

Hoosier Conservation

December 9, 2013

Volume 52 No. 2



A Message from Barb

It's been a busy year for the Indiana Wildlife Federation! In April we received a generous grant from Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust to help us reach more people who are concerned about Indiana's wildlife, and to grow our programs that support wildlife habitat. We moved our office to downtown Indianapolis. We're also excited to welcome Erin Baird to the new role of Program Manager and Intern Coordinator. Erin brings a wealth of experience and we're looking forward to growing our wildlife friendly habitat programs under her leadership. The website has been redesigned, and I've even signed up for my own Twitter account! We all see the changes in how people communicate and search for information. Part of that change has been moving the print issues of *Hoosier Conservation* to an electronic newsletter format. There will still be at least one printed issue a year and the electronic copy may be printed from your computer if you'd like a hard copy. We want to keep all our members informed and at the same time use more of your contribution dollars on programs instead of postage.

Please let us know how you like this new format.

Barb

P.S. Don't miss the story on page 6 – half a million dollars for public lands!

IWF Headquarters Moves Downtown

We're excited to announce that the Indiana Wildlife Federation headquarters has moved to a new location! We are now located in downtown Indianapolis at The Sol Center, 708 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. Our phone number 317-875-9453 and fax 317-875-9442 have remained the same. We now have more space to host events, and are closer to the State House and Department of Natural Resources- two of the key groups to educate and influence if we are to be a strong voice for wildlife.

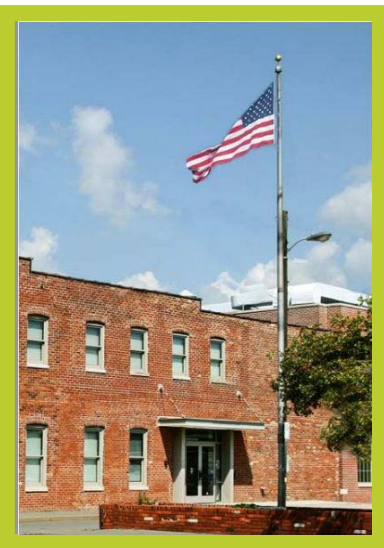
The Sol Center, which was previously the Indianapolis Senior Center, is a beautiful building with convenient shared meeting spaces and common areas, a great location (plenty of free parking!) and the opportunity to collaborate with other not-for-profits. Meals on Wheels of Central Indiana purchased the building after the Senior Center closed in June, 2012. IWF currently shares the center with Meals on Wheels of Central Indiana, Indiana Recycling Coalition and Down Syndrome Indiana.

Bicentennial Legacy Conservation Area unveiled by Governor Pence

Focuses on large landscape, non-traditional land conservation. This is one of the exciting conservation actions the State is taking in recognition of Indiana's Bicentennial in 2016. To learn more, visit the [DNR website](#).



IWF Executive Director,
Barbara Simpson



IWF Headquarters is now located at the Sol Center, 708 E. Michigan St. in downtown Indianapolis close to Massachusetts Ave.

Indiana Wildlife Federation

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Common Sense Conservation since 1938

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Urban Habitat Project Work Day

We have been working with our new landlord and other building tenants on plans to make the most of our urban office location. We are formulating plans to clean up and plant the limited green space near our parking lot and building with native plants, build a raised bed garden, install a water feature and other items that will meet and exceed the standards for a certified Urban Wildlife Habitat. If anyone would like to volunteer some time helping us implement these plans, please let us know!

Our first work day was November 8th. A great crew of volunteers brought their gloves and shovels and prepared the beds for spring planting. The weather was sunny and crisp and hot cider afterwards topped off our "groundbreaking" for this new urban habitat.

Please let us know if you'd like to get involved!
info@indianawildlife.org or 317-875-9453

Erin Baird
Program
Manager and
Intern
Coordinator, at
the White River
Festival Inaugural 5k
Run



Black Bass Tag Reward Study

IWF is working in collaboration with Indiana DNR, Indiana Smallmouth Alliance, Reel Men/Reel Women of Indianapolis, Indianapolis Fly Casters, Manchester University and St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers on a research project to learn more about Black Bass. To learn more about the study and be eligible for a chance to receive a **free gift card from Bass Pro Shop**, please visit:
<http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/7709.htm>



New IWF Program Manager

Erin Baird joined the Indiana Wildlife Federation as Program Manager and Intern Coordinator in August of 2013. Erin is a native of Michigan but comes to Indiana after spending 6 years in the mountains of Colorado. While in Colorado, Erin managed the internship program for a nonprofit outdoor education center that provides learning experiences for people of all abilities. Erin holds degrees in Marine Geology and Geochemistry from the University of Michigan and in Therapeutic Recreation from Eastern Michigan University. In her free time, Erin loves hiking, running, reading, getting outdoors and spending time with family and friends. She is excited to call Indianapolis her new home and is loving the opportunity to dive into the conservation scene in Indiana.



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State Wildlife Action Plan

Previously called the Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy, Indiana's State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) is currently being revised to include helping wildlife adapt to climate change. The Plan will address the needs of wildlife in most need of conservation. The goal is a comprehensive Action Plan for all of Indiana, developed and owned by all stakeholders including government agencies, non-government nonprofits, and businesses. This process is being lead by the Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife and IWF is a member of the Advisory Committee. IWF was proud to host the Central Indiana Stakeholder meeting at our new office facilities at the end of September. For additional information about Indiana's SWAP please visit the DNR website: www.swap.dnr.in.gov

75th Anniversary - A Look Back

As you may have heard, this year is the 75th anniversary of the Indiana Wildlife Federation. In honor of our anniversary we have been sorting through some old articles to see what the conservation issues were back in time... Check out this article from Hoosier Conservation Vol. 10 – No. 9 Printed April, 1970. It really makes you think about how communication has changed in the last 43 years!

Bugging the Bug - April 1970

The Family Camping Federation (FCF) recently unveiled a new concept in the control of the greatest menace to our environment: The litterbug. The litterbug has long been the target of many conservation groups. Their methods have been mostly to organize pickup groups to clean up after the litterbug has passed. But now revealed is a method by which each of us could show our displeasure when we saw a litterbug in action.

With our growing population the litterbug is usually observed when he is committing his acts of sabotage to our environment. The observer is normally in an auto or boat with access to a horn of some type.

The FCF proposal is: When a litterbug is seen, the observer uses his horn to signal that a litterbug has been caught in the act. This will serve to warn the litterbug that he was observed during his acts against our environment and will also alert others within hearing range that a litterbug has been seen.

They have adopted the Morse code for the letter "L" meaning litterbug as the signal. Used with a horn it would sound: Beep Beeeeeeep Beep Beep.

If we can show the litterbug that his actions are under scrutiny, then it will help curb his activity.

Charles Holt Scholarship

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

Applications for the Charles Holt Scholarship are being accepted through December 31st, 2013.

Applicants must be Indiana residents accepted for study or already enrolled for the Spring 2014 semester as a full-time undergraduate student in an accredited college or university at or above a sophomore level.

Applicants should be taking coursework to major or minor in a field related to resource conservation or environmental education.

Please visit our website for a scholarship application and more details.

Scholarship award recipient will be notified by February 1st, 2014.

IWF Summer Intern and 2013 Holt Scholarship Award Recipient Joseph Urban

Last year's Holt Scholarship was awarded to Joseph Urban, pictured below with a North American Kestrel. Joseph completed a summer internship with IWF and worked on our Backyard Wildlife Habitat program. Joseph is a Ball State University student majoring in wildlife biology.



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Asian Carp Educational Forums

The Indiana Wildlife Federation in partnership with the Little River Wetland Project, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce and the Northwest Indiana Forum, Inc. hosted three educational forums across the state; in Portage, Ft. Wayne, and Indianapolis.

The meetings covered the progress of control efforts to keep Asian carp and other aquatic invasive species out of the Great Lakes. The forums provided background information in preparation for the Army Corp of Engineers report expected to publish in January, 2014, which will present alternatives for stopping Asian carp and all aquatic invasive species transfers between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River Basins.

The Agenda and Presenters:

Asian Carp Control Progress—John Goss, Asian Carp Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality

Asian Carp in Indiana—John Davis, Deputy Director, Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources

Great Lakes Commission “Restoring the Natural Divide” Report—Matt Doss, Policy Director, Great Lakes Commission (Nov. 6 Forum only)

Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) Interim Report—What to expect in the January 2014 US Army Corp of Engineers report

Eagle Marsh Invasive Species Barrier—Jerry Roach, Assistant State Conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

After the US Army Corp of Engineers releases their report in January there will be a series of public meetings across the Great Lakes States to present the alternatives available to separate the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins. The most well known aquatic threat to the Great Lakes is the Asian carp, which has already infested every Indiana river up to a major dam. The most likely place for the Asian carp to enter the Great Lakes is through the Chicago Area Waterway System. The second most likely place is at Eagle Marsh, just off I-69 at Ft. Wayne.

Be sure to watch the IN Wildlife Federation [website](#) for the date of the next Asian Carp Control Forum next year.



Wild Game Cooking Corner

As we are in the thick of hunting season and with the Holidays upon us, we thought we'd ask one of our bird hunting IWF members for his favorite wild bird game recipe. We talked to Jack Corpuz, pictured above with his dog, Buffy the Pheasant Slayer II and the biggest Indiana pheasant he has ever gotten. Jack's favorite pheasant recipe:

Kansas Pheasant Pot Pie

Pastry (2 crusts; 9 in.)
2 Tbsp. butter
2 Tbsp. flour
1 tsp. salt
dash of pepper
1/2 c. chicken broth
1/2 c. cream
2 c. cubed pheasant
1 can cream of chicken soup
peas, carrots, potatoes

Heat oven to 425F.
Roll and put crust in bottom of dish.
Melt butter in sauce pan.
Blend in flour, salt and pepper.
Cook over low heat stirring until smooth and bubbly. Remove from heat.
Stir in chicken broth and cream. Heat until boiling.
Stir constantly. Boil 1 minute.
Stir in cream of chicken soup then cubed pheasant and vegetables.
Pour into pie crust. Cover with remaining pie crust. Seal and flute.
Bake for 35 to 45 minutes.

Enjoy! Thanks for sharing Jack!

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Canned Hunting Update

On October 15, 2013 Attorney General Gregory Zoeller filed a Notice of Appeal of the Harrison County Court ruling in the case of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources vs. Whitetail Bluff, LCC.

To read the Harrison County Court Decision from September 27, 2013 that is being appealed, and the IN Wildlife Federation press release from October 11, 2013 supporting an appeal, go to:

<http://www.indianawildlife.org/Attorney-General-Appeals-Canned-Hunting-Court-Decision/>.

IWF's website also has a lot of additional information about the issue: <http://www.indianawildlife.org/iwf-issues/wildlife-habitat/>



We had a great time at **the Hoosier Outdoor Experience** this year! We helped over 100 families and youth build bird feeders and had a great time chatting with folks about IWF and our Backyard Habitat Programs. A special thanks to the volunteers - Wendy Kindig, Steve Mueller, Jim Vento, Chuck Harvuot and Dave Hoffman that donated their time, energy and feeder construction skills!



The **Membership Appreciation Party** held on October 17th at the new IWF building was a blast! There was live music, great food cooked up by the IWF Board of Directors and lots of fun had by all. Above is a photo of the festivities.

IWF Welcomes Two New Board Members



Steve Mueller, Steve Mueller is retired from Eli Lilly after 30 years in various technical and line management positions in manufacturing operations. He has BS and MS degrees in Chemical Engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla and post graduate studies at Purdue and Wabash College Executive Program. He loves 'catch-and-release' trout fishing, fly tying, and spending time in the beautiful places that trout live. Since retirement, Steve has served on the Zionsville Park and Recreation Board with specific emphasis on invasive species removal in the parks and working closely with Zion Nature Center to promote nature programs for children and families. He is experienced in not-for-profit strategic planning and board development. Steve has special interests in wildlife habitat creation and preservation.

Susan Cornacchione, Vice President of Development at CICOA Aging & In-Home Solutions supervises the development, marketing and communications, special events and volunteer program efforts of the organization. Her expertise includes major gift and campaign planning, annual fund, volunteer management and prospect research. Prior to joining CICOA, Cornacchione served as the Central Indiana Major Gifts Officer for the American Cancer Society (ACS). She also has fourteen years of higher education fundraising experience in a variety of roles including Senior Development Director with Indiana University Foundation serving the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) campus. She began her career in fundraising at the Indianapolis Museum of Art as the annual fund coordinator. Cornacchione attended IUPUI and is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

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Half Million \$ Will Open Recreational Opportunities for Hoosiers

Efforts by the Indiana Wildlife Federation yielded a half-million dollars to invest in land acquisitions as part of a modified Consent Decree with Indiana Michigan Power (I&M). This will not only protect and open new lands for outdoor enthusiasts of all kinds, but will also result in improvements in the quality of our air over time. We're working with a lot of folks to leverage these settlement dollars with other sources of funding to purchase strategic properties which will increase wildlife habitat in permanently protected areas, and will be available to public access. (Please see our [website](#) for more details and partners.)

Properties currently identified for purchase under the I&M grant include:

- Two tracts totaling **287 acres in the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area** that will be open to hunting, fishing, hiking, photography and wildlife viewing.
- A **343 acre addition to the Sugar Creek Healthy Rivers Initiative area**. The Initiative is the state's largest land conservation effort seeking to protect over 43,000 acres along the Wabash River and Sugar Creek, and over 26,000 acres along the Muscatatuck River bottomlands. A mix of forested, open, and riparian lands provides opportunities for hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, canoeing, photography, hiking and many others.
- A **178 acre land parcel** that is part of the recently announced **Bicentennial Legacy Conservation Area**. That extends from the Cope Environmental Center in Centerville, to Brookville Reservoir. Outdoor opportunities will be available as the project develops including bird watching, photography, hiking, and fishing.

1961 – A Big Year for Hoosier Conservation Clubs

As a new year fast approaches, a look back and a reminder of the IN Wildlife Federation's roots helps us focus on the important conservation priorities. The very first issue of "*Hoosier Conservation*", printed in January 1961, offered the following as the objectives of the newly formed **Hoosier Conservation Council**, made up of 800 clubs:



"Purpose and Aspirations" in 1961

- To cooperate with the Indiana Dept. of Conservation and aid in keeping a definite working program among all of the Conservation Clubs within the State.
- To encourage protection and restoration of water, wildlife, forest and field; safeguard public health by eliminating pollution; discourage unwise drainage; and seek wise land and water use in the broad public interest; nurture and improve wildlife stocks; restore and rehabilitate wildlife environment.
- To see more intensive education of the whole public, youth and adult, in recognizing conservation as vital to our way of life and its preservation; to emphasize the parallel between economic prosperity and the maintenance of an adequate resource backlog.
- To sponsor and support legislation designed to end methods and activities destructive to natural resources and to institute methods seeking to replenish and renew sound resources economy.
- To cooperate with county, state, federal and private agencies of resources management, in improving and strengthening basic resources and in husbanding them through wise utilization.
- To promote highest standards of sportsmanship and to strengthen farmer-sportsman understanding.
- To develop and constantly seek to improve a state-wide long-range program to stimulate and encourage greater public interest in resources.
- To develop greater outdoor opportunity for all, as essential to character-building and to the physical and spiritual welfare of the people.
- To promote organizations of city, community, county, and regional interests, giving them aid, counsel, and support in resolving conservation problems of local, community or state import.