

Crown Hill Temporary Stop Order Victory

Lori Adelson

Just one week ago, a man rang my doorbell and left a blank white envelope with a letter inside congratulating me for being offered a free burial at Crown Hill Cemetery. They clearly did not know that I already own a plot in Tennessee AND that I and the Heartlands Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter have been involved in trying to save the Crown Hill North Woods for the past seven months.

As I summarized in the last Sierran, Crown Hill Cemetery sold off a precious old woods to the Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A), and it seemed destined to be decimated. NOTHING could make me want to be buried there since they sold that land. Our chapter (with much review and guidance from national Sierra Club) was about to sign on as a plaintiff to a lawsuit. We asked for a halt of the V.A's plan to destroy the Crown Hill North woods by building a National columbaria (cremains-only) Cemetery.

We felt the V.A did not properly inform those who would be adversely affected by destruction of the woods. The injunction was denied before we signed on, and we were going to add our



Photograph by Lori Adelson

The Coalition to Save the Crown Hill Woods won a temporary victory when the Veterans Administration issued a stop-work order on the destruction of old-growth trees at the historic Indianapolis cemetery. The seven-month struggle continues for activists fighting for the trees.

name upon appeal, but the lawsuit was dropped so that our Congressman would agree to help us connect with the V.A without a conflict.

The Indiana Forest Alliance (I.F.A) was our lead organization and we became the "Coalition to Save the Crown Hill Woods." I nicknamed this the Coalition 2.0, since ten years ago a similar coalition also fought the sale of this same woods to be developed commercially.

Zoning changes were not allowed then, so the woods was saved, but not without a year of struggles. It was never thought that Crown Hill would try to sell it again. It was assumed that they valued it as we did, especially since they included a chapter in their large Crown Hill coffee table book published in 2013, about the old trees and habitat in these woods.

For the 2.0 effort, aside from I.F.A and Sierra Club, others who signed onto the effort were the Hoosier Environmental Council, the School for Community Learning, OVRTHERE.COM (a veterans support group), Alliance of Crown Hill Neighbors, Amos Butler Audubon of Central Indiana, Northside Montessori

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School, Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis, Butler Tarkington Neighborhood Association, Veterans in Industry & Arts, Indiana Interchurch Center, Crown Hill Neighborhood Association, Marion County Alliance of Neighborhood Associations, River Park Club Neighborhood Association and Nora-Northside Community Council, Inc.

The few times the V.A met with us they would offer 'compromises' to save older larger trees of a certain trunk size, not understanding that removing ANYTHING in an old-growth forest disrupts its ecosystem. We wanted all the trees to stay, along with the understory and even the rotting fallen trees and branches where moss and mushrooms grow happily.

There are few if any such old-growth remnants in central Indiana, and we want future generations to experience a real woods. Not only is it beautiful and historic and home to birds, insects, bats, and deer but it provides precious oxygen and helps filter highly polluted inner city air.

When I went around my neighborhood on two occasions with fliers, it was the veterans who about broke my heart. Most of them were appalled to hear that the woods would be desecrated to inter their ashes. They asked me what they could do, they made phone calls to government leaders, agreed to come help protest if able, and I in turn promised them I would not give up.

A few days ago at the time of writing, despite calls, rallies, protests, letters, petitions and appeals to congressmen, senators, V.A directors and even a letter of support on March 8 from our own Mayor Hogsett, workers began to erect a perimeter fence, clear some brush and lay a patch of gravel as the start of a new entrance on 42nd Street. When it seemed tree cutting was imminent, a group of twelve non-affiliated "tree protectors" arrived at the site in the dark at 6 a.m. to watch over the woods.

Police were very kind, and watched over the situation. By all reports there was nothing but support from those who walked or drove by. I came by at 11 a.m. to give

moral support (and a box of tissues) to the tree protectors. I did not myself sit in the woods, feeling a bit protective of the Sierra Club since we are both a local and a national organization and I did not want to get arrested. Admittedly I was jealous of the young man who climbed into the tree, but he is 15 and I am 63, so better him than me.

Attorney Russ Sipes, who has been helping all along, briefed all the tree protectors beforehand so they knew the laws regarding civil disobedience. Clarendon Road neighbors brought coffee and tea to the protesters, and even offered their homes for bathroom breaks. Many like me came to the sidewalk side of the fence in solidarity, with signs and offers to help.

"It was the veterans who about broke my heart. Most of them were appalled to hear that the woods would be desecrated to inter their ashes."

It was snowing almost constantly, which in fact was a beautiful sight. At about noon the officer in charge of all city protests (a very busy department since November 2016) informed us that the

V.A had contacted his chief and that there was a stop-work order until further notice. Attorney Russ Sipes stayed nearby and the tree protectors stayed for another hour until word could be verified that the stop-order was real and that workers would not just return as soon as the protesters left.

We were assured that work is halted until further notice and that dialogue with those in opposition is the V.A's next step. We also assured one another that we will watch over the woods and the protectors will return if needed. The Dr. Laura Hare Charitable Trust has offered to purchase (or swap land) for this woods so it can be preserved as is, and we hope the V.A will reconsider and leave these woods alone.

The people have spoken and the veterans have spoken, and we hope the V.A listens! Thank you to all Sierra members and friends who called, wrote, and rallied!

Lori Adelson is Outings Committee Chair at the Hoosier Chapter Sierra Club and also serves on the Executive, Conservation and Communications Committees. She can be reached at lmadelson@gmail.com.

From the director's desk

Club membership rockets since November election

January 2017 was a red-letter month for the Hoosier Chapter. For the first time ever, we exceeded 9,000 members here in Indiana—9,294 to be exact. This is heartening news for a couple of reasons.

First, part of our funding from national Sierra Club is based on our number of chapter members, so the more members we have, the more money we receive. Also, the more active members we have, the more effective we can be in our lobbying and other advocacy efforts. So my thanks to all of you who are new or renewed members. Why not ask your friends if they are Club members, and if not, encourage them to join?

We have added more than 1,000 members since January 2016. Not surprisingly, the lion's share of this increase has happened since November. We are seeing this effect across the country—more Sierra Club members, more donations, and more people who want to become active to resist the anti-environment, anti-democratic agenda coming out of Washington, D.C.

“We have added more than 1,000 members since January 2016. Not surprisingly, the lion's share of this increase has happened since November.”

If you are looking for ways to join this resistance, please contact me. I will try to plug you in to our many efforts around the state, such as our fantastic Beyond Coal to Clean Energy campaign, organizing People's Climate Marches in Indiana and in Washington, and our lobbying activities at the Statehouse.



But we also want to help you escape the madness that is going on in our country right now and get back to the reason most of you became members in the first place—to explore and enjoy the wild places of our planet. We continue to increase our outings around the state. I hope that you will take advantage of some of our hikes, which are organized by trained, knowledgeable leaders. Please join us on the trail.

Sincerely,

Bowden Quinn
Chapter Director

Southwest Indiana Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter forms

The Southwest Indiana Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter was established in July, 2016. It is affiliated with the Hoosier Chapter of the Sierra Club and the national Sierra Club.

They have a monthly meeting every fourth Tuesday at the Evansville Central Library, in Browning Room B, at 6:30 p.m. Members from eight southwest Indiana counties – Vanderburgh, Posey, Warrick, Spencer, Perry, Gibson, Pike and Dubois are welcome to attend.

The goals of the group include environmental activism, education and outreach programs, outings, and conservation projects.

“They have a monthly meeting every fourth Tuesday at the Evansville Central Library, in Browning Room B, at 6:30 p.m.”

Recent meeting programs and event participation include, the Wesselman Nature Center Playscape Project, Indiana Forest Watch (logging practices in Indiana State Forests) Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge (the 35-year history of the refuge) a Sierra Club Beyond Coal Campaign update, participation in the Ferdinand Folk Festival, Refuge Appreciation Day at Oakland City and the Liberty

and Justice for All rally in Evansville.

Upcoming monthly meeting programs and other activities include:

April 25: Sycamore Land Trust, natural areas preservation in southern Indiana

May 23: Alex Schmitt speaking on Economics of Solar Energy

March 25: participation in the Tri State Creation Care Conference

April 23: participation in Earth Day Event

May 6: hike in Ferdinand State Forest

Please take this opportunity to participate in a group of environmentalists with wide-ranging interests and priorities - Ranging from natural areas and wildlife habitats to sustainable energy/energy conservation to local and national pollution issues.

As we move forward, this new group will most of all be a reflection of the combined interests and enthusiasm of the members who take an active part in the growth of the group. Please join us.



State Forests

Timber Harvest at Hardy Lake State Reservoir Fails to Comply with the Indiana Environmental Policy Act

by Jason Flickner

In late 2016, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) Division of Parks & Reservoirs conducted a timber sale at the Hardy Lake State Reservoir property in Scott County. The sale consisted of 898 trees with a total estimated volume of over 364 thousand Doyle Board Feet (D.B.F), including nineteen high quality veneer trees (18 Northern Red Oak and 1 Black Walnut) with a volume of 14 thousand D.B.F.

The timber harvest impacts one of the largest deep-interior forest tracts in the Hardy Lake watershed, increasing the potential for further sediment and nutrient impairment of the reservoir's water quality. Hardy Lake is a popular state reservoir for fishing, boating, water skiing, and swimming; as well as a back-up drinking water source.

Hardy Lake's total property acreage is 2,449 acres, including the lake's surface area of 745 acres, leaving just 1,700 acres of forest tracts, wetlands, and mudflats that border the reservoir as well as the campgrounds and property facilities. Logging operations will close or reroute approximately three miles of the outward bound and cemetery hiking trails.

The mission of Indiana's Division of State Parks and Reservoirs is "to manage and interpret the unique natural, wildlife and cultural resources using the principles of multiple use and preservation, while sustaining the integrity of these resources." Commercial timber sales on D.N.R. properties are generally solely conducted on Division of Forestry (D.O.F) state forest properties and subjected to a resource management process.

In 2005, the Indiana General Assembly enacted legislation exempting the D.O.F. from the requirements of the Indiana Environmental Policy Act (IEPA). The state legislature exempted the D.O.F from IEPA in response to litigation compelling the production of an environmental impact statement (E.I.S) over substantial increases in proposed commercial logging, specifically in protected "backcountry areas" of several state forests.

The legislation only exempted D.O.F managed properties, not the entirety of state-owned lands managed by the D.N.R such as State Parks & Reservoirs, from adherence to IEPA requirements.

D.O.F personnel at Clark State Forest provided administration for the Hardy Lake timber sale but failed to recognize the exemption from IEPA requirements is only applicable to D.O.F. managed properties. An IEPA-required E.I.S was never produced for the Hardy Lake timber sale.

Hardy Lake personnel have stated that the timber sale is to increase early successional habitat preferred by quail and ruffed grouse for hunters; although the area already contains several large clearings and miles of edge habitat. A few popular sport-hunting species are drawn to openings in the forest and edge habitat created by logging activities. However, many of the species that overtake openings and spread into interior forests are generalist species, meaning they are adaptable to a variety of habitat types.

Generalist species tend to displace deep-interior-forest-dependent species that rely on undisturbed late-seral forest habitats with an intact canopy and moist soils for successful life-cycle survival and reproduction, including many of Indiana's rare, threatened and endangered species including the Indiana and northern long-eared bats and cerulean warbler.

In 2011, the Indiana Division of Nature Preserves (D.N.P.) conducted a field investigation on several forest tracts at Hardy Lake to determine their natural quality, ecological integrity, and potential forest management prescriptions. D.N.P.'s 2011 evaluation of the Hardy Lake tract where the 2016 timber sale occurred identified the area as "longest established woodlands" (i.e. forested in the 1930s and presumed to be forested today).

On those area timbering and related management would not be considered. It was assumed that these areas would contain higher quality natural communities and thus "should remain in an undisturbed protected status." Additionally, a review of the D.N.P natural heritage database revealed the presence of the rough green snake, an Indiana species of special concern on the Hardy Lake tract.

Prior to the 2016 timber sale, D.N.R additionally failed to produce a Resource Management Guide required for every timber sale on state forest properties for the Hardy Lake tract meaning a thorough resource management assessment was never conducted. A timber stand inventory and density tally, wildlife and wildlife habitat features review, and landscape assessments necessary for adherence to US Fish & Wildlife Services' Indiana bat management guidelines were never completed.

Control measures to prevent the spread of non-native invasive species and watershed impacts were never evaluated. Additionally, the public was not provided the opportunity to submit comments on a Draft Resource Management Guide.

Jason Flickner is a member of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter Executive Committee. He can be reached at flickner@gmail.com.

Please contact Governor Holcomb and your state legislators to tell them commercial logging at Hardy Lake and all state parks and reservoirs properties is not appropriate; and to establish "wild areas" protected from commercial logging on the state forests.

State Legislature

SB 309: Indiana's Utility Lobby Attack on Customer-Owned, Rooftop Solar

Grant Smith

Senate Bill 309 has been Hoosier Chapter's main focus during this year's legislative session.

SB 309 was written by the Indiana Energy Association (I.E.A) and willingly authored by State Senator Brandt Hershman (R-Wheatfield). As written and amended in the Senate Utilities Committee, it would effectively eliminate customer-owned solar in Indiana. The legislation severely undervalues rooftop solar.

The amended version of the bill, touted by its supporters as a reasonable compromise, still would kill customer-owned solar in Indiana. The changes are nothing but smoke and mirrors, an attempt to deflect attention from the true intent of the legislation.

According to the body of evidence, net metering (the policy that allows ratepayers to economically install panels on their homes and businesses) is a benefit to all ratepayers. The I.E.A, however, is circulating the false narrative that non-solar customers subsidize solar customers, for which the I.E.A has offered no evidence from Indiana.

Such evidence would be hard to come by since far less than 1% of Indiana ratepayers have installed solar on their roofs and rooftop solar penetration levels is a driving force behind ultimate costs to the grid.

“The amended version of the bill, touted by its supporters as a reasonable compromise, still would kill customer-owned solar in Indiana.”

A report published by the Department of Energy suggests that, at this time, the cost to the grid of rooftop solar nationwide is, on average, three cents per kilowatt hour. But the savings to all customers may outweigh this cost.

As an example, California regulators recently found that the state's energy efficiency and rooftop solar programs have saved ratepayers nearly \$200 million in avoided transmission and distribution system costs for Pacific Gas & Electric customers. The utility acknowledged the savings.

Utility lobbyists, along with their supporters in the legislature, continue to shift their narrative to get the bill passed. Now they are saying that groups opposed to the legislation, like Sierra Club, Citizens Action Coalition and Hoosier Environmental Council, are describing the bill prior to the amendment that, they assert, represents a compromise for residential ratepayers – although residential ratepayers had no seat at the table during discussions crafting the amendment.

This is yet another aspect of the current misinformation campaign on SB 309 and should be dismissed by the public.

Please call Gov. Holcomb and ask him to veto SB 309 as amended.

Grant Smith is a member of the Hoosier Chapter's Executive Committee and serves as the Legislative Chair. He can be reached at gsmith5123@gmail.com.

Beyond Coal

Hundreds testify against I&M plan for Rockport coal plant

Matt Skuya-Boss

Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign has been working at opposite ends of the state of Indiana, but recent hearings involving the super-polluting AEP-Rockport plant allowed volunteers in both areas to support each other.

On February 21, nearly 300 Fort Wayne, Muncie, and South Bend residents packed a standing-room-only public hearing before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission to show their opposition to Indiana Michigan Power's \$274 million plan for the Rockport coal plant.

With new I&M President Toby Thomas looking on, 54 people testi-

fied against the Rockport rate hike, and only seven spoke in favor. Sierra Club organizer Megan Anderson worked with local leaders and Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light to fill the room with volunteers in blue shirts reading "Repower Indiana."

“To think that by choosing to live here, I might actually be doing irreparable harm to her health... is scary. - Mallory Rodenberg, Evansville mother

The night before the hearing, Fort Wayne's ABC-TV affiliate ran a story on the severe health impacts of pollution from the Rockport plant -- Indiana's second most toxic power plant in 2014. The story featured Evansville volunteer Mallory Rodenberg, whose young daughter recently began struggling to breathe after spending time outside.

The TV station reported that Rosenberg's local doctor wasn't

alarmed, telling her that her daughter's condition is common in the area.

"To think that by choosing to live here, I might actually be doing irreparable harm to her health... is scary," said Rodenberg. "And I know that I'm not alone in that. I know that it scares a lot of mothers and fathers."

ABC21 also interviewed several other southwest Indiana leaders, including high school teacher Rock Emmert, pediatrician Dr. Norma Kreilein, and preschool teacher Lori Salma.

At I&M's request, the I.U.R.C also held a field hearing in the southwest Indiana community where the plant is located, although no customers live there. Beyond Coal staff Matt Skuya-Boss, Thomas Pearce, and Wendy Bredhold worked together to support local volunteers, who spoke out against the impacts of toxic emissions in

the Lower Ohio River Valley from super-polluting power plants like Rockport.

Thanks to organized volunteers who requested they get involved, South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry also have written letters to the state, urging a transition by I&M away from coal and toward clean energy.

Louis Weber, who heads the University of Saint Francis biology and environmental science department, told ABC21 that Fort Wayne can make a difference.

"We've got a chance now -- the customers," says Weber. "We have the power. We can tell I&M: we want something different."

Matt Skuya-Boss is a Sierra Club Beyond Coal Organizer. He can be reached at matt.skuya.boss@sierraclub.org.

Hazardous Waste

Army Changes Plan for D.U at Jefferson Proving Ground

by Richard Hill

The Army has requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (N.R.C) to change its license for the Depleted Uranium (D.U) at the former Jefferson Proving Ground (J.P.G) from a Possession Only for Decommissioning License to a Possession Only License. This move signifies that the Army wants to cease its request to decommission the site.

In its license amendment request the Army specifies that the D.U will remain on site and that effluent monitoring of surface water and sediment will continue on a semiannual basis. The purpose of this monitoring will be to detect if any D.U is migrating off the site. Access to the site will remain restricted by signage and blockaded roads.

J.P.G is in southeastern Indiana near Madison. Between 1984 and 1994 the Army tested armor-piercing D.U rounds for accuracy by firing the rounds into soft targets (tarps stretched between tall poles). This testing left approximately 175,000 pounds of D.U on and in the ground in the D.U testing area at J.P.G.

The area also contains a significant amount of unexploded conventional ordnance (U.X.O) as a result of prior testing of those types of weapons.

Since J.P.G's closing in 1994 the Army has put forth numerous plans

for the final disposition of the site. The latest plan, submitted in 2014, was to decommission the site, leaving the D.U in place in the restricted area and ceasing all monitoring.

So, this recent move by the Army can be seen as at least a partial victory for the public in that the monitoring will continue. It has been very doubtful that the Army would ever completely remediate the site due to the presence of U.X.O and the high cost. It is estimated in the Army's request that cleaning up the area to a standard that would allow unrestricted access would cost more than \$3.3 billion.

It seems that continued monitoring and restriction of access to the site may be the best that we can do; although it does not appear that they have considered cleaning up the area in a graduated manner, starting with the most easily removable rounds.

The N.R.C is currently evaluating the Army's request, which could take several months. At some point there may be an opportunity for comments at a public

meeting, most likely to be held in Madison. Watch for updates later this year.

Richard Hill is the Chair of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter, and the Committee Chair of Finance, Conservation, Personnel and ByLaws. He



The latest Army plan for Jefferson Proving Grounds does not call for decommissioning the site, which includes depleted uranium and unexploded ordnance (bombs). This means access will be restricted and continued monitoring.

Hazardous Waste

East Chicago Citizens Suffer from Toxic Lead Legacy

by Thomas Frank

Throughout its history, Indiana has had very lax environmental regulations and enforcement. Business profits have often been put before the health and lives of people and the environment. Nowhere is this more evident than in East Chicago. Residents were unaware that they were being poisoned.

It is difficult to comprehend the extent of the problems in East Chicago, but the problems need to be addressed and solutions found. Dunelands Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter asked Thomas Frank, a member of the Southeast Environmental Task Force, to write about the problem. Here is his article:

East Chicago, Indiana has a lead crisis involving both land and water. The crisis is affecting more than 1,100 homes, 4,600 residents, a new school, several parks, churches, several small businesses, a rehabilitation center, an orphanage, and a housing complex where 1,200 people are dealing with forced evacuations from their homes.

Last August the residents of the West Calumet Housing Complex learned that their lives and their children's lives would change forever. They learned that they were living on top of a former lead smelter.

Lead levels in the soil as high as 91,000 parts per million (ppm) triggered actions that forced these families out of their homes. To give perspective to the toxic threat residents face, the E.P.A designates

“It is difficult to comprehend the extent of the problems in East Chicago, but the problems need to be addressed and solutions found.”

400 ppm as the allowable limit of lead in the soil, and residents were living with 91,000 ppm.

Public health agencies are learning that there is no safe level of lead exposure. When businesses are allowed to pollute for well over a century there are many cascading environmental, health, economic, and social effects that overwhelm low-income working class communities and require emergency action. This toxic legacy includes blaming working class individuals for being caught in a structural problem that keeps them in harm's way.

For more than 100 years East Chicago boasted of being the most industrial city in the world. East Chicago is also home to the largest blast furnace in the western hemisphere. In this last decade the industrial identity of East Chicago continued to expand with BP's construction of the largest oil refinery in the country.

The many toxic legacies left behind by industries have created an environment that is literally poisonous and the burden of the effects of industry are not fairly shared.

The residents of this low-income working class community are forced to carry the burden of the environmental, health, economic, and social effects of the wealthiest and largest industries the world has ever seen.

Thomas Frank is a member of the Southeast Environmental Task Force. He can be reached at info@thomasfrank.org.

Sierra Club, EarthJustice motion to intervene granted in court case to protect Indiana community from hazardous waste

by Richard Hill

On Friday, February 3, Clark County Circuit Court granted a Sierra Club and Earthjustice motion in support of community members who are trying to stop Essroc Cement Corp. from burning fuel derived from hazardous wastes in its kiln in the small community of Speed, near Sellersburg, about 10 miles north of Louisville.

“The Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter is proud to stand with community members to achieve their goal of protecting their children from harm,” said Bowden Quinn, the chapter director.

Essroc initially received approval from the executive director of the county plan commission to make changes at its Speed facility without seeking a required zoning change. Community members banded together to fight that deci-

sion, which was made without public notice or participation. They finally succeeded in convincing the commission to rescind that approval. The commission said in a letter to Essroc that the company had initially misled the commission by indicating it wouldn't store or process hazardous waste at the site and it would have to seek a zoning change or variance to do so.

The Essroc Cement Plant is within one mile of five area schools. Essroc has appealed the plan commission's decision in Clark County Circuit Court. Earthjustice lawyers representing the Sierra Club were granted a motion to intervene in the case in defense of the commission's action.

Richard Hill is the Chair of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter, and the Committee Chair of Finance, Conservation, Personnel and ByLaws. He can be reached at rhill@cinergymetro.net.

Social Justice

The Sierra Club supports Native rights



Linze Southwick, center, the Legislative Chair of Heartland Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter and a member of the Chapter's executive committee, periodically visits a camp in Iowa that promotes peace, restoration of the land, healing, and movement away from the fossil fuel industry.

The Natives at the camp are water protectors against the Dakota Access pipeline. Laughter engulfs the Little Creek Camp. Besides being a healing camp, the camp is bringing back the natural healthy state of the lands.

Through traditional healing, living, and work of unity with individuals from different tribal nations, this camp is one of the many hearts of our Mother Earth. The heart is beginning and I'm sure the beat of it will be heard among the nations.

Linze Southwick is the Legislative Chair of Heartland Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter and a member of the Chapter's executive committee. Please contact her for more information, to help, or for a list of supplies required by the camp. Linze can be reached at protectourearth4@gmail.com.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

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___ A check made payable to **Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter** supports all chapter programs, including our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying. **Donations ARE NOT tax deductible.**

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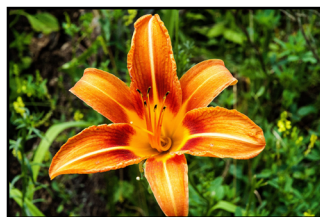
The Wildflower Workshop 2017

When: May 13, 2017

Where: Porter West Preserve,
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Leaders: Gary Morrison, Steven Higgs

Learn: Digital tools and techniques to capture stunning wildflower images



10% of the proceeds go to support the Sycamore Land Trust

IndianaNaturePhotography.com for more information

People's Climate March



People's Climate March – Evansville Saturday, April 29th 2:00 p.m. Central Time

Evansville Indiana lies within thirty miles of four of our nation's 22 Super Polluters (www.superpolluters.com). While we all can breathe easier following Vectren's plan to retire all but one of their coal-burning power generating units, we know there is a long road ahead to tackle some of our region's biggest polluters. That's why we plan to march for climate in solidarity on April 29th.

Indiana is one of the biggest carbon polluters in the country and we look to fight back and show that even in the heart of coal country, people want action on climate. Location details are to be determined and you can find updates at www.facebook.com/OhioRiverValleyBeyondCoal. You can also contact matt.skuya.boss@sierraclub.org with questions. *RSVP online at: www.facebook.com/OhioRiverValleyBeyondCoal in the events section or email matt.skuya.boss@sierraclub.org.*

People's Climate March Indianapolis Saturday, April 29, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Starting Point: Veterans' Memorial Park, 550 N. Meridian St. Ending Point: Pan Am Plaza, 201 S. Capitol Ave. at Indy VegFest 2017 (indyveg-fest.com)

The new administration has attacked the hard-won protections of our climate, health, and communities, and the rights of people of color, workers, indigenous people, immigrants, women, LGBTQIA, young people, and more. We've fought back with a wave of protests larger than at almost any other point in history — let's make sure that we mark the 100th day of the Trump presidency with another mass action that stands up for our communities.

Join us on April 29th at 11:00 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. Let's march together.

Contact Amanda Shepherd at amandashep@gmail.com for more information.

Dunelands Sign Making Party for Climate March

SAVE THE DATE- BE AN ARTIST FOR GOOD

...at the Dunelands Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter April 12th meeting with 350 Indiana-Calumet at Paul Henry's Art Gallery, 416 Sibley in Hammond, Indiana.

350 Indiana – Calumet and the Dunelands Group of the Sierra Club will be making ART (signs, posters and such) for our Northwest Indiana delegations at the April 29th People's Climate Marches in Washington, DC; Highland; and Indianapolis. Art, music, dance and of course DRUMS make our marches fun, festive celebrations of our planet, with a PURPOSE. Donald Trump won't be able to miss us, believe me! Please watch our Dunelands Group Sierra Club Facebook page for the exact time on the evening of April 12th. Some of us may want to car pool. Thanks!

Explore, Enjoy, Protect

Solstice Celebration Dunelands Group

Mark your calendars for the evening of June 21st and Celebrate the Solstice with your Dunelands Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter at beautiful Indiana Dunes State Park.

We have the City West Shelter reserved, so please bring a dish, maybe a folding chair and your friends and family to share our Solstice potluck dinner and celebration. You are welcome to arrive early and enjoy the trails or the beach.

Usual entrance fees will be charged by the park. The shelter and picnic area have charcoal grills and a fireplace. We will have dinner at the shelter about 6 p.m. and relax and enjoy each other's company.

Bring ideas for Sierra Club future activities, hikes, speakers you



may be interested in hearing, and local concerns. We will also have an update on stopping the planned private banquet center on the beautiful public beach at the park.

Sunset will be at 8:26 p.m.

We may have time for an informal hike, and to make our way down to the beach to watch the beauty as the sun dips below Lake Michigan's horizon and the stars begin to shine in the vast sky over the lake. Depending on the weather, we can remain and visit on the beach, or return to the shelter, to light an appropriate

Solstice fire in the fireplace. Stay as long as you like until the park closes at 11 p.m. Celebrate the gifts that nature offers us, and friendship, on the longest day of the year!

Winding Waters Nature Stroll

Doug Johnson, founder of the Winding Waters Group of the Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter, has been tracking the wildflowers at Anderson Falls since 1970. Join Doug for a nature stroll on the trails of the park on April 8, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

You may see dogtooth lilies, trilliums, and other spring ephemeral wildflowers – the Indiana woods at their springtime best in this D.N.R Dedicated Nature Preserve. http://www.in.gov/dnr/naturepreserve/files/np-anderson_falls.pdf

Meet at the parking lot, dress for mud, the weather, hills, and a possible low-water stream crossing. The trail is about a mile and a half in length.

Should severe weather cause a cancellation, the rain date will be April 15 at the same time.

For more information, contact Doug Johnson at 812-342-3210.

Other forthcoming Winding Waters events:

Wednesday, April 5, 7:00 p.m. – presentation on green design, by Professor Kelly Wilson, IU Center for Art and Design - Bartholomew County Library, Red Room

Wednesday, May 3, 7:00 p.m. - presentation on conservation in southern Indiana with Sycamore Land Trust by Abby Perfetti, Sycamore Land Trust - Bartholomew County Library, Red Room

Sunday, July 23, 11:00 am - Butterfly Nature Stroll with Doug Johnson. Location to be announced, save the date.

Sierra Club Outings



On the trail with Indiana Sierrans

Clockwise from top: Turkey Run State Park, Hoosier National Forest, Yellowwood State Forest, Jackson-Washington State Forest.



We have a full program of events, hikes and talks, hosted by our Hoosier Chapter Groups, all around the state.



Sierra Club Hoosier Chapter

Today April 2017 Print Week Month Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1
				EVENING GARD		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		7pm Winding Wat				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		Dunelands Grou				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		6:15pm Heartland				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
				EVENING GARD	D.N.B. hike in th	11am People's Cl
30	May 1	2	3	4	5	6
		7pm Sierra Club			Dunelands Grou	Ferdinand State

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time Google Calendar

Visit: www.sierraclub.org/indiana/events-and-outings