



2018 INDIANA WILDLIFE CONFERENCE

Indiana Wildlife Federation will host our annual meeting on **November 10, 2018**. This year, we will be presenting an exciting wildlife-focused, one-day conference featuring presentations from IDNR, Partners of the White River, and David Mizejewski who will be showcasing birds from the Eagle Creek Ornithology Center! Attendees can enjoy lunch, learn about Indiana's important conservation work, and take part in our silent auction to support IWF.

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David Mizejewski

National Wildlife Federation
Naturalist and TV Personality

Presentations

Eagle Creek Ornithology Center, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and Partners of the White River will be presenting on the state of Indiana's conservation efforts, the successes of the non-game and endangered species program, and an up close and personal showcase of some of Indiana's most incredible birds!



Registration: \$35/Members | \$50/Non-members

Silent Auction



We will have many items up for auction with all proceeds supporting IWF's conservation work. There will be Ranger Rick goodies, a hand-made quilt, backpacks from Patagonia and so much more. Something for everyone!

Business Meeting

IWF thrives when our members take part in our process. Our business meeting is a democratic approach to setting our bylaws, where members can vote and have their say. This meeting will take place in the morning prior to the conference from 9 - 9:30 am.

Sponsors:



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear conservationists,

As you may know, America is in the midst of a wildlife crisis. According to the National Wildlife Federation, currently one-third of the wildlife in the United States is at risk of extinction. To compound the issue, our state agencies are woefully underfunded to address such a growing problem.

Recently a bipartisan measure was introduced by Representatives Fortenberry (R-NE) and Dingell (D-MI) that would redirect **\$1.3 billion dollars of existing revenues** annually to those state-led efforts—making Recovering America's Wildlife Act (HR 4647) the most significant investment in wildlife conservation in a generation.

Currently the bill has 80 bipartisan co-sponsors—37 Republicans and 43 Democrats agree that dedicated wildlife and conservation funding is good for their state. Unfortunately, **Recovering America's Wildlife Act has no co-sponsors in Indiana**. We need your help to change that!

Please contact your representative today and tell them that wildlife and conservation funding is important to Hoosiers. Tell them that Hoosier hikers, hunters, anglers, campers, birders, and wildlife watchers have created a strong outdoor consumer base that depends on healthy wildlife populations.

Visit [NWF's Action Fund Website](#) to tell your representative in Congress to save America's vulnerable wildlife by supporting Recovering America's Wildlife Act today!

Yours in conservation,

Emily Wood
Executive Director



Calendar Updates

August 16 - Carmel Parks "My Parks" Series

August 19 - INPAWS Habitat Workshop

August 24 - Next IN Campfires Hike

September 8 - Sierra Club Monarch Tagging

August 25 - Central District Gathering of the Herb Society

September 13 - DePauw Certification and Monarch Tagging

September 22 - Monarch Tagging

September 27 - Carmel Parks "My Parks" Series

September 29 - Beech Grove Workshop

October 4 - Brownsburg Park Planting with Duke Energy

November 10 - IWF Conservation Conference



Asian Carp Briefing

On July 21, the Asian Carp Briefing took place in Portage. IWF, along with partners Michigan United Conservation Clubs, Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, and National Wildlife Federation discussed the current state of the carp threat, methods for stemming the invasion, and actions the public can take to support the effort.

We are working to grow our group and improve the effectiveness of this effort, but there are already some ways you can get informed or get involved:

- You can listen to the [Conservation Country Podcast](#). Episode 1 is Asian Carp & Vanishing Paradise with Bill Cooksey
- Show your support with a [Stop Asian Carp! sticker](#) from Rep Your Water.

Finally, we need EVERYONE to join us in urging Congress to fund the **Brandon Road Lock and Dam** near Joliet, Illinois, a multi-technology defense intended to prevent Asian carp from reaching Lake Michigan. It is vital that we support this US Army Corps of Engineers project, so visit [NWF's Action Fund Site](#) to let your Senators and Representatives know you want them to stop Asian carp.

Summer fun with IWF



▲ Upland Brewing present IWF with a check from Sour Wild Funk Fest 2018



▲ Rafters enjoying a beautiful day on the White River



▲ IWF and our friends at Down Syndrome Indiana hiking at Holliday Park



▲ Wild Game Cookout at the State Fair



▲ Tagging and releasing monarch butterflies on the Urban Wilderness Trail

Monarch Tagging

Our award winning Monarch Tagging is back this year with more locations and dates! For the last two years, we have netted and tagged butterflies on the Urban Wilderness Trail on the White River. You can join us there again this year and we will be expanding to new locations thanks to the generous support we have received from **Duke Energy**. We'll be in Columbus, IN as we tag with our friends at the Sierra Club. Head over to the DePauw Nature Park to tag with us at one of our newly certified sites. You can even join us in tagging at the amazing Indy Zoo gardens!

Urban Wilderness Trail - As part of the White River Festival, we will be tagging monarchs on **September 15 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm**

DePauw Nature Park - To celebrate DePauw certifying their property, we will tag monarchs on their grounds on **September 13 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm**

Sierra Club - We will be tagging in Columbus, IN on **September 8 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm**

Indy Zoo - Join us in the Indy Zoo gardens on **August 18 from 9:30am - 11:30am**



Species Spotlight



Indiana Bat (Myotis sodalis)

The Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) was first discovered in 1904 in the Wyandotte Caves of southern Indiana. The Indiana bat is similar in appearance to other related species, so the size of the feet, length of the toe hairs, and presence of a keel on the calcar (a small flap of skin on the ankle of the bat) are characteristics used to differentiate the Indiana bat from other bats. They are beneficial bug eaters, feeding on a variety of insects including many night-flying insects and crop pests.

During summer, Indiana bats spend their time in forested habitats throughout the eastern United States. In winter they cluster and hibernate in caves. Since they gather and hibernate in large colonies, Indiana bats are vulnerable to human disturbance and disease, such as white nose syndrome, a fungal disease that infects bats during hibernation. According to the IN DNR, white nose syndrome has been found in 38 caves in Indiana.

Indiana bats are both a state and federally endangered species. A single event can have large effects on a population. Now more than ever, it is imperative to preserve Indiana bat habitats and inform the public about these creatures and their benefits to Indiana's ecosystem.



Holt Scholarship Recipient 2018

Meet Donna Riner of DePauw University



A deep awareness of our union with the Earth - our connection to everything green and growing - came to me as a senior at Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis. This awareness inspired a major in environmental biology at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. Mr. Huffman, my high school environmental science teacher told me, "Donna, go out and change the world!" Since then, I've been trying my best to do just that!

At DePauw, I am a Peterneil

Scholar, a member of the Environmental Fellows Program, a project manager for the Sustainability Leadership Program, president of Environmental Club, and treasurer for the new Fishing and Aquatic Education Club. My work volunteering at DePauw's 12 acre campus farm inspired me to pursue a farming and beekeeping apprenticeship at the Public Greens Urban Microfarm on the Monon Trail where I led field trips teaching the importance of pollinators and sustainable agriculture. This summer, I worked on a forest ecology field crew in the White Mountains of New Hampshire studying a beautiful hardwood ecosystem. I intend to blend my love of biology and community outreach working on the DePauw campus farm while educating the community about the interconnectedness of humans and the environment. In the future, I hope to operate my own organic farm to inspire healthy lifestyles within the community and educate people about creative opportunities to grow food, no matter where they live.

I am thrilled to work with the Indiana Wildlife Federation this fall to achieve Gold Level Conservation status at the DePauw Nature Park. I am incredibly humbled to receive the 2018 Holt Scholarship and I extend my deepest gratitude to IWF for both supporting me and the excellent work they do to protect Indiana's precious wildlife.

Habitat Programs Updates

Certified Habitat Workshop

Since May, we have presented to the Marion Co. Master Gardeners, the Wawasee Area Conservation Foundation in Syracuse, the Indy Zoo Conservation Educator Academy, and at the Greenwood Nature Center and Testing Lab. Thank you to all of these groups for inviting us to speak at your event!

For more information on our programs or to schedule a presentation, please contact Aaron at stump@indianawildlife.org.



Certified Sustainable Trails

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods is beautifying Lake LeFer as part of their certification, installing tables and benches made from recycled plastic and restoring native habitat. Brownsburg Parks will be planting a pollinator garden with Duke Energy volunteers. Additionally, Eagle Creek is adding ADA accessibility to their trails at the Scott Starling Nature Preserve thanks to a grant from REI.

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ADVERTISE HERE!

Does your business share the IWF vision of sustainable wildlife and wildlife habitats for Indiana? If your business would like to show its commitment to conservation and be highlighted for doing so through our communications and website, please contact us by email at info@indianawildlife.org or by phone at 317-875-9453