NATIVE ROOTS

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

Vol 22 Issue #3 JUL-AUG 2026

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

All Times are Eastern unless noted CT for Central!

WEST CENTRAL CHAPTER of the Indiana Native Plant Society (INPS)

WC CHAPTER MEETINGS ~ 4th Mondays at **7pm** *open to public* at Lilly Nature Center in Celery Bog Nature Area (1620 Lindberg Rd, WL.)
Pre-meeting dinner 6pm at Parthenon: 2060 Sagamore Pkwy W, W. Laf.
MORE INFO: President George Kopcha *gkopcha@gmail.com*
(open to public ~ NO MEETINGS MAY, JUNE & JULY)

MON AUG 24th 7pm **Gray Soil Prairies** (NOTE: *no zoom option*)
Local meteorologist & naturalist Chad Evans will discuss the formation & unique characteristics of gray prairie soils & southwest Indiana remnants!
QUESTIONS?: VP Mark Peterson *sdpete58@hotmail.com*

OTHER CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

SAT JUL 11 9am-4pm **Volunteer Opportunity** at Riverfest
WC INPS will be co-hosting a booth at Riverfest with Sycamore Audubon Society. *If you would like to volunteer to help*, please contact Patty Jones or Susan Ulrich ***susan.ulrich.82@outlook.com***

SAT JUL 18th 9-11am **Bees & Prairies** CampCullom Nature Ctr, Frankfort
Ella Stroh with the Pollinator Partnership will discuss native bees and Partnership initiatives. Jeff Swackhamer will then lead a walk-and-talk tour on mowed paths through prairie restorations at Camp Cullom. A joint event with Central Chapter INPS and West Central Indiana Beekeepers.
MORE INFO: Patty Jones *removeinvasiveplants.wcinps@gmail.com*

Special Event for WC-INPS Members**

WED JUL 15th 6:30pm **Jim Beaty's Third Annual Summer Yard Tour**
Come enjoy Jim's wonderful native plant gardens in bloom at his house: *2536 Raintree Drive, WL* . If you'd like, bring a dessert or sweet to share.

****Don't miss out—**membership in INPS automatically enrolls you in our West Central Chapter if you live in one of our counties. To learn more contact **Patty Jones *removeinvasiveplants.wcinps@gmail.com***

BONUS: INPS membership means getting "*inps journal*"~ full of wonderful photos and interesting articles; WC Chapter membership means getting Mark Peterson's **WC-INPS newsletter** and Patty's **reminder/info emails** to keep you up-to-date on our West Central chapter's doings.

The LATEST BUZZ on BEEKEEPING 🐝

THE TIPPECANOE BEEKEEPERS CLUB a.k.a. "TippyBeeks"
Meets monthly on second SATs at William H. Daniel Turfgrass Center
(1340 Cherry Lane, West Lafayette, IN 47907)
JUL11, AUG 8 ~ Doors open at 10am; meetings start at 10:30am
The group is focused on education through a mix of guest lecturers and casual conversation, with future aspirations of hands-on demonstrations. Whether you're a seasoned beekeeper or a new-bee, come learn, share your knowledge, and build community with other beekeepers.
To be added to club's mailing list, email Izaak: igilchri@purdue.edu

WEST CENTRAL INDIANA BEEKEEPERS CLUB
Meetings are third Saturdays 9-11am at **St. Peter's Episcopal Church**
950 E. Washington St., Lebanon (*unless noted otherwise*)

SAT JUL 18th 9-11am **Bees & Prairies** CampCullom Nature Ctr, Frankfort
Full description is above with WC-INPS chapter activities information.

SAT AUG 15th 9-11am **Preparation for Indiana State Fair Volunteer Day**
Our club will volunteer AUG 18th at The Beekeepers of Indiana's booth.
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Indiana State Fair AUG 7-23 ~ beekeepers to talk to and honey to taste at the TBoI (**T**he **B**eekeepers **o**f **I**ndiana) booth in the Ag-Hort Building as well as candle making at the Pioneer Village.
TUE AUG 18th 9am-9pm is **West Central Club's VOLUNTEER DAY!**
MORE INFO: Patty Jones *WestCentralIndianaBeekeepers@gmail.com*

HIDDEN HOLLOW HONEY–FREE BEEKEEPER'S YEAR COURSE**
MAR 21st – OCT 24th 10-noon **Third SATs** (except **OCT 24th**)
Monthly indoor classes on beekeeping with outdoor hands-on field work at **7713 US Hwy 136 W, Waynetown, IN 47990**
**** Registration REQUIRED ~ Limited class size (IF FULL, join wait list)**
FOR COURSE DETAILS/Beek Supplies/REG: *hiddenhollowhoney.com*
QUESTIONS? Contact *mark@hiddenhollowhoney.com* 765-418-2248

SYCAMORE AUDUBON SOCIETY (SAS)

www.sycamoreaudubon.org* *(currently down for maintenance)

SAS PROGRAM Meetings—second Thursdays **at 7:15pm**
at Lilly Nature Center in Celery Bog Nature Area (1620 Lindberg Rd, W. Laf.)
Meeting programs are currently hybrid: i.e. in person or by zoom.
Questions?/Zoom: SAS President Barny Dunning ***jdunning@purdue.edu***
(open to public ~ NO SAS MEETINGS IN JUNE, JULY & AUGUST)

THU SEP 10th Join us for our yearly & popular **"Bring Your Own Program"**
6pm carry-in dinner followed by 7:15pm program:
Share your mini collection of photos of nature, birds, plants, animals, vacation sites, etc., so others can see what you have been up to.
MORE INFO: *Susan.Ulrich.82@outlook.com* (SAS Warbler Newsletter)

SAS BIRDING WALKS, FIELD TRIPS, EVENTS
Barny 765-412-8760, Chuck Tuttle 765-586-4806 *chuckt1708@gmail.com*

SAT JUL 25th 7-9am **Audubon at the Overlook** – *Prophetstown State Park*
Meet at the observation deck off of the last parking lot in the park. We will look for birds and talk with all comers. Keep in mind that the state park charges an entrance fee if you don't have an annual pass.

SAT AUG 1st 9am-4pm **Indiana Audubon Society's Hummingbird Migration Celebration** at *Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary, Connersville IN*.
Events include hummingbird banding demonstrations, nature walks, programs including live birds of prey, native plant gardening, live music and food trucks!! FREE EVENT, but REG thru the IAS website is encouraged.
Details/REG: *indianaaudubon.org*
and look at the drop down menu under "Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary."

WED AUG 19th 6:30-8:30pm. **Get to the Point ~** *Celery Bog evening event.*
Come see what is flying around in mid-August close to sundown (hopefully not thunderstorms). We will meet at the "waist" of the main pond at The Bog–where the two wetland basins come together at a point. If water levels are high (and therefore there is no "point" where we can stand), this event will be moved to the southern observation deck.

SAT AUG 29th 7:30am **Early Fall Migrants Field Trip**
Meet at Celery Bog gravel parking lot for a walk to look for early fall migrants such as Alder and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers plus a variety of warblers. NOTE: *If shorebirds are being reported in the area, we may carpool from the Bog to go look for them.*

SAT SEP 5th 7:30am **Fall Migrants Field Trip** Purdue Wildlife Area-PWA
Meet at 7:30am in the main parking lot near the animal care center (called WERF) at PWA.

THURSDAY EARLY BIRD HIKES: Weekly 1 hour ~ Start AUG 13
A fun way to start your day—birding with Barny & Chuck at Celery Bog
Meet 8:00am in gravel parking lot at Celery Bog

BIRDING on the FLY - Email List *Contact Barny if you wish to be added.*
Barny sends an email to this list if an **unusual bird** is sighted locally/around the state **OR** if there are **"pop-up"** bird walks at Prophetstown or Celery Bog.

NEED HELP with PLANTING NATIVE PLANTS?

AGRESTAL GARDENS is your local guide to growing wild with purpose.
Call or text 1-831-772-4743 and visit us at ***Agrestal-Gardens.com* .**
Questions? Contact Nick Simms: Nick@Agrestal-Gardens.com

LADYBUG LANDSCAPE DESIGNS, LLC: Ecological Landscape Designer specializing in plants native to our ecoregion**.** My offerings include: Master Plans, On-site Advice/Sketch and Design Layout Support.
Questions? Contact: *steph@ladybugld.com* or ***www.ladybugld.com***

INPS 33rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE ~ SAT OCT 17th 8:40am-4:30pm
Check website for updated information, registration, deadlines!
AC 2026 WildlifeCorridors: Linking Landscapes for Biodiversity
IMMI Conference Center, 18880 N. EAST STREET, WESTFIELD, IN 46074
DETAILS TO COME at *indiananativeplants.org/*

Gibson Woods/Wild Ones 10th Biennial Native Plant Symposium
Beyond the Garden: Your Yard is an Ecosystem-Help it Thrive!
SAT OCT 17th 9am-3pm **C**DT ~ Speakers, Silent Auction, Book Sale & More
at St. John Township Community Ctr: 1515 W Lincoln H'way, Schererville
AGENDA/REG by OCT 1 *gibsonwoods.wildones.org* ~ Kim 219-433-5731
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