



MASTER GARDENERS
"Helping Others Grow"

The Gem of Chicago Wilderness: Ecology and Restoration of the Greatest (a Great) Ecological Region of the U. S.

Monday, April 24

6:00 p.m.

**Purdue Cooperative Extension
2291 N. Main St.
Crown Point, IN 46307**



This richly illustrated presentation quantifies the high ecological quality of nature preserves in the Chicago Wilderness area, even though 9.5 million people dominate the landscape. Chicago Wilderness is a regional nature reserve that includes more than 225,000 acres of protected natural areas stretching from southeast Wisconsin through northeast Illinois and into northwest Indiana.

The question of how this ecological gem came to be is explained and several of our key habitat types are illustrated and discussed. Throughout the presentation, the urgency for ecological restoration is emphasized. You'll see future visits to Chicago area nature preserves (there are many!) in a whole new light and be engaged and immersed in the ecological stories they tell.



Dr. Spencer Cortwright
Associate Professor of Ecology, IUN

Dr. Spencer Cortwright grew up in the western suburbs of Chicago, spending considerable time in nature but at the time not thinking of it as a career option. Partway through his studies at Washington University (St. Louis), he committed to studying ecology, which he further pursued at Indiana University (Ph.D. in ecology) and the University of Michigan (post-doctoral research and teaching). This led to his becoming a professor of ecology at Indiana University Northwest, where he has taught since 1992. For over a quarter of a century, he studied amphibian ecology and now for nearly a quarter century (time periods overlapping!) has focused on restoration ecology in Chicago Wilderness.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR "The Gem of Chicago Wilderness"



**If you need reasonable accommodations to participate,
please contact LCMGA at 219-755-3240 two weeks prior to event.**

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