition. We will also talk about equipment needed, understanding your subject, getting close, and tips and tricks to improve your photography. Attendees will need to have a working knowledge of their camera and its settings, and they will want to bring their camera, tripod (if they already have one), and an SD card. Dress for the weather and be ready to sit on the ground, if able.

Hummingbird Workshop | 2:00-3:00 pm

(Program #21670)

Join our naturalist to discover more about these tiny nectar drinking birds in an exciting workshop. Learn how to attract these beautiful birds to your backyard! Workshop includes a lecture, feeder watch and a take-home packet. \$5 per person with park admission included. Children under 6 are free if accompanied by a paying adult.

Canoe Tour | 1:00-4:00 pm

(Program #21176)

We will bird the hotspots of the Eagle Creek Reservoir from the water. Canoes (2-3 people per canoe), life jackets, and binoculars provided. \$20/adult. \$10/youth ages 12-18.

Purchase paid program tickets online at apm.activecommunities.com/indyparks/Home#

Hamilton County Master Gardener's **Plant Sale Fundraiser** Saturday, May 16 | 8 am -3pm

Browse through thousands of plants grown by local Hamilton County Master Gardeners. You are encouraged to arrive early for the best selection! Cash, check, credit/debit card are accepted. Bring your own wagon if possible.

The sale will be located at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant St, Noblesville.



Morgan County Master Gardeners **25th Annual Garden Fest** March 28, 2020 | 9 AM to 3 PM



Hoosier Harvest Church
4085 Leonard Rd, Martinsville, IN 46151

Yard and Garden Vendors • Tree and Seed Giveaway • Gardening Demonstrations • Lectures • Free Soil pH Testing • Pansy Sale

3 Featured Lectures:

Colletta Kosiba "Poison in the Garden"
David Mow "Edible Mushrooms"
Tom Flatt "Backyard Apple Orchards"

Direct questions to mcgardenfest@gmail.com



*Your mind is a garden,
Your thoughts are the seeds.
You can grow flowers,
Or you can grow weeds.*

—Ritu Ghatourey

Indianapolis Parks & Recreation **Barking Up the Right Tree** Saturday, March 14 | 1:30 pm

This program will focus on one element of tree identification - the bark! Unlike the deciduous leaves, the bark is present all year round making winter a great time to get out and start to learn tree identification. Partake in a 3/4 mile hike that will allow you to stop, look at bark color and texture, and identify trees. Once you start making comparisons, you may be surprised by how different bark can be!

This program is part of the Free Nature Discovery Classes. There is no need to register and the program is free with park admission (\$6/car).

Meet at the Earth Discovery Center, Eagle Creek park, 5901 Delong Road, Indianapolis.



Delaware Co. Master Gardener Association's **Summer Book Club** March 28, 2020 | 9 AM to 3 PM

Join us for the next DCMGA Book Club where participants will be reading Kelsey Timmerman's book, *Where Am I Eating? A Journey Through the Local Food Economy*. The book explores how food is grown from around the world and how our eating habits affect the lives of those who grow and harvest it.

Book Club Schedule

Meeting 1	June 17	Introduction + Part I
Meeting 2	July 8	Part II
Meeting 3	July 29	Part III & IV
Meeting 4	August 12	Part V & VI

The book club is open to all. Meetings will be held from 5:30-7:30pm at the Maring-Hunt Library Community Garden. Meetings will be held in the Maring-Hunt Library Meeting Room or Atrium during periods of inclement weather.

Copies of the book will be available through the library or purchased through your local bookstore.

Contact Barb Crawford with questions.

Mother Nature Gives Spring Bulbs the Heave-Ho!

By Rosie Lerner, Purdue Landscape Report 20-01

It's not unusual for Indiana weather to have trouble deciding what season it is. Warm spells during the dormant period often lead to bulbs poking their foliage (and sometimes flower buds) through the soil. While we're more used to seeing this happen during February warm spells, our frigid temperatures arrived a bit early in the Fall of 2019 followed by intermittent unseasonably mild weather.

Indiana temperatures widely fluctuated in November and December, with the low temperature at the Purdue ACRE Farm (West Lafayette)



ABOVE: Hyacinth bulb with leaves and flower buds emerged January 2020.

of 25° F on November 7, 3° F on November 14, and 41° F on November 21! And the alternating pattern of below and above freezing continued through December.

Correspondingly, soil temperatures also fluctuated from 63° on November 7, 36° on November 14, and 45° on November 27 at ACRE.

There's not much you can do about bulbs that have sprouted, but the good news is that in most cases, the bulb itself should still be well protected and may bloom as normal, though we still have plenty more weather to endure before bloom time! The degree of potential damage the foliage and possibly the blooms will depend on how advanced the development of foliage and flower buds when they are exposed to sub-freezing temperatures.

An additional problem that may especially be an issue this year is frost heaving. Repeated cycles of alternate freezing and thawing causes water in soil to expand and contract, which can lead to bulbs and herbaceous perennials



ABOVE: Hyacinth bulb with leaves and flower buds emerged January 2020.

being pushed up to the surface of the soil. Most susceptible are shallow-rooted plants or those planted in late fall that didn't have a chance to establish a deep root system before soil freezing. Waterlogged or poorly drained soils will be most affected due to high moisture content.

Frost-heaved plants may have exposed roots that will be further damaged by winter weather. If the ground is not frozen, you could gently tamp the plants back into the soil. Then cover with several inches of mulch such as straw or shredded bark. To prevent frost heaving in the future, mulch susceptible plants after the ground freezes to help lessen fluctuations in soil temperatures. But in a winter like this one, mulch may not be enough to stop the heaving. ~

image: Rosie Lerner,
Purdue Extension

image: Tom Creswell,
Purdue Extension



Healthy Communities of Henry County **Annual Lunch & Meeting** March 6 | New Castle

Hear what's happening at Healthy Communities at Henry County and learn how you can get involved. Dawn Slack, Director of Stewardship with the Nature Conservancy of Indiana, will present "Our Landscapes" *Our Legacies: Going Native!*". Cost is \$15 and includes a catered lunch. The meeting will be held at the Henry County REMC, 3400 S State Road 3, New Castle. Please RSVP to americanreportingservice@gmail.com. All are welcome!



SPRING 2020 CISMA CONFERENCE

INVASIVE SPECIES AND WATERSHEDS

Save the date! March 26th, 2020

Learn about invasive species' impact on watershed health, forest health, and native species.

CEUs will be available!

Get updates at tinyurl.com/CISMA2020



Extension

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Penn State Extension,
Katie Ashdown

THE INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY

28TH ANNUAL STATE SHOW



PUBLIC WELCOME!

- FUN WORKSHOPS
ALL SKILL LEVELS
- MAKE & TAKE
GOURD CRAFTS
- DEMONSTRATIONS
- EXHIBITS
- GOURD COMPETITION

VENDORS SELLING

- GOURD SEEDS
MANY UNIQUE VARIETIES
- DRIED GOURDS
ALL SORTS, ALL SIZES!
- CRAFTING SUPPLIES
& TOOLS
- CRAFTED GOURDS
- FOOD AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
showchair@indianagourdsociety.org

FRI., MAY 1

10 AM - 7:30 PM

AND **SAT., MAY 2**

10 AM - 5 PM

EASTERN STANDARD TIME

FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

RICHLAND CENTER MEMORIAL HALL

37 E 375 N, Rochester, IN

4 Miles North of Rochester on U.S. 31

ON WEST SIDE, LOOK FOR ROUND BARN

ADMISSION

Adults - \$5 • Seniors - \$3

Ages 18 & under - FREE!

WORKSHOP INFORMATION & SHOW BOOKS

AVAILABLE BEGINNING MARCH 2020:

indianagourdsociety.org



Monthly Gardener Checklist

FEBRUARY 2020

– written by Rosie Lerner, Extension Consumer Horticulturist, Purdue University

HOME (Indoor plants and activities)

- Check stored produce and flower bulbs for rot, shriveling, or excess moisture. Discard any damaged items.
- Most houseplants require less water in the winter because growth is slow or stopped. Check the soil for dryness before watering.
- Move houseplants to brighter windows, but don't place plants in drafty places or against cold windowpanes.
- Potted spring-flowering bulbs forced into early blooming can make good gifts for a sweetheart. Keep these plants in a bright, cool location for longer-lasting blooms. Forced bulbs make poor garden flowers, and you should discard them as blooms fade.

YARD (Lawns, woody ornamentals and fruits)

- Choose appropriate plant species and cultivars, and begin drawing your landscape plans.
- Cut branches of forsythia, pussy willow, crabapple, quince, honeysuckle, and other early spring-flowering plants to force them into bloom indoors. Place the branches in warm water, and set them in a cool location.
- Check mulches, rodent shields, salt/wind screens, and other winter plant protections to make sure they are still in place.
- Prune landscape plants (except early spring bloomers that should be pruned after flowers fade). Birches, maples, dogwoods, and other heavy sap bleeders can be pruned in early summer to avoid the sap flow, although bleeding is not harmful to the tree.
- Delay pruning fruit plants until you can assess winter injury.

GARDEN (Flowers, vegetables and small fruits)

- Order seeds before it's too late for this year's planting.
- Sketch your garden plans.
- Prepare or repair lawn and garden tools for the upcoming season.
- Start seeds indoors for cool-season vegetables so they will be ready to transplant to the garden early in the season. You should start broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage seeds five to seven weeks prior to transplanting.
- Test leftover garden seed for germination. Place 10 seeds between moist paper toweling or cover with a thin layer of soil. Keep seeds warm and moist. If fewer than six seeds germinate, then purchase fresh seed.

IN THE GROW

QUESTION: I would like to plant bushes that will attract birds in fall and winter. I'm thinking of something that produces a berry they eat?

– J.W., Winfield, Indiana

ANSWER: Birds require not only food such as fruits and seeds, but also shelter and water. Planting a variety of plants that offer these resources across the seasons will help attract more birds to your yard. Some native shrubs to consider include: *Aronia* (chokeberry), *Callicarpa* (beautyberry), *Clethra* (summersweet), *Cornus* (dogwood), *Corylus* (hazelnut), *Ilex* (winterberry), *Lindera* (spicebush), *Rhus* (sumac), *Sambucus* (elderberry), *Symphoricarpos* (snowberry and coralberry), and *Viburnum* (several species). More information on attracting birds and other wildlife to your yard in Purdue Forestry & Natural Resources publication **FNR-247-W**.

– Rosie Lerner, Extension Consumer Horticulturist, Purdue University