

How Landowners Can Help the Monarch Butterfly

The monarch butterfly is one of the most iconic butterflies in North America and is known in part for its annual multi-generational migration from overwintering sites in central Mexico and coastal California to as far north as Canada. Multiple critical population stressors including the loss and degradation of habitat across the species' range have led to a significant decrease in the number of monarchs in the U.S. over the past few decades.

Status of Monarch populations

New data detailing the abundance of the eastern monarch butterfly colonies wintering in central Mexico's forests estimate that the species occupied only 2.2 acres during the 2023-2024 winter season—59% less than the previous year when scientists observed 5.5 acres and the 2nd least on record. The annual survey is considered a benchmark for the overall abundance of the species.

In December 2020, after an extensive status assessment of the monarch butterfly, the US Fish & Wildlife Service determined that listing the monarch under the Endangered Species Act is warranted but precluded at this time by higher priority listing actions. On July 21, 2022, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) announced the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*) has entered the

IUCN Red List of Threatened Species as Endangered.

This listing was the first time the monarch butterfly was officially been declared at risk of extinction. (Source: USF&W Service). A recent publication indicates substantial probability for "quasi-extinction" of the Eastern monarch butterfly migratory population within

20 years if ambitious habitat restoration and conservation goals are not achieved. Quasi-extinction means that the population reaches levels that are so low that it would be unlikely to recover. (Source: Monarch Joint Venture, <https://monarchjointventure.org/faq/endangered-species-act.>)



Monarch adult and larva on milkweed in perennial garden.

Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org

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Save the Date

Indiana Woodland Owner Conference November 1-2



Roundtable discussions at the annual meeting give landowners a chance to share ideas and get their questions answered.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us in Wabash County for field tours, networking and learning opportunities. On Friday we look forward to a morning state forest tour and an afternoon landowner tour. Highlights of our Saturday program at the Honeywell Event Center are keynotes on Succession Planning and the new Let the Sun Shine In program. We have all kinds of opportunities to learn from experts and fellow landowners alike. See more information about the meeting on pages 10-11. See you there!

IFWOA OFFICERS

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Requesting Sponsorships for Annual Meeting

IFWOA relies on meeting sponsorships to help cover our costs and give you the best meeting possible. Please consider sponsoring all or part of an event or a general donation toward the meeting, see the registration form.

Friday dinner	\$2000
Saturday PM break	\$400
Saturday keynote sponsor	\$200
Saturday lunch	\$2700
Saturday awards dinner	\$3500
Saturday bar service	\$750



UPCOMING EVENTS

See registration and more information at www.ifwoa.org/events.

September 17

@ 8:00 am - 9:30 am
Breakfast with a Forester
Round the Clock
Restaurant, LaPorte

September 17

@ 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Women 4 the Land
Pollinator program:
Newburgh

September 21

@ 9:00 am - 12:30 pm,
Chainsaw Safety & Tree
Felling Training
Greene County Extension
Office

September 21

@ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Nature Daze, Brown
County

September 21

@ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Invasive Plant Control
Training for Landowners
Dubois County

September 25

@ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Webinar: Invasive Grasses
of the Midwest

September 28

@ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Forestry field day: Jackson
County

October 5

@ 9:30 am - 2:30 pm
Forestry field tour:
Whitley County

October 10

@ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Women 4 the Land
Forestry Women's
Learning Circle:
Fountain and Warren
Counties

October 15

@ 8:00 am - 9:30 am
Breakfast with a Forester
Christos Family Dining,
Plymouth

October 26

@ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Chainsaw training Level 1
Morgan Monroe State
Forest

November 1- 2

2024 Indiana Woodland
Owner Conference
Wabash

November 12

@ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
IFWOA Member Zoom
Session

October 5

@ 8 am - 12 pm
Forestry field tour:
Shelby County





A MESSAGE FROM THE IFWOA PRESIDENT



Lee Huss, IFWOA president

In my last article in the June issue of Leaves & Limbs, at the end of my message I mention both opportunities and challenges for IFWOA and woodland owners for the future. After six years on the IFWOA board of directors and the last three years serving as President, I want to share my perspective and expand upon these topics.

Opportunities

Currently the amount of federal cost share dollars for private woodland owners is at a record high level. If you are able to navigate the paperwork with the assistance of your local NRCS office, there is funding available for a wide variety of forest management activities. This funding also makes it a great time to be a professional forester. The problem is that the few foresters we have are extremely busy.

This November there is a good chance that an IFWOA and Walnut Council member could become Governor of Indiana. As one of the largest private woodland owners in the state, Mike Braun is knowledgeable on the hardwood industry and many forest management issues. This is an opportunity to have the highest elected office in the state to champion private woodlands.

The use of artificial intelligence in forestry will be transformative. The digital forestry initiatives at Purdue and other universities are transforming forest data collection. This will provide a more complete picture of forest species and volume and will lead to better forest management decisionmaking.

Challenges

For IFWOA to be sustainable we need to increase our membership numbers and membership activities. This is not a challenge that is unique to IFWOA, as other likeminded associations struggle with this as well. In my opinion our brand should be "Excellence in private forest woodland management" as we strive for and reward the best in private woodland management. In our challenge to be relevant, we

will need to constantly survey our members to ensure we deliver timely information on topics of interest to members. Working to strengthen our relationship with our various partners will also be critical going forward.

In closing I hope to see you at our annual meeting November 1st and 2nd in Wabash. As always, the Friday field day provides a great opportunity to walk in the woods. Both days you will meet other passionate woodland owners and experience excellence in private woodland management.

Lee Huss

l.huss@comcast.net



IFWOA board members met near Nashville for their Spring board meeting.

Chainsaw Workshop for Woodland Owners

Saturday, October 26 • 8:00 AM-4 PM

Morgan Monroe State Forest Training Center

Registration cost \$25

Limited to 14 participants

This workshop will have classroom plus outdoor demonstration of:

- personal protective equipment
- chainsaw safety features
- introduction to felling and TSI techniques

Participants should dress to be outdoors and bring a sack lunch, a chainsaw, and PPE if you have it. Coffee and drinks will be provided. Ending time is approximate. Instruction by Joe Glenn, certified trainer. See more info at www.ifwoa.org/events. Register at ifwoa1@gmail.com or (765) 496-5013.

This workshop is hosted by IFWOA with financial support from Indiana Tree Farm Committee and Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation in coordination with the Indiana Division of Forestry.

District 1

2026: Claude Diehl
8315 State Road 26 W
West Lafayette, IN 47906
(765) 583-0526
diehl421@gmail.com

2024: Hugh Pence
1420 Adams St.
Lafayette, IN. 47905
(765) 742-4269
hughbpence@gmail.com

District 2

2025: Bill Freeman
7839 Bellsville Pike
Nashville, IN 47448
(317) 432-5241
billfreeman@tudorhill.net

2024: Raoul Moore
11 Locust Hill
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
(765) 230-6282
raoulmoo@gmail.com

District 3

2026: John Stambaugh
182 Pinhook Rd
Bedford, IN 47421
(812) 863-7272
forester@custom.net

2026: Dan Lynch
9715 Trilobi Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46236
(317) 823-0793
dflynch4@comcast.net

District 4

2025: Barbara Harcourt
4937 W 900 S
Milroy, IN 46115
(765) 629-2532
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District 5

2025: Judi Brown
6800 S. Kyana Rd.
Birdseye, IN 47513
(812) 236-2243
judik27@hughes.net

2024: Jim Hochgesang
3334 E Schnellville Rd
Jasper, IN 47546-3437
(812) 634-1814

At Large

(representing all districts)

2025: Don Fry
1816 Ravinia Rd
West Lafayette, IN 47906
(765) 430-8060
dbj4715@aol.com

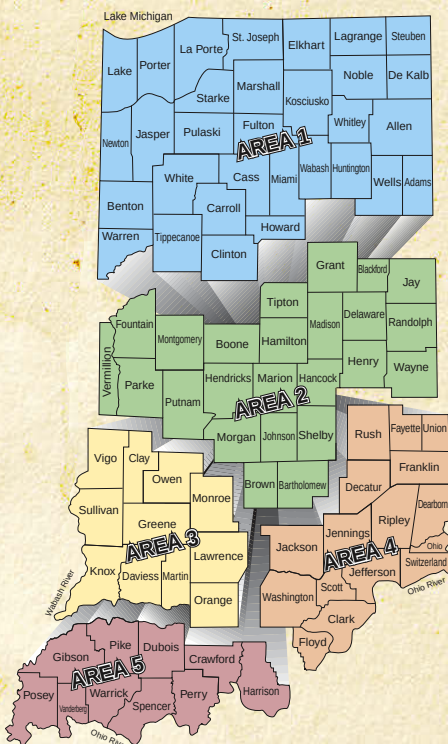
2025: Lenny Farlee
715 W. Mitch Daniels Blvd
West Lafayette, IN 47907
lfarlee@purdue.edu

2026: Richard Newton
9611 S. 425 E.
Marengo, IN 47140
(812) 365-2495
cedarman@netpointe.com

2024: Steve Wertz
(see officers on page 2)

2024: Lee Huss
(see officers on page 2)

2025: John Roark
PO Box 343
Pittsboro, IN 46167
(317) 847-1633
roarkbrowncountyfarm@gmail.com



Slate Selected for IFWOA Board Elections

The slate of candidates for the election of the Board of Directors for the next 3-year term (2025-2027) is:

District 1:	OPEN
District 2:	Raoul Moore (Crawfordsville)
District 5	OPEN
At large:	Steve Wertz (Goldsmith)
	Lee Huss (Spencer)

The final slate will be presented for approval at the November annual meeting.

IFWOA Board Seeking Interested Members

We are always looking for volunteers to serve on the board in the future. Board members are asked to participate in person or via phone at 4 board meetings per year plus provide voluntary input on monthly email discussions about IFWOA strategic directions and activities. They are also asked to judge district Deam nominations in July each year. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact the office at 765-496-5013 or email ifwoa1@gmail.com. The Nominating Committee will review any potential candidates and select the final slate.

Indiana Landowners to be Recognized for their Stewardship

Four Charles Deam Forestry Stewardship Award district finalists, along with their nominators, will be recognized at the awards presentation at our annual meeting banquet the evening of Saturday, November 2nd in Wabash. As usual, this year's finalists embody the purpose of the Deam Award; they are model examples of landowners practicing some of the best forest stewardship in the state.

The district finalists who will be recognized are:

District 1: Pence Revington, White County, nominated by Katelyn Walker, White County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)

District 2: Thomas & Lynn Webb, Putnam County, nominated by Sara Campfield, Putnam County SWCD

District 3: Chris Lambdin, Orange County, nominated by Orange County SWCD

District 4: Stephen Baldwin, Washington County, nominated by Washington County SWCD

The state winner will be selected by a team of state judges during a late September tour of each of the properties. All finalists receive a plaque and the state winner also receives a property sign and \$100 check.

District Nominees Share their Passion

The Deam awards program accepts nominations from around the state. From the statewide nominations, a finalist from each district was selected after a property tour. There were no nominations from District 5. In the first round of judging, all the nominees from each district are visited by IFWOA board members, and one is selected to represent their district as a finalist.

IFWOA would like to recognize these other first round nominees for their stewardship and passion for woodland management. We thank them for the efforts and taking the time to let us visit their property:

- Gus & Alyssa Nyberg, nominated by Bri Styck, Newton SWCD
- Randy Showalter, nominated Penelope Tomes, Wabash SWCD
- Dave Benson, nominated by Mike Smith, Tippecanoe SWCD
- Kim & Andy Bonham, nominated by Benjamin Wilson, IN Division of Forestry



At the 2023 judging tours, Deam co-winner Allen Royer discusses his forest management with a state judge.

- Hessler Family Farms, nominated by Mike Warner, ArborTerra Forestry
- Ronald Wathen Sr, nominated by Angel Jackson, Floyd County SWCD

Distinguished Foresters to be Recognized

Also at the awards program, we will recognize foresters who have shown exemplary service to Indiana forestry with the John F. Datena Distinguished Forester Service award. Foresters are a critical "support system and resource for private landowners across the state and can help us be successful. This "Hall of Fame" award is selected from foresters nominated and selected by IFWOA, Society of American Foresters, and Association of Consulting Foresters working together. We look forward to honoring this year's class on November 2nd.

Helping the Monarch Butterfly continued from page 1

What threats does the monarch face?

The primary drivers affecting the health of the two North American migratory populations are changes in breeding, migratory, and overwintering habitat (due to conversion of grasslands to agriculture, urban development, widespread use of herbicides, logging/thinning at overwintering sites in Mexico, unsuitable management of overwintering groves in California, and drought), continued exposure to insecticides, and effects of climate change. (USF&W Service)

NRCS Working Lands Initiative: Monarch Butterfly

NRCS is working with America's farmers, ranchers, and forest managers on voluntary conservation efforts to combat the decline of monarchs on private lands by establishing new habitat and managing existing habitat for monarchs and pollinators.

The orange-and-black butterfly is known for its annual, multi-generational migration from Mexico to as far north as Canada. Monarch butterflies depend on milkweed to lay their eggs during the journey. But monarch populations have decreased significantly over the past two decades, in part because of the decrease in native plants, including milkweed, on which their caterpillars feed. Agriculture and development have removed much of the native milkweed that once spanned the country. Because monarch butterflies are always on the move, they need to have the right plants at the right time along their migration route. Caterpillars need to feed on milkweed to complete their life cycle, and adult butterflies need the right nectar producing plants in bloom for needed energy.



Photo credit Peter Wirtz, Bugwood.org

Agricultural Producers are Part of the Solution

NRCS is working with agricultural producers in the Midwest and southern Great Plains to combat the decline of monarch butterflies by planting milkweed and other nectar-rich plants on private lands. This region, which includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas and Wisconsin, is the core of the monarch's migration route and breeding habitat.

Milkweed not only provides food for monarchs; it also supports other pollinators such as honey bees that are vital to agriculture. Milkweed also provides homes for beneficial insects that control the spread of destructive insects.

Meanwhile, NRCS conservation practices that benefit monarch butterflies and other insects also help reduce erosion, increase soil health, control invasive species, provide quality forage for livestock and make agricultural operations more resilient and productive. NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to implement these practices, helping producers improve working lands and strengthening rural economies.

Own or manage land here? You can help.

NRCS offers technical and financial assistance to help landowners manage for monarch habitat on farms, ranches and forests. This assistance helps producers plan and implement a variety of conservation activities, or practices, that benefit the monarch, pollinators and many other wildlife species.

Technical assistance is free to producers. The agency's staff of experts and conservation partners work side-by-side with



Photo credit Steven Katovich, bugwood.org

producers to develop a conservation plan. Each plan focuses on monarch habitat management and is tailored to the producer's property. These plans provide a roadmap for how to use a system of conservation practices to meet natural resource and production goals. NRCS worked with The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation and butterfly experts across the United States to choose the best milkweed species and nectar producing plants to recommend for landowners. Plant lists are available for producers in the Midwest and southern Great Plains.

With financial assistance from NRCS, producers and conservation partners can plant milkweed and nectar-rich plants along field borders, in buffers along waterways or around wetlands, in pastures and other suitable locations.

Working Lands for Wildlife

The Monarch is a nationally identified target species of the Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW) (<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/working-lands-for-wildlife>) partnership, a collaborative approach to conserve habitat on working lands. NRCS collaborated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, enabling the species to be added to the effort in 2017.

Through WLFW, NRCS targets conservation efforts where the returns are highest by targeting the threat of habitat loss. WLFW is able to provide technical and financial assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program and Conservation Stewardship Program, three programs funded through the Farm Bill, the largest funding source for wildlife habitat conservation on private lands.

The above NRCS Monarch initiatives from the USDA NRCS website at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/monarch-butterflies>.

General Resources

Natural Resources Conservation Service Monarch resources: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/monarch-butterflies>

Pollinator Resources from NRCS Plant Materials Centers: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/resources/guides-and-instructions/resources-to-help-pollinators>

Monarch Joint Venture: <https://monarchjointventure.org/>

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation: <https://xerces.org/monarchs>

Welcome New Members!

Thank you to our new Life members who have committed to IFWOA for the long term, we appreciate your support!

Adam & Madalyn Berendes, Greenville, NC

Please join us in welcoming these new annual members who have joined since the last newsletter:

Stephen & Elizabeth Baldwin, Floyds Knobs

Mike Brubaker, Rochester

Daniel Hesler, Kingman

David & Sandra McCabe, Fishers

Elise Barrett & Robert Saler, New Palestine

Chad Stines, Bloomington

Pence Walnut Plantation and Hensler Nursery, Inc.



One of many of our 27-year-old *Superb* trees

"Pence Select" Walnut Seedlings

Available for the 2025 planting season. These seedlings will be from nuts gathered from the 200 best trees of the 44,000 in the Hugh Pence walnut plantation in Indiana.

For More Information Contact:



**Hensler
Nursery, Inc.**

5715 North 750 East
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www.ifwoa.org

10 Weird Ways You Could Be Spreading Invasive Species

By Matthew L. Miller, The Nature Conservancy

Originally published in The Cool Green Science blog of the Nature Conservancy on November 8, 2016. Edited and adapted for length.

Invasive species: they're everywhere. And you could be inadvertently spreading them while you're outside having fun, working around the yard, or even doing your holiday shopping.

While attending the recent Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference, I was struck at some of the strange ways invasive species get spread. Oftentimes, we have only our bad choices to blame – introducing new infestations and causing damage to native ecosystems, agriculture and human health in the process.

Some reasons invasive species spread are hopefully relegated to the past. But others are still spreading due to our decisions. Making slight alterations in behavior, you can make a huge difference for conservation.

Here are 10 of the unusual ways invasives can be spread. There are many more.

1. Running Shoes: *What You Can Do:* Clean your outdoor gear after each outing, especially if you are moving it to a new area. The Play-Clean-Go campaign (<https://playcleango.org/>) offers excellent tips to “stop invasives in your tracks.”

2. Aquariums and Backyard Ponds: *What You Can Do:* Don't set pets (of any kind) free, ever. At best, it's inhumane, and at worst you've introduced an invasive species. Dispose of aquatic plants in plastic bags. The Reduce Invasive Plant and Pet Escapes (RIPPLE) campaign offers many resources to responsibly take care of your aquarium's residents, without causing the next aquatic nuisance.

3. Firewood: This one may not be surprising due to the wildly successful Don't Move Firewood campaign. But it bears repeating. Oftentimes, dead or dying trees are cut to sell for home firewood use or camping. These trees may be dying due to forest pests.

When you move firewood long distances, you can be transporting a host of nasties, including the emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle. These pests exact a heavy toll on our forests. Don't help move them into new areas.

What You Can Do: Buy it where you burn it. Support local firewood providers and don't move wood around. The Don't Move Firewood campaign (www.dontmovefirewood.org) can help – and they have really great graphics and videos to help spread the word on social media.

4. Artificial Christmas Trees: Many artificial trees have wooden bases, and they're often manufactured in China. Some surprised customers have opened their tree box and found beetles or grubs. These turned out to be brown fir longhorn beetles, a species with the potential to wreak havoc on native trees. Since

1999, 20 brown fir longhorn beetles have been reported in artificial trees. When this happens, all the trees in that shipment have to be tracked down and incinerated.

What You Can Do: In a global society, species move around. Having better invasive species protocol for imported goods is vital. But you can play a role: if you see an unusual creature in something you've bought, report it.

5. Leaf Piles: Many of us are raking our backyards right now, piling up leaves to be carried away or composted. Those leaf piles are fun to jump into, but they may also be harboring a nasty invasive worm.

Asian jumping worms churn through leaf litter in northern forests, altering biodiversity and soil chemistry. These worms live along the surface, in leaf litter, and lay their eggs there. Their cocoons are difficult to notice so they may end up in a leaf pile. When those leaf piles are bagged and transported away, the worm spreads.

What You Can Do: Adult Asian jumping worms are quite distinctive. The cocoons, though, are so tiny that they're impossible to find. However, if you buy compost, make sure it has been heat treated to kill any pests.

6. Fishing Bait: *What You Can Do:* Some states regulate the use of bait to native species, a wise policy. But whatever your state regulations, don't dump your bait after you're done fishing. Dispose of it away from water.

7. Truckloads of Pigs: Numerous pig infestations have occurred when a local hunter and fenced hunt operator imports a truckload of feral pigs from another state. Hogs root up ground-nesting birds, native plants, mushrooms, reptiles and farms. Once established, they're tough to stop.

What You Can Do: I suspect if you are loading up a truck with feral hogs, you're not reading this blog. But all of us can report hog sightings. And hunters can clean up our act. Hunting shows and outdoor magazines often trumpet that hunters are the best line of defense against feral hogs. The truth is, hunters are the ones spreading them around. I'm a hunter. I've hunted hogs. But let's be clear: hunters are causing this problem and it's up to us to fix it.

8. Over-Abundant White-tailed Deer: *What You Can Do:* Unlike others on the list, this one may not seem like a direct human impact. But the over-abundant whitetail population is a direct result of human intervention. Hunters want more deer. Animal rightists don't want to kill deer. This overprotection of the deer herd has many consequences, of which invasive plants are just one. All of us have a responsibility to advocate for community-based deer management and lower herd numbers.

9. Tourist Attractions: In the early 1900s, a Maryland Boy Scout troop came up with a novel fundraising idea: They'd feature

Indiana Woodland Owner Conference Tours

November 1 Morning Tour: Salamonie River State Forest

Join the optional morning tour as we visit the nearby state forest with Division of Forestry staff. Meet at the property (follow signs for parking) for an approximately 1-mile round trip walk to see a past harvest site and discuss the harvest, current conditions, and future management of the area. Accommodations can be made for riding on request. Lunch is on your own, bring a sack lunch or return to Wabash and eat at a local restaurant near US 24/ SR15 (Cass Street). Read more about the state forest on page 16.



We will discuss the planting plan, previous management, and future needs of this mixed hardwood plantation on the afternoon forestry field tour.

Alternate Morning Tour: Whetstone Woodenware

Located in Silver Lake, a father and son duo hand crafts beautiful wooden kitchen tools from locally sourced hard maple. Tour of the production and shop at 108 E Main Street, Silver Lake. No restrooms, wear closed toed shoes. See <https://www.whetstonewoodenware.com/>. This tour is concurrent with the State Forest tour. Lunch is on your own.



November 1 Afternoon Tour: Silver Creek Forest

Silver Creek forest has been managed by multiple generations of the Baker/Solano family for over 40 years. The family was recognized in 2011 as the state winner of the Charles Deam Forest Stewardship Award. The 240-acre property includes 93 acres of plantations that were converted from highly erodible crop fields and planted in the CRP program. The plantations range in age from 28-40 years old with varying mixes of species and quality. The remaining native stands have a broad mix of species, quality, and size. Topics planned for the afternoon tour include:

- Plantation establishment and current and future management
- Natural forests with ash harvest/improvement harvests
- Woodcock habitat establishment
- Invasive species management
- Beech/maple climax stand and objectives

The tour will include about two hours of walking along maintained and mostly flat trails. The property is approximately 25 minutes north of US24 in Wabash at 1200 S and 425 W, Silver Lake. Watch for field tour signs.

Alternate Afternoon Tour: Hathaway Nature Preserve at Ross Run

Land Trust staff will provide a guided tour of a local nature preserve on Friday, November 1st from 2-3:30. Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run near Wabash features a spectacular gorge with waterfalls, reef fossils, exposed bedrock and vertical cliffs as high as 75 feet. Ross Run gorge is a unique geological feature shaped by the region's deglaciation. Diverse cliffside micro-habitats line its steep sides. From a trail running along the top of the gorge, visitors can enjoy the sights and sounds of the creek below.

The surrounding woods feature mature oaks, some with trunks over four feet in diameter. The preserve provides habitat for a variety of wildlife, including birds such as the red-bellied woodpecker, red-eyed vireo, sedge wren and Henslow's sparrow. (No restrooms available) From the Acres Land Trust website: <https://acreslandtrust.org/preserve/hathaway-preserve-at-ross> <https://acreslandtrust.org/preserve/hathaway-preserve-at-ross-run/>.

www.ifwoa.org

Indiana Woodland Owner Conference 2024 Meeting Highlights

Friday November 1st Program Summary

Salamonie River State Forest Tour (9:15-11:15 AM ET) Join the optional morning tour as we tour the nearby state forest with Division of Forestry staff. Meet at the property for an approximately 1-mile round trip walk to see a past harvest site and discuss the harvest, current conditions, and future management of the area.

Alternate Morning Tour: Whetstone Woodenware (10-11:30 AM) Located in Silver Lake, a father and son duo hand crafts beautiful wooden kitchen tools from locally sourced hard maple. Tour of the production and shop at 108 E Main Street, Silver Lake. No restrooms, wear closed toed shoes.

Silver Creek Forest Tour (1:15-3:30 PM) The afternoon forestry field tour will be at the Silver Creek Forest (1200 S and 425 W, Silver Lake, approx. 25 minutes north of Wabash, watch for turn signs). Landowners and local resource professionals will discuss various woodland management topics. See page 9 for details.

Alternate afternoon program: Tour of Hathaway Nature Preserve at Ross Run, (2:00-3:30 PM), 1866 E Baumbauer Rd, Wabash Hosted by Acres Land Trust, property stewards, this preserve features a spectacular gorge with waterfalls, reef fossils, exposed bedrock and vertical cliffs as high as 75 feet. This tour is concurrent with the property tour.

Friday evening optional activities- Honeywell Center After the tours, join the IFWOA board for an optional buffet dinner at Honeywell Center Legacy Hall, 275 W Market, Wabash. (\$20 charge for dinner, pay at door with cash or check) New landowners and first-time attendees can choose marked tables to meet board members and other landowners.

After dinner, Indiana DNR Division of Forestry director John Seifert will update on Division of Forestry activities related to private lands, nurseries, and state forests, as well as some exciting new forestry initiatives.

Saturday November 2nd Program Summary

Pre-program optional activities For those who have spent the night or live in the area we will have early optional activities before the 10 AM program start:

- **New landowner bootcamp with a professional forester.** If you are new to landownership, you may have questions or concerns or want a better understanding of concepts. Join a local consulting forester to have a more in-depth discussion.
- **District open discussions.** Join board members and other "neighbors" from your district for networking and small group discussions where you can share your ideas and concerns about woodland management and ownership.

Kid's program (10 AM – 4:15 PM) – Drop off your kids or grandkids (ages 5 & up) for some supervised activities. Lunch break is with parents. **Register in advance, walk-ins are not guaranteed a space.**

Silent auction: The silent auction tables will be open Saturday, closing approximately at the end of the afternoon business meeting.

Opening Keynote: First steps in succession planning: *Phil Woolery, Purdue Extension.* Phil will discuss steps you can take to help ensure your property transfers to the next generation while continuing your objectives and long-term vision.

Conservation easements: *Jon Zirkle, Wood-Land-Lakes RC&D.* Conservation easements are a tool that can be used to conserve land in a natural condition while the owner retains the rights. Jon will discuss the ins and outs of easements and where they might be a good fit.

Indiana hardwood markets & industry update: *Chris Gonso, IN State Dept of Ag/IN DNR.* Chris will provide an update on the state of markets, pricing trends, and hardwood imports and exports.

Safe & effective use of herbicides: *Dugan Julian, State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management, SICIM.* Learn about some general guidelines to keep yourself and your property safe from harm, while making sure your herbicide use is effective.

Roundtable discussions- Meet in small groups to discuss a variety of topics: Timber taxes, Tips and tricks to interest the family, USDA programs, Tools for invasive control, Estate/succession planning, Installing a tree planting, Having a timber sale, Wetlands management (final topics TBD).

Update on spotted lanternfly in Indiana: *Eric Biddinger, IN DNR Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology, DEPP.* The invasive insect spotted lanternfly was discovered in Indiana in 2021 and is now found in at least 12 counties. Learn more about SLF, how it will impact Indiana's environment, and what DEPP is doing to survey and monitor SLF.

Grasslands for Gamebirds and Songbirds program: *Adam DeLucenay, IN DNR Division of Wildlife.* The Grasslands for Gamebirds and Songbirds Program (GGS) provides technical and financial assistance to develop and/or improve grassland wildlife friendly habitat in selected regions of Indiana. Learn if you qualify and how to get started.

Tree of Heaven control: *Lenny Farlee, Purdue Forestry & Natural Resources Extension.* Tree-of-heaven (TOH) is a serious threat as an invasive species and a challenge to control. Lenny will discuss TOH identification and some strategies to control and manage TOH.

Climate smart forestry & carbon markets: *Liz Jackson, IFWOA/ Purdue Forestry & Natural Resources.* Climate and carbon are two words that are constantly in the news these days. What can landowners do to keep their trees healthy and resilient under greater stresses, and is there money to be made selling carbon?

Closing keynote: Let the Sun Shine In (LSSI): *Judi Brown, LSSI Coordinator.* LSSI is a new regional collaboration focused on recovering and maintaining oak-hickory ecosystems for the benefit of both wildlife and the people of southern Indiana.

Evening awards banquet and live auction to benefit IFEF – Stay for the optional evening awards banquet as we recognize the Charles Deam Forest Stewardship Award finalists and John F. Datena Distinguished foresters. After the ceremony participate in the entertaining live auction with proceeds benefiting the Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation.

2024 Indiana Woodland Owner Conference

November 1-2 • Honeywell Center, Wabash

Friday, November 1st

- 9:15 – 11:15 AM **Optional morning field tour, Salamonie River State Forest**
 10:00 – 11:15 Alternate tour of Whetstone Woodenware
 11:15 – 12:45 Lunch on your own (sack lunch or purchase in Wabash or Silver Lake)
 1:15 – 3:30 **Afternoon tour.** Silver Creek Forest, (1200S and 425W, Silver Lake)
 2:00 – 3:30 **Alternate program: Hathaway Nature Preserve at Ross Run, hosted by Acres Land Trust**
 3:30 – 4:00 Travel to Holiday Inn Express/check in, 1311 Cass St, Wabash
 4:00 Registration desk opens in main lobby
 4:00 – 5:30 Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation board meeting, Honeywell Center (guests welcome)
 6:00 – 7:15 **Optional buffet dinner** at Honeywell Center Legacy Hall, 275 W Market, Wabash. (\$20 charge for dinner, pay at door with cash or check) New landowners/1st time guests can choose to sit at marked tables to meet board members and other landowners.
 7:00 – 8:00 **Evening program: Indiana DNR Division of Forestry update, John Seifert**

Saturday, November 2nd *All events at the Honeywell Center Legacy room unless noted*

- 7:15 – 8:30 AM IFWOA Board of Directors meeting (guests welcome)
 9:00 Registration desk and Silent Auction open
 9 AM – 9:45 Optional networking and coffee- Choose from two options:
 1-Meet at tables by district to meet others in your area for open discussion
 2-New landowner bootcamp with a professional forester for Q&A and discussion
 10:00 – 4:15 Kids program
 10:00 **Opening/Welcome**
 10:10 – 10:55 **Keynote: First steps in succession planning-Phil Woolery, Purdue Extension**
 10:55 – 11:05 Rotation
 11:05 – 11:40 **Safe & effective use of herbicides-Dugan Julian, SICIM**
Conservation easements- Jon Zirkle, Wood-Land-Lakes RC&D (Rink room)
Indiana hardwood markets & industry update- Chris Gonso, IN State Dept of Ag (Honeywell room)
 11:40 – 11:50 Rotation/break
 11:50 – 12:20 **Roundtable discussions- final topics TBD:**
 - Timber taxes
 - Estate/succession planning
 - Tips and tricks to interest the family
 - Installing a tree planting
 - USDA programs
 - Having a timber sale
 - Tools for invasive control
 - Wetlands management
 12:20 – 1:25 Lunch
 1:25 – 2:00 **Update on Spotted Lanternfly in Indiana, Eric Biddinger, IN DNR DEPP**
 2:00 – 2:10 Rotation
 2:10 – 2:45 **Tree of Heaven Control- Lenny Farlee, Purdue FNR Extension**
Climate Smart Forestry & Carbon Markets- Liz Jackson, IFWOA/Purdue FNR (Rink room)
Grasslands for Gamebirds and Songbirds Program- Adam DeLucenay, IN DNR Division of Wildlife (Honeywell room)
 2:45 – 2:55 Rotation/break
 2:55 – 3:25 **IFWOA and IFEF business meeting and policy updates**
 3:20 Silent auction closes
 3:25 – 4:00 **Closing Keynote- Let the Sun Shine In (LSSI)- Judi Brown, LSSI Coordinator**
 4:00 – 4:15 Closing/Pick up silent auction items
 4:45 – 5:15 Social time with cash bar, live auction items displayed
 5:15 – 7:45 PM **IFWOA Awards Banquet and IFEF Live Auction**

Agenda may be subject to change. See <https://www.ifwoa.org/resources/annual-woodland-owner-conference/> for updates.

Sponsored by the Indiana Forestry & Woodland Owners Association with support from Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation, Purdue University Forestry & Natural Resources Extension, Indiana Association of Consulting Foresters and Indiana Tree Farm Committee.
 This conference is funded in part by the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA).

Help Support IFEF at the Annual Meeting

Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation will again be fundraising at our annual meeting in November. All monies raised at the auctions help support IFEF in providing educational programs throughout the year, including support of the IFWOA annual meeting and the small grants program to other partner organizations. These programs support forestry education for preK-grade 12 students, teachers, the public, and landowners like us.

This is a great place to shop for gifts for family and friends—after all, the holidays are fast approaching. It's also fun trying to outbid your competitors! There is always a very wide range of items available, and you would be hard pressed to not find something you like. The Silent Auction will run through Saturday afternoon and close by the end of the day program. The live auction will be during the evening awards banquet.

Please consider donating an item for the auction to support IFEF. Tools for working on your property, nature and outdoor items, and home goods and



décor are always popular. Besides the silent auction, there will be raffles and a chance to donate directly to IFEF. Past raffle items have included chainsaws, pruners, safety equipment and herbicides. If you have something to bring to the auction or questions, contact Liz Jackson at (765) 496-5013 or jackson@purdue.edu. Thanks for your support!
Janet Eger, Auction Chair

Annual Meeting Hotel Reservations- Reserve by September 30

Call the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Wabash at 1-260-569-1189 through September 30 for the special rate. A block of rooms is available for \$119 + tax. Ask for the Indiana Forestry & Woodland Owners Association group.

The hotel is located at 1311 North Cass St, Wabash (behind the Kroger). Hotel website is https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/wabash/wabin/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps_-_EX_-_US_-_WABIN. Rooms must be cancelled 7 days prior. The hotel is 2 miles (6 minutes) north of the Honeywell Center, site of the Friday evening and Saturday Events.

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New Federal Grants to Support Private Lands Management

Lake Monroe Water Fund Secures Grant for Indiana Forests to Faucets Project:

Lake Monroe Water Fund is proud to announce the receipt of a substantial grant for our Indiana Forests to Faucets: Native Landscapes for Clean Water project. This funding, awarded by the U.S. Forest Service's Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) program for the Northeast and Midwest, includes \$213,336 in federal funds, matched by \$213,354 in non-federal contributions. The total funds will support three vital conservation projects in the Lake Monroe watershed area, located in the heart of the Southern Indiana Sentinel Landscape.

The forest ecosystem surrounding Lake Monroe is essential for maintaining the water quality of the lake, the sole source of municipal drinking water for nearly 130,000 customers in Bloomington, IN. The Indiana Forests to Faucets project aims to preserve and enhance watershed function through several initiatives, including invasive plant mitigation, planting native trees, educating the public, and providing technical assistance to private landowners.

Over the course of three years, the project will involve on-the-ground invasive plant mitigation on public land, primarily in Yellowwood State Forest, conducted by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Additionally, the Town of Nashville will benefit from community outreach efforts, invasive tree removal from town property and rights of way, and the replacement of those trees with native species. Private landowners will receive technical assistance from a grant-funded position overseen by SICIM (State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management) and hosted by the Brown County Soil & Water Conservation District office.

Expected outcomes of the project include improved watershed function through invasive plant mitigation on 20,000 acres, the provision of 120 native trees and 12,000 native seedlings, engagement with 25 private landowners impacting 250 acres, and the utilization of over 800 volunteer hours for invasive Weed Wrangles®, public outreach, and tree planting and care. The grant agreement is currently being processed, with the project anticipated to begin in early 2025.

Ready-Set-Fire in White Oak Woodlands: The Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration partnership is a collaborative effort between USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the US Forest Service that aims to work with private, state, and Tribal landowners to conserve forest and agricultural land alongside federally managed lands

while safeguarding communities by reducing the impact of wildfire threats and protecting water quality and supply.

Indiana received funding for the Ready-Set-Fire in White Oak Woodlands proposal in June of 2024 with the expectation of three years of funding for NRCS and USFS totaling \$7.9 million.

The Ready-Set-Fire in White Oak Woodlands project will fund prescribed fire along with numerous forest management projects across 16 counties in southern Indiana in an effort to improve habitat for at risk species and reduce wildfire risk. The combination of forest management and prescribed fire will restore and reinvigorate the declining white oak woodlands and associated fire-dependent plant communities, prepare sites to deal with future increased wildfire risk, and aid in forest resiliency to the impacts of a changing climate.

NRCS and the US Forest Service are partnering with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the Southern Indiana Sentinel Landscape (SISL), the IDNR Division of Forestry, and the Central Hardwood Joint Ventures – Let the Sun Shine In (LSSI) program in Indiana to increase the amount of forest stand improvement, non-native invasive species control, and appropriate prescribed fire that is implemented in Brown, Crawford, Dubois, Floyd, Greene, Harrison, Jackson, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Morgan, Orange, Owen, Perry, Putnam, and Washington County in Indiana.

The Hoosier National Forest (HNF) will be partnering with The Nature Conservancy to develop a prescribed fire strike team that will help increase the capacity to do appropriate prescribed burning on the Hoosier National Forest, TNC land, and other partner properties. The project includes funding for prescribed fire research in cave and karst areas, invasive species control, and prepping areas for prescribed fire.

Private landowners from these counties that are interested in forest conservation and management on their land should reach out to their local USDA Service Center to find out more information and submit applications for funding. Ready-Set-Fire in White Oak Woodlands funding flows through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) but is specifically targeted to woodland owners in these counties.

Ready-Set-Fire in White Oak Woodlands is an opportunity to expand woodland conservation and restoration for fire dependent plant communities, benefit local water supplies, improve habitat for at risk forest dependent songbirds, and improve the continuity of habitat between public and private land.

Board Member Spotlight: John Roark

In what county do you own woodlands? Roark Brown County Family Farm, located in Brown County just south of Morgantown was purchased by my Great Grandfather, Albert Fletcher and Great Grandmother, Juliette L. (McClelland) Roark, of Indianapolis August 29, 1910.

It was then passed to my Grandfather and Grandmother and then to their sons Lawrence, Louis, Fred, and Harry Roark. I started purchasing family members shares starting in 2011.

How many years have you been an IFWOA member? I don't recall exactly but it was around 2005 when we first started thinking about managing our property.

How many years on the IFWOA board? I joined the board in late 2022, my 3-year term will be up in fall 2025.

What do you like about your IFWOA Membership? I enjoy the camaraderie among woodland owners and it doesn't matter if you own 10 acres or thousands of acres everyone talks to each other about what works and what doesn't work for them.

The best part is going on field trips and walking through the forest and seeing how each owner manages their property and listening to different members point out different invasive species as well as tree identification and seeing how trees grow better in some areas of the property than other parts. The importance of testing the soil for the trees you want to plant.

To me the highlight of the year is attending IFWOA Annual Forestry Field Day and Meetings consisting of different topics in November. You get to renew your friendship with members you may not have seen for a while and make new friends. When I first started attending IFWOA annual meetings, I tried to move from table to table and just listen to members talk about their forest and their experiences over the years and how they plan to keep the property in the family. The knowledge you are able to obtain is "Priceless".

By being a member of IFWOA you are eligible to become a member of National Woodland Owners Association which makes you eligible for Woodland Liability and/or Hunt Lease Liability Insurance.

What else would you like to share about yourself? First of all, I am not a professional forester. I graduated from Lizton High School, and Indiana State University and retired from Allison Transmission GM in 2010.

It is important to note for 95 years our woods was allowed to do its own thing without any management. The only major improvement to the family farm occurred during 1969 a dam was built to form a 5-acre lake and the farm was only used for picnics and family reunions.



In 2005 the family was looking at doing a timber cut, however no one really had any knowledge about the value of timber or how to go about it. I was selected by the family to proceed with gathering information. The first thing I did was contact my District Forester Chuck Ratts and did a property tour and listened to his advice. Later that same day I met with Mike Warner of Arbor Terra Consulting, Inc. Both Chuck and Mike pointed out the invasive and grape vines needed attention. I also found out that killing invasive plants is a lot different than killing dandelions in my yard.

In the spring of 2011, I enrolled in the Purdue Extension 8 Week Woodland Owners Management Course with Lenny Farlee. This is the best course and offering invaluable information and worth the time, and it is now available by zoom so you can stay at home. This was my first step in learning about how to become a better woodland manager. I continued my journey by joining IFWOA, Indiana Walnut Council, and Indiana Tree Farm. I have traveled to Forestry Field Days throughout Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky. Every field day is different and at each one I am amazed at the new things that I have learned and also meeting friends and making new friends. Practicing good stewardship requires constant learning.

Since 2011 I have learned how to be a better woodland manager and I plan on passing the information on to my daughter and her daughters and the rest of the family. Most of all don't be afraid to ask for help from IFWOA, and your professional forester, State Forester, County Soil and Water, and Purdue Extension.

*"Tree Farmers
are the most
Patient Farmers
in the World".*

Landowners Can Receive Financial Incentives By Allowing Hunting Access Through IN DNR

From the IN DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife Website.

The Indiana Private Lands Access Program (IPLA – formerly known as APPLE) offers financial incentives to landowners who allow controlled public hunting access on their private property. This program is funded in part by the federal Farm Bill under the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP).

The program's focus is on providing hunting opportunities on private property across Indiana. All IPLA hunts are administered through the reserved hunt draw system (<https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/hunting-and-trapping/reserved-hunts/>).

Not all counties within Indiana are eligible for IPLA; however, if you are a landowner interested in finding out more about the program or wishing to enroll your property, contact your district wildlife biologist, find them at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/wildlife-resources/wildlife-biologists/>.

FAQs for Landowners

Why should I enroll my property in IPLA? Not only will you receive monetary compensation for allowing access, but each landowner will also be eligible for additional funds for habitat management. By enrolling in this program, you can provide much-needed access for hunters without the bother of hunters knocking on your door seeking permission.

How long are IPLA contracts? IPLA contracts are one year in length.

How many hunters would be allowed on my property? This is determined via a discussion between you and your local biologist. Biologists will work with each landowner to determine the number of people who could access the property based on several factors such as size of the property, number, and location of parking areas, number of hunters that could safely hunt the property, resource, and species concerns, and the number of hunters the landowner is generally comfortable allowing.

Learn more about the ILPA program at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/hunting-and-trapping/indiana-private-lands-access-program/>.

Putnam County Forestry Education Program Supported by IFEF

Putnam County Extension was a recipient of a \$500 Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation (IFEF) grant last year to host a Forest Management Workshop Series for woodland owners. Extension Educator Jenna Nees gave an update on the program:

“The Forestry Management Workshop Series was a 4-session in-person program that focused on various aspects of forestry management. It included developing a forestry management plan, identification/control of invasive species, and understanding timber sales. The fourth session included a visit to a property that had been awarded the Deam Award and is utilizing various timber stand improvement techniques. Speakers included industry representatives and Extension Educators. Seventeen individuals from Putnam County and the surrounding counties participated in the program series.

As a result of the Forestry Management Workshop Series, 30% intended to control invasive species on their property, 19% intended to contact a forester for assistance in managing their property, and 16% intended to develop a forest management plan. Additionally, 14% intended to look into potential cost-share and/or technical assistance programs through NRCS and/or SWCD, while 22% intend to adopt at least one best management practice.”

This successful program is just one example of how IFEF is meeting its mission of supporting forestry education for landowners, children and the public. The November conference is the primary fundraiser for IFEF but donations are always appreciated to support future programs. Learn more about IFEF and donations at <https://www.ifwoa.org/indiana-forestry-educational-foundation/>.

Resources for Landowners

Are you getting the Woodland Steward newsletter?

Published three times a year for free, information and resources for Indiana woodland owners. Sign up at www.inwoodlands.org.

Deer Impact Toolbox for Landowners: 4 publications include Understanding, Identifying, Monitoring, and Managing White-tailed deer and their Impact on Indiana Woodlands, also videos. See <https://extension.purdue.edu/pondwildlife/deer-impact.html>.

Climate change tips and tools for forest landowners:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/features/climate-change-tips-and-tools-forest-landowners>.

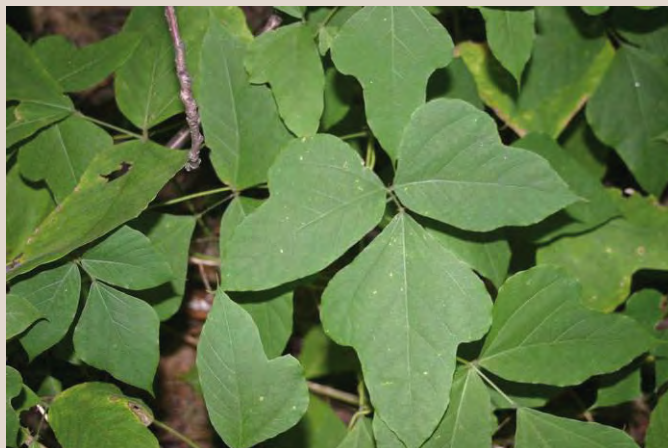
Indiana Forests 2018: Summary: This summary report provides an overview of findings from the fourth full annualized inventory of Indiana forests based on data collected from 2012 to 2018. https://www.fs.usda.gov/nrs/pubs/rb/rb_nrs132.pdf

Invasive Species Watch: Kudzu

Kudzu (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*) is an invasive vine that was introduced to the U.S. from Japan and distributed throughout the South for erosion control. Unfortunately, it quickly became a problem because of its rapid growth. "The Vine that ate the South" is no longer just a southern problem either. Kudzu sites have been found in Indiana counties bordering Michigan, and some sites have been here for decades and survived numerous cold winters. Kudzu was reported in Ontario, Canada in 2009. There are locations in approximately 50 counties in Indiana now, ranging in size from a single plant to multiple acres.

Kudzu can cause serious damage to forests. It also can harbor soybean pests and diseases such as soybean rust and the bean plataspid (kudzu bug).

Indiana DNR Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology



A closeup of the Kudzu leaf.

(DEPP) is attempting to identify and speak with landowners that have kudzu on their property or are adjacent to infested areas. DEPP is working with landowners to reduce kudzu on properties to a level that can be managed by the average person.

At the DEPP kudzu web page (<https://www.in.gov/dnr/entomology/division-programs/kudzu/>) there is an interactive map of all known locations. The points shown are collected from DNR annual surveys and from the DNR Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology field staff. Field inspections are conducted by DNR specialists to confirm the presence of kudzu at the marked location. The map is updated as new locations are identified.

To report a kudzu site, call 1-866-NOEXOTIC or email DEPP@dnr.IN.gov. Information from the IN DEPP website.

Credit both photos: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Highlighting Salamonie River State Forest

Salamonie River State Forest, located in Wabash County, was created as a demonstration riverside forest for the reclamation of eroded land. The state forest was established in the mid 1930's when local people assisted the state in purchasing the hilly land and bluffs along the Salamonie River. Most of the land's topsoil was eroded away, making reclamation of the area a major challenge. To deal with this challenge, a 200-member Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was created.

The name Salamonie was derived from the Native American word "O-sah-mo-nee," which means "yellow paint." Native Americans made yellow paint from the bloodroot plant which grew in great abundance along the winding banks of the river.

The CCC designed and planned the forest and recreation facilities and opened a stone quarry. Several hundred acres of land were reforested and many recreation facilities were built, including Hominy Ridge Lake and the large stone shelter house that stands near the lake. Today, the forest encompasses 950 acres offering many recreational opportunities to visitors.

From Indiana Department of Natural Resources website, <https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/properties/salamonie-river-state-forest/>



An Unusual Plant in Indiana Woods: Ghost Plant or Indian Pipe (*Monotropa uniflora*)

Indian pipe is a perennial wildflower with a wide geographic distribution throughout the United States, from Maine to California and from Florida to Alaska. However, Indian Pipe is not a commonly encountered wildflower.

Monotropa uniflora (*Monotropa* – once turned; *uniflora* – one flowered) ranges in height from 10 to 30 centimeters. It flowers from early summer to early autumn and is found in mature, moist, shaded forests. The entire plant is a translucent, “ghostly” white, sometimes pale pinkish-white and commonly has black flecks. The leaves are scale-like and flecked with black on the flower stalk (peduncle). As the Latin epithet *uniflora* implies, the stem bears a single flower. Upon emerging from the ground, the flower is pendant (downwardly pointed). As the anthers and stigma mature, the flower is spreading to all most perpendicular to the stem. The fruit is a capsule. As the capsule matures, the flower becomes erect (in line with the stem). Once ripened, seed is released through slits that open from the tip to the base of the capsule. The plant is persistent after seed dispersal.

What are Mycotrophic Wildflowers?

To most of us, green and plant go together like peanut butter and jelly on a sandwich. Green plants, since they make their own food from sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide, are called autotrophs, meaning “self-feeding.” However, there are plants that are not green and having no chlorophyll, cannot make their own food (organic carbon). These plants are called heterotrophs, meaning “other-feeding”, since they must get their nutrition from other organisms.

Heterotrophic plants are divided into one of two groups, based upon how they obtain their food. The first of these two

groups are parasitic plants. The second of these two groups are mycotrophic (“fungus feeding”) plants and include Indian Pipe. These plants obtain their organic carbon from a host green plant by tapping into an intermediary mycorrhizal fungus attached to the roots of the host plant. Many plant families include mycotrophs, especially in the tropics.



Photo credit: Gary Monroe

In temperate North America, the orchid (*Orchidaceae*) and heath (*Ericaceae*) families include the highest numbers of mycotrophic genera. Mycotrophic plants “tap” into and parasitize the hyphae of a mycorrhizal fungus by reversing the flow of carbon (derived from the host tree) and other nutrients to meet their survival needs. The unlucky fungus “feeds” the parasitic wildflower and receives nothing in return.

America’s eminent poet, Emily Dickinson, called the Indian pipe “the preferred flower of life.” In a letter to Mabel Todd, she confides, “I still cherish the clutch with which I bore it from the ground when a wondering child, and unearthly booty, and maturity only enhances the mystery, never decreases it.”

Adapted from USDA Forest Service website on Wildflowers. Learn more about wildflowers and mycotrophic wildflowers at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/beauty/mycotrophic/index.shtml>.

10 Weird Ways continued from page 8

an exotic animal as a boardwalk attraction at nearby Ocean City. They chose sika deer, an Asian species that resembles a miniature elk.

They earned enough money to take a trip, but soon they found the novelty faded, and feeding expenses exceeded revenue. The troop took the sika deer to Assateague Island and released them. The animals still roam that island and surrounding areas.

What You Can Do: Presumably, you aren’t going to use exotic deer for your youth group fundraiser. But no matter what the circumstance – including unwanted pets – do not release animals into the wild. It probably won’t live a happy and free life as you imagine. And if it does, the results for society could be worse.

10. Shakespeare: It’s one of the most notorious of all invasive introductions. In the late 1800s, a group called the American Acclimatization Society undertook an ambitious if idiotic

project: to introduce every bird mentioned in Shakespeare. All 600 of them.

Enterprising member Eugene Schieffelin chose the European starling as his personal project. True, the starling appears only once in Shakespeare, and not in one of his more famous works (*Henry IV, Part 1*). Nonetheless, Schieffelin was wildly successful in his introduction. So successful that starlings now swarm the North American continent.

What You Can Do: I’d like to think that species introductions like this are in the past. But it is dismaying just how many invasive introductions began with someone wondering, “Wouldn’t it be cool if we had [insert favorite species] here?” The correct answer: “No, it would not be cool at all, and future generations will hate you for it.” In our world of easy transport and global trade, invaders move around easily enough. Don’t add to it by intentional introductions.

Chainsaw Safety and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

By Ben McCallister, Urban Forestry Specialist, Purdue Department of Forestry and Natural Resources

This article appeared in the Purdue Landscape Report, July 25, 2023, Issue 23-11.

I have lost count of the number of times I've witnessed people working with chainsaws in shorts, a tank top, and flip flops with maybe a pair of earbuds, and it makes me cringe every time. According to the CDC, over 36,000 chainsaw-related injuries a year are reported with annual medical costs of more than \$350 million (Johnson, 2023). Wearing the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) can help prevent accidents and injuries (Fig. 1). PPE is there to protect you from head to toe and if you are investing in a chainsaw, it doesn't take much more to invest in the proper PPE. Including a work shirt and pants, if you're using a chainsaw you should wear protection for your head, eyes and ears, hands, legs, and feet, most of which can be found at your local hardware store or home center.

Protecting your head means using a helmet, not a baseball cap or bandanna. Depending on the type of work you're doing there is a risk of being struck by wood or branches or if kickback occurs, sending the chainsaw back towards your head. Safety glasses will help keep sawdust and other debris out of your eyes and should be stamped with Z87.1, showing they conform to ANSI safety regulations. Normal glasses and sunglasses are not rated for being struck and can shatter, sending broken lenses into your eyes. Ear protection can be in the form of plugs or muffs and should be rated to reduce noise to appropriate levels when worn properly.

Most modern chainsaws have built-in anti vibration technology to reduce fatigue, but having a nice pair of work gloves will still help to protect your hands and grip. Gloves will help protect against debris and are also good to wear for chainsaw maintenance. Although not about PPE, another note on protecting your hands when operating a chainsaw includes the proper use of the chain brake. Injuries

can occur on the right hand because operators will remove it from the back handle to activate the chain brake with the palm of their hand and miss it, putting their hand on the still moving chain. Injuries on either hand can happen when one handing a saw while using your other hand to brace or manage what you are cutting and losing control. The chain brake is designed to be engaged by popping your left wrist forward while maintaining a grip with both hands on the handles.

To protect your legs some form of chaps or chap pants are needed. Prices can range from around \$40 for a pair of wrap-chaps that can be worn over your work pants up to around \$400 for a high-end pair of chap pants that are a stand-alone work pant replacement. Whichever you choose to wear, the protection should be from the top of your thigh to the top of your foot and wrap around your calf. Care should be taken to keep them clean from gas and oil and if they are ever damaged by a chainsaw, chaps should be discarded and replaced. Once the protective material has been damaged the safety has been compromised. Chainsaw boots are also available to protect your lower legs and feet but are expensive and can be heavy. A sturdy work boot should be worn at the very least while staying alert to how close the chainsaw is coming to you. And please, no open-toed shoes.

Whatever the task, if you are going to do your own chainsaw work, then I implore you to wear your PPE from head to toe. I know it's hot and can get uncomfortable, but all it takes is one mistake to send you to the ER. If you feel the job is beyond your capabilities you can always contact an ISA certified arborist at Find an Arborist through the www.treesaregood.org website.

Works Cited: Johnson, R. (2023, July 19). Chainsaw Accidents Injury Stats: How Dangerous Are Chainsaws? Retrieved from Sawinery: <https://www.sawinery.net/chainsaws-injury-stats/>



Registration

2024 Indiana Woodland Owner Conference • November 1-2

Please register **by October 21st**, late registrations will be accepted. Register online at <http://2024ifwoa.eventbrite.com> using your credit card or by sending this form and a check payable to "IFWOA" to the address below.

Circle your registration selection

Member

Nonmember

Full registration: Includes Friday field tours/program (optional dinner is additional \$20), Saturday program, lunch, breaks, banquet.

Individual rate	\$ 95/person	\$105/person*
Family rate (2 adults & up to 2 children)	\$165/family	\$175/family*

OR choose a la carte registration:

Friday tour and/or evening events only:

(Includes AM and PM field tours, evening program, optional dinner is additional fee of \$20, pay at door)

Individual rate	\$ 15/person	\$ 15/person
Family rate (2 adults and up to 2 children)	\$ 25/family	\$ 25/family

Saturday Day Program only:

Includes full program, lunch, and breaks (excludes the banquet)

Individual rate	\$ 50/person	\$ 60/person*
Family rate (2 adults and up to 2 children)	\$ 90/family	\$ 100/family*

Banquet only:

Individual rate (children under 21 \$20 each)	\$ 35/person	\$ 35/person
Family rate (2 adults and up to 2 children)	\$ 60/family	\$ 60/family

Donation to support the meeting

\$ _____

Total enclosed

\$ _____

* Nonmembers receive a one-year membership

Name of registrant(s) _____

Names of other attendee(s): _____

City/State _____

Phone _____ **E-mail** _____

____ Enter number attending Friday morning Salamonie River State forest tour

____ Enter number attending Friday morning alternate Whetstone Woodenware tour

____ Enter number attending Friday afternoon Silver Creek Forest property tour

____ Enter number attending Friday afternoon alternate nature preserve tour

____ Enter number attending Friday evening program (optional dinner is additional fee of \$20, pay at door)

____ Enter number attending Saturday indoor day program

____ Enter number attending Saturday evening banquet

☐ Note if you would like childcare on Saturday 10 am-4 pm (you must request in advance by October 25), list ages _____

☐ Note if this is your first IFWOA annual meeting

☐ Note if you have dietary or physical accommodation needs and contact us to confirm.

Mail registrations to: IFWOA, 1007 North 725 West, West Lafayette, IN 47906-9431

Questions? Call 765-496-5013, email ifwoa1@gmail.com or see www.ifwoa.org.



**Indiana Forestry and Woodland
Owners Association, Inc.**

1007 North 725 West
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Return Service Requested

www.ifwoa.org



Indiana Forestry & Woodland Owners Association Membership Application

Check your membership category:

- _____ Regular – One year (landowner) \$50.00
 _____ Associate – One year (interested in forest stewardship) \$50.00
 _____ Regular – Three year \$135.00
 _____ Life member \$700.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Woodland County(ies) _____

Referred by _____

Enclose your check payable to IFWOA, and mail to:

IFWOA, 1007 North 725 West, West Lafayette, Indiana 47906-9431

OR make an online payment with your credit card at <http://www.ifwoa.org/pay-dues-now/>.

Questions? Contact the IFWOA office at 765-496-5013 or email to ifwoa1@gmail.com.