



The IWF Annual Meeting will be Held on June 21st at Our New Office Location!

Please plan to attend the Indiana Wildlife Federation Annual Meeting and Conservation Awards Banquet on Saturday, June 21st. The Annual Meeting and Conservation Awards Banquet will be held at the new IWF office, located at 708 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN, 46202. There is free parking directly across from our building.

Join fellow conservationists in the morning from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm for the Annual Meeting, which will discuss several important issues impacting wildlife and habitat that need your input as we set priorities for the coming year. Please remember that you must be a member in good standing to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Major topics requiring your input include:

- New resolution on high fence shooting pen operations/"canned hunting"
- Proposed Mounds Reservoir
- Consideration of changes to by laws governing voting privileges
- Department of Natural Resources rules under consideration

In the afternoon, the Conservation Awards Banquet will be held to honor the 2014 outstanding conservationists chosen by IWF members. Guest speaker, Kevin Tungesvick of Spence Nursery, will share native plant ideas for creating a beautiful landscape that both you and wildlife will enjoy. There will be a barbeque buffet that will cost \$30 per person.

Please register online at: <http://www.indianawildlife.org/annual-meeting/>



Thank you Cardno JFNew for the native plants for our native plant sale! Check out our website for more details.



We made 100 birdfeeders with kids at Earth Day Indiana at White River State Park this year!

Indiana Wildlife Federation

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Common Sense Conservation since 1938



IWF took a tour of the new land acquisition at Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge this spring! See page 6 for more details.

Hoosier Conservation

June 6, 2014



Urban Habitat Project Update

If you haven't heard, we started work on our Urban Office Wildlife Habitat in the fall. We had a great group of volunteers come in November to help prepare the beds for our spring planting. On Friday, May 16th we had a hardworking and enthusiastic group of volunteers plant over 400 native plants. Thank you to Spence Restoration Nursery for providing the native plants for the beds.

The native plants we selected were: sideoats grama, prairie dropseed, little bluestem, western sunflower, rattlesnake master, beardtongue, lanceleaf coreopsis, black-eyed susan, smooth aster, purple coneflower, blue false indigo, slender mountain mint, and nodding onion. Thank you to everyone who helped!

We still need volunteers to maintain the flowers in the beds. Let us know if you'd like to get involved!



IWF Volunteer Opportunities

Outreach & Events:

- Hoosier Outdoor Experience at Fort Harrison State Park on September 20-21, 2014 – IWF will build 100 bird feeders with children and families at this event. We are looking for volunteers to help organize and prepare bird feeder supplies/materials. We also need volunteers to help staff the event booths, as well as engage with the public and assist in building feeders. Additionally, we are always looking for donations of bird feeder materials, which include: wood, screens, nails, hanger chain, and hardware.
- Wild Game Cookout at the State Fair on August 2, 2014 – IWF serves venison sloppy joes to fair goers and has an information table at this event. We need help planning and organizing the event, as well as sloppy joe servers who can also help with other food services. We also need volunteers to staff the IWF information table.

Education:

- IWF often gets requests to do presentations for groups. These can range from wildlife presentations to Cub Scout groups or universities. If you love to talk to and educate people, this may be the volunteer opportunity for you!

Office Based Programs & Communication:

- Newsletter – IWF's quarterly newsletter Hoosier Conservation is published each February, May, August, and November. We are looking for a volunteer who has skills in writing, researching stories, editing and formatting, and interacting with others to keep our members up-to-date with the latest IWF activities and conservation issues.
- Mailings and Other Administrative Tasks – Our office often has mailings or other admin tasks that a volunteer could assist with.
- Website/Social Media – If you are social media/web savvy, familiar with IWF issues and have ideas for communicating in these areas, we'd love your help!
- Photography – We are always looking for quality photographs of wildlife and habitat to use for our website, marketing, social media, and outreach materials.

Check out our website for more volunteer opportunities!

**info@indianawildlife.org
317-875-9453 or 800-347-3445**

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Kids Corner



Family Fun – Observe bugs at night

- **Find a place to hang a short clothesline at the height of your shortest bug observers.** The line only needs to be about the length of a pillow case. Then pin a white pillow case to the line. Bring in a light source. We used a tall lamp with the lampshade removed. We put the light about one foot away from the pillow case. We ran an extension cord to the house to bring power. You could also use a camping lantern.
- **Turn off any nearby lights.** Wait at least 10 minutes. Slowly the insects will become attracted to your light and will land on the white pillow case or towel. Then you can observe them up close. On your clipboard, you could draw some of the bugs you see, or keep track of approximately how many of each type came to your bug observation station.

Reprinted with permission from National Wildlife Federation. For more family fun & kids games check out www.nwf.com!

Bird Word Search



M	A	W	V	R	Q	I	H	O	D	T	W	L	F	M
A	A	W	V	K	U	T	N	Y	V	Q	S	B	R	B
G	S	L	M	C	A	R	D	I	N	A	L	E	L	D
N	P	V	L	B	C	M	M	U	L	M	M	G	N	L
E	I	C	D	A	K	F	B	M	I	U	P	C	Y	A
V	F	R	O	B	R	W	X	F	F	P	N	C	G	B
J	I	X	K	M	Y	D	O	W	L	Y	G	B	N	W
B	F	A	S	M	J	N	N	A	H	P	X	A	T	W
F	E	B	K	C	U	D	H	Q	D	A	D	X	A	E
B	M	V	Y	U	W	B	O	M	G	Q	Z	B	A	E
Y	V	G	V	O	J	S	L	X	B	Q	W	G	L	J
H	N	Z	Q	C	M	G	N	S	Z	S	L	J	R	Y
S	B	W	W	R	Z	P	C	W	J	E	X	Z	A	T
U	U	N	Q	B	K	U	T	F	O	S	D	T	D	Q
R	N	X	H	Y	L	K	F	C	M	A	H	G	X	K

Find these words:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEST | <input type="checkbox"/> BEAK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EAGLE | <input type="checkbox"/> OWL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIRDBATH | <input type="checkbox"/> MALLARD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CARDINAL | <input type="checkbox"/> DUCK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> QUACK | |

Word search created by communication intern: Brittany Blake

2013/2014 Holt Scholarship Award Recipient – Congratulations Rachel Vanausdall!

THE IWF Endowment Committee was excited to award the Holt Scholarship to Rachel Vanausdall for the 2013/2014 school year! Rachel graduated from Purdue University this spring with a degree in Wildlife Biology. She is from Lebanon, IN. The picture below was taken at the Purdue Wildlife Area on one of the many days she spent practicing bird banding and processing.



Holt Scholarship Applications due August 15th!

The IWF Endowment awards a \$1,000 scholarship in memory of Charles Holt, a lifelong member and champion of fish and wildlife resources.

Applicants must be Indiana residents accepted for study or already enrolled for the Fall 2014 semester as a full-time undergraduate student in an accredited college or university at or above a sophomore level. Applicants must be taking coursework to major or minor in a field related to resource conservation or environmental education.

Find our application here:

www.indianawildlife.org/Holt-Scholarship

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Spring & Summer Invasive Plants

Spring and summer blooms are in full swing, and unfortunately, so are a number of invasive plants. Now is the best time to begin implementing the control techniques that will keep these invasives at bay.

- **Poison hemlock** (*Conium maculatum*) – found near disturbed areas such as trails, roadsides, and ditches; mow between April and mid-July before seed set begins; do not mow again during seeding period in August-September
- **Wild parsnip** (*Pastinaca sativa*) – often found along roadsides and in open disturbed areas like fields and prairie edges; mow between June and early August before seed set; repeat mowing to eliminate new plants or re-sprouted ones; do not mow during seed set



Asian Carp

Be on the lookout for Bighead and Silver Carp (Asian Carp). Invasive fish have infested every major Indiana River and are headed to the Great Lakes. Left unchecked, they devastate native fish populations because they feed on phytoplankton, a critical building block in the aquatic food chain. Join IWF for a tour of Eagle Marsh near Ft. Wayne on July 11th, where you will see and learn about the work being done to block the passage of these invasive fish from the Mississippi River Basin to the Great Lakes.



Upcoming Field Trips/Event Dates

Field Trips

- Eagle Marsh Tour For Members – July 11th, bring a sack lunch and wear boots. The trail will be muddy!

Events

- Pollinator Week – June 16th
- Annual Meeting – June 21st
- Great American Backyard Campout – June 28th
- Wild Game Cookout – August 2nd
- Hoosier Outdoor Experience – September 20th-21st



Leslie Shad, NWF's new Region VI Director (IN, IL, and OH)

NWF Board member since 2007, Leslie serves as NWF Board Leadership Committee Chair, and on the Audit Committee, and the Tribal Lands Advisory Council. She chaired the first Annual Meeting Revitalization Task Force in 2012, focusing on collaboration between NWF and Affiliates with input from affiliate leaders, board and staff. She is past Vice Chair of NWF's President's Advisory Council.

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Thank you to our 2013 Donors!

Eagle Patrons(\$1000+)

- Chester & Linda Rust
- Jim & Elaine Engledow
- John & Wendy Kindig
- Steve & Elizabeth Mueller
- Wild Bird Unlimited Carmel

Blue Heron (\$500-\$999)

- Scott Lewis

Supporting (\$100-\$499)

- A. D. Hauersperger, MD
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- Angelo Dattilo
- Ann Cameron
- Bethel Presbyterian Youth Sunday School Class
- Boris E. Meditch
- BTS Promotions
- C. Philip Andorfer
- Callie A. Potts
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- Peter Hippensteel
- Philip & Sharen Meyers
- Ray Chattin
- Richard Cockrum
- Ron and Judy Hagan
- Solo Flight Wildbirds Unlimited
- Steve Cecil
- Steve Pettinga
- Steve Van Zant
- Susan and Glen Salmon
- Terry and Allison Bailey
- Tim & Ann Niednagel
- Wild Birds Unlimited
- William Ditzler
- William Staruszkiewicz

Kids Contest Held in March

IWF's yearly 'What's in Your Wild Backyard?' Kids Contest was held in March. The contest was open to Indiana students, grades 1st through 8th. Here is a list of our winners from the 2014 contest:

- First/Second Grade – Meghan Y., Jamillyah D., and Izayah G.
- Third/Fourth Grade – Frank G., Fatima K., and Savannah G.
- Fifth/Sixth Grade – Jace D., Dylan, and Lilly E.
- Seventh/Eighth Grade – Ryan B., Gavin S., and Maggie L.

Check back next spring for another chance to win cool prizes and learn more about wildlife!



IWF's New Doxtater Interns!

IWF is very excited to have two talented interns joining us this summer! Brittany is a senior at Indiana University majoring in Journalism. Allison is a student in the Professional Masters' in Environmental Management and Sustainability program at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. Her internship with IWF is the last stage of the program. Welcome Brittany and Allison!

These internships are supported by the Doxtater Intern Fund established by Gary Doxtater in 2012.

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IWF Partners to Acquire 287 Acres for Public Outdoor Recreation

IWF joined with others to purchase land that will expand the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area for hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing, nature photography, and other outdoor recreational activities. Referred to as the Bruce Tract (80 acres) and the Spitler Tract (207 acres), these properties share boundaries with and are within the 22,742 acre authorized refuge and management area. These lands are now permanently protected by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and are open to the public. IWF funds were partly allocated to the land acquisition through a modified Consent Decree with Indiana Michigan Power. Other contributors included Land and Water Conservation Funds and Ducks Unlimited. This project is a great example of the power of partnership and shared resources.

IWF members had the opportunity to tour the property and enjoy a talk by Bill McCoy, Refuge Manager. One of the main missions of Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge is to provide resting, feeding, and nesting habitat for migratory birds. The Refuge is currently over 6600 acres and growing, thanks to this new 287 acre addition.

Legislative Update

Lots of hard work on the part of Indiana Wildlife Federation members and others helped shape outcomes during a very busy 2013-14 Indiana General Assembly session. Wildlife had some wins, but we weren't entirely pleased with all the outcomes. The biggest success was defeating the attempt by some legislators to legalize canned hunting - shooting captive raised deer in fenced pens (Senate Bill 404). Working with legislators to amend Senate Bill 52 that would have significantly reduced penalties for wildlife and natural resources violations resulted in a more palatable law.

This summer will see some natural resources activity in legislative study committees. Two topics to be discussed are Indiana's water resources, supply and demand, and management plan, and the captive cervid industry, associated disease and other risks. The committees will be announced later this month and we'll post schedules on the IWF website. All study committee meetings are open to the public.

The key bills and resolutions IWF followed and the results:

- **SB 52:** Criminal penalties and DNR. Opposed the original version that reduced most natural resources penalties to infractions. The bill was amended to reinstate some of the misdemeanor penalties. IWF is monitoring the impact of this legislation on the ability of conservation officers and prosecutors to protect our natural resources and wildlife.
- **SB 271:** Water resources study committee responsibilities. Supported. Passed. Directed a legislative committee to study water availability and demand to assure adequate supplies are available for citizens, businesses, and wildlife now and in the future.
- **SB 404:** Hunting preserves (canned hunting). Opposed. Stalled in Senate.
- **HB1005:** Government reduction. Opposed language that would have impacted Natural Resources Commission rule making ability. Bill was amended to remove the objectionable language. Passed
- **HB 1050:** Special circumstances hunting safety card. Supported. Passed. Allows more people with special needs to hunt with supervision. Passed.
- **HB 1307:** Various natural resource matters. Supported in general. Passed. Opposed the amendment that added life time hunting, fishing, trapping license subject to the Natural Resources Commission because they reduce federal grant dollars to DNR.
- **SJR 9:** Constitutional Right to Hunt, Fish, Harvest – Supported. Passed
- **SCR 4:** Hoosier Roadside Heritage Program – Supported. Passed.