



HortusScope | What's Up in the Central Indiana

Gardening Community | [Photo courtesy Powell Gardens](#)

Friday and Saturday, December 1 and 2 The Greenhouse at Indiana School for the Blind & Visually Impaired Holiday Open House & Plant Sale One of Broad Ripple's best kept secrets is the ISBVI Greenhouse. Students enrolled in the Horticulture Program, along with Master Gardener volunteers and the horticulture teacher, tend the greenhouse, growing and propagating plants. Four times a year we hold a sale which is open to the public. All proceeds benefit the student programs at ISBVI. The Holiday Plant Sale features poinsettias, Norfolk pines, holiday plants, fresh greenery arrangement, and gift items including ceramics and student art. Saturday, visit with Santa from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and be entertained by the Indianapolis Ukulele Club from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Sale hours Friday noon to 6:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 7725 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis.

Saturday, December 2 10th Annual Greening the Statehouse (Danville) Innovations in Life, Innovations in Advocacy Join Hoosier Environmental Council as we celebrate a decade of hosting our annual forum, Greening the Statehouse! This is Indiana's largest annual gathering of environmentally minded citizens, and your best opportunity to get up to speed on Indiana's environment, to celebrate our movement's successes, and to meet kindred spirits from across the state. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Hendricks County Fairgrounds, Conference Center, 1900 E Main Street, Danville. Register at www.hecweb.org/gts2017.

Now through Sunday, December 31 Conservatory Crossing Holiday Poinsettia & Train Display Come enjoy our winter wonderland! See Garfield Park Conservatory decked out in its holiday best with a brilliant display of poinsettias, model trains and villages, and thousands of twinkling lights. Fee \$4 per person or \$10 per family (2 adults max.). Hours: Monday thru Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Special evening hours until 8:00 p.m. on December 15, 16, 21, 22, 23. Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

Now through Sunday, January 7 Winterlights at Newfields A dazzling display featuring more than a million lights covering the trees and Lilly House lawn. Bring the whole family for a fun evening celebrating the holiday season. Save 20% and more when you buy tickets online. Members save an additional \$5. Access ticket sales here: (<https://discovernewfields.org/Checkout?filter=f|winter&page=listeventscaendar> Newfields (Indianapolis Museum of Art), 4000 Michigan Road, Indianapolis. <https://discovernewfields.org>

Giving Opps Letha's Youth Outdoors Fund Your end-of-year donation helps to put underserved school children in touch with nature. The Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society sponsors this program to nurture the next generation of environmental stewards. [Donate](#) **Save Our Ashes** The Indiana Parks Alliance is working with Indiana State Parks and Nature Preserves to protect 100 mature, seed-

producing ash trees in state parks and state-owned nature preserves across the state. To learn more and donate to the Save Our Ash Trees campaign, visit www.indianaparksalliance.org. **Central Indiana Land Trust** Invest in a strategic effort to protect the best of Central Indiana's natural areas. Every dollar you give stays in Indiana to ensure that Hoosiers today and tomorrow can enjoy and appreciate the state's natural heritage. [Donate](#)

Temporary Employment Central Indiana Land Trust CILTI is seeking a Seasonal Field Assistant to help implement the day-to-day stewardship of its preserves and natural areas. Depending on weekly needs, this hourly position has the potential to work up to 30-40 hours a week on a flexible schedule. To apply, send a cover letter and resume to Operations Director Stacy Cachules at scachules@conservingindiana.org. Download job description [here](#).

Apply Now KIB GreenKids Outdoor Classroom Program Did you know the average American child spends 7.5 hours per day in front of a screen? Keep Indianapolis Beautiful is countering this growing epidemic through its GreenKids program, a two-year partnership between KIB and a school, during which time KIB will help build an outdoor classroom right on school grounds for students to experience. The outdoor classroom will consist of a native plant garden, a fruit tree orchard, and a nature play area, each area supplemented with environmental education programming. These three spaces further KIB's mission of helping people and nature thrive. Find an information packet and online application at <http://www.kibi.org/programs/youth-programming/greenkids/>.

Advocate for the Planet Climate Solutions Caucus Carmel's Green Initiative urges you to ask your representative about the bipartisan [Climate Solutions Caucus](#), which it sees as our best hope for bipartisan climate action at the national level. <https://www.facebook.com/Carmel-Green-Initiative-151779035744/>

Bird Hikes Eagle Creek Park: 6515 Delong Road, Indianapolis. Every Sunday year-round, 9:00 a.m. Meet at the Ornithology Center. Information 317-327-2473. **Beginning Bird Hikes at Cool Creek Park:** 2000 East 151st Street, Carmel. 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m., and every other Saturday, at 9:00 a.m. Meet in the parking lot at the bottom of the road by Cool Creek, past the Nature Center. Information 317-774-2500 or www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com **Strawtown Koteewi Park:** 12308 Strawtown Avenue, Noblesville. First Wednesday of each month, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Meet at the Taylor Center of Natural History. Information 317-774-2574 or www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com.

Garden Travel Garden writer and designer Cole Burrell is hosting tours to Cuba, France, Brazil, and South Africa this year! Details at <http://ccolstonburrell.com/garden-and-nature-tours/current-tours.php>.

Photo Notes What's not to love about poinsettia? They lend cheerful, long-lasting color to my living room during these darkest months. It seems appropriate to have a tropical plant for holiday décor, as warm as it's been this fall. At the equator, these grow to eight feet at least! This one, called 'Ice Punch', is featured at the Powell Gardens Greenhouse in Kansas City. My best wishes to you and your families as you celebrate the season. May your gatherings be joyful and all your discourse be civil.

HortusScope, an e-bulletin for the Central Indiana gardening community, is published the first of every month as a public service by Wendy Ford. To submit news items, add or update your e-mail address, or remove your name from the HortusScope e-mail list, please drop me a note at hortusscope@comcast.net. Your supporting donation gratefully accepted at 6911 Cabernet Way, Indianapolis, IN 46278, check made out to Wendy Ford. Thank you Judy Houser for your generous gift!