



Eagle Creek Park Volunteer News

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”
—Margaret Mead

Parks on the Park

By Janice Parks, Volunteer Coordinator—Thank you to those of you helping to cover these busy months in our park as docents, gardeners, covering the front desks/phones at our nature centers, assisting with school field trips and special programs, providing animal care, pulling invasive plants, doing trail monitoring, and other indoor/outdoor projects.

Keep in mind that your six month volunteer park pass will automatically be renewed by the computer for July-December 2017 as long as you are maintaining and have logged at least twenty (20) volunteer hours within the past twelve months (by the end of June). If you have not logged the minimum amount of hours, then your volunteer pass will be deactivated until you have eventually again accumulated those hours. You may always feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Remember to log your hours no later than two weeks after you volunteered.

We appreciate you and hope your summertime is full of smiles!

“If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in bed with a mosquito.” ---Betty Reese, American officer and pilot.

Dedicated Desk/Phone Volunteers

More desk/phone volunteers are needed!—Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Janice Parks, if interested.

Volunteer Opportunities *Bringing people and nature together!*

- Nature Guide
- Run/walk events
- Art shows
- Gardening
- Indoor maintenance
- Outdoor maintenance
- Rubbish Busters
- Earth Discovery Center weekend staffing
- Historians
- Bulletin boards
- Team leaders
- Coffee Talks—first Wednesdays
- Project organizers
- Newsletter production
- Special events



Glenna Haberzette



Nancy Mueller



Janet Bay

Ornithology Center Happenings

By Jenna McElroy, Naturalist—Thank you to all of you that volunteered at the International Migratory Bird Day Festival May 20th! We had another year of not-so-ideal weather but I know the OC staff had a lot of fun hanging out with all the volunteers who braved the rain! We had 22 volunteers throughout the day plus the amazing Janice Parks (Mama J) who stayed all day to help out. Some of the activities included hikes (when it wasn't raining), owl pellets, suet bird feeders, migration, Coffee & Canvas, birds and bugs, mud painting, live bird shows, and a "fill the bill" game led by the Amos Butler Audubon Society. Also a big shout out to EDC's Heidi Shoemaker for doing an awesomely cool and creative egg talk called "Chickens Aren't the Only Ones" with tadpoles, turtles, salamanders, snakes, and caterpillars that she trucked over here in the pouring rain! We couldn't do these big events without all of the volunteer support, and we are so grateful! Keep an eye on our Facebook page (facebook.com/Ornithology.Center) for the event pictures taken by volunteer Kevin Trehan!

This summer, we have a few smaller events where we could use some volunteer help. Nature Play Day at the Ornithology Center will be June 17th. Opportunities for volunteers that day include activity tables indoors from 10 am-4 pm and the migration game scheduled from 11 am -1 pm. Jake Brinkman will also be leading two nature hikes, one at 1:00 pm and another at 3:00 pm, that I'm sure he wouldn't mind help with! There are activities at the Earth Discovery Center that day as well. See Heidi's poster for the schedule!

June 29th we will be having our "Little Ducklings Summer Fun Day." Last fall and continuing this spring, Mallory and I started this "Little Ducklings" class for preschoolers and their caregivers, with great success! We love the little ones and how excited they get when learning about nature! The Summer Fun Day is a day of outdoor activities including pond scoop, mud painting, bird hikes, bug safaris, creek stomp, migration game, and more. The morning session (10:30 am-12:00 pm) is already full and the afternoon session (1:30-3:00 pm) is almost full as well. The idea is that the preschoolers will rotate through these different activities with their family, so we will need a leader for each activity!

July 8th is PACK THE PARKS, which means that Eagle Creek is free and we will have a lot of people here that day! The EDC and OC will be having activities throughout the day and will definitely need volunteers. Here is the schedule for the day at the OC, but we will also be having other outdoor games and activities, weather permitting!

10:00 am Advanced Bird Hike	2:30 pm Raptor Feeding Time
11:00 am-2:00 pm Migration Game Open	3:30 pm Beginning Bird Hike

Lastly, we would like to congratulate Will Schaust for his promotion to Manager of the Ornithology Center! Here is the web address to an article by Amos Butler Audubon announcing his new position: <http://www.amosbutleraudubon.org/2017/05/24/will-schaust-named-park-manager-eagle-creek-ornithology-center/>. We wish Kevin Carlsen a happy and bird-filled retirement!

If you would like to volunteer for Nature Play Day, Little Ducklings, or Pack the Parks, please call the OC or email Jenna at jenna.nawrocki@indy.gov. Thank you!



Volunteers Hard at Work

Left: Dawn Van Deman leading Garlic Mustard Pull with Volunteers Joy Fulk, Robin Lagerquist and Bob Hargate, April 2017

Right: Volunteers from Cummins, May 19, 2017



Earth Discovery Center Events

By Heidi Shoemaker, Naturalist—

Coming up:

Weekdays, June and July—Summer Camps. Contact Leah Frenzel to volunteer.

Saturday, June 3—Eagle Creek Foundation Fishing Derby at Lilly Lake

Saturdays, June 10 and June 17—Nature Play Days at the EDC and the OC. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up to help with activities.

Saturdays, June 10 and July 15—Triathlons. Park access will be restricted until 11 am.

Wednesday, June 21 and Thursday, July 13, 9:30 am—Story Time on the Reservoir. Volunteers are requested to sign up to help.

July 8—Pack the Parks. Eagle Creek will be taking part. Park and Beach admission will be free that day, and there will be extra activities at the EDC, OC, and the Beach.

And back in May:

For our free Nature Discovery Classes throughout the month of May, we had a racing theme. We had millipedes that raced in a straight line and were rewarded with sweet potatoes. We had turtle races where the box turtles raced to get to the outside of a hula hoop, raced to complete a lap around the track, and raced to eat an earthworm. We had monarch caterpillar races where caterpillars raced vertically up the stems of milkweed plants, and also roly poly races.

In the turtle races, Turtle A took first place in the race to see who could crawl out of the hula hoop first, securing her spot in the pole position for the next race. In the second race, Turtle B climbed over Turtle C to complete the lap first. For the final race, the turtles were slow to get the worms. The worms, trying to avoid drying out, made their way through the grass and started digging. Turtle C was able to grab a worm before it entered the soil to claim victory. The other worms had to be extracted from the ground with a trowel. Those little guys are stronger than you think!

After the races, visitors got to meet the racers (and the worms) up close and personal, but the turtles declined any autographs. They were great days at the track!



Periodical Cicadas



By: John M. Thieme, entomologist—Every spring many species of cicadas crawl out of the soil as fully developed nymphs to change into winged adults. Most famous is the “Periodical Cicada” (also called the 13-year & 17-year locust) that emerges in staggering numbers in late spring after feeding underground on xylem fluids from perennial plant roots for either 13 or 17 years. As adults they only live another 4-6 weeks, and can be identified by their black thorax, bright red eyes, and clear wings with orange veins. This year in various parts of central Indiana one brood of periodical cicadas (“Brood VI”) is ready to emerge. Most people will see their molted skins or hear the male cicadas singing long before they actually see them since they seek refuge in vegetation, however, many hungry animals will have little trouble finding them. Be on the lookout for these cicadas or you may have to wait until 2034 to see this brood again!

June 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p align="center">Summer Concerts at the Marina Wednesdays, 6:30 pm June 7—Sean Imboden Quartet June 14—Bill Price & His Band of Skeptics June 21—Thomas Brinkley June 28—Blackberry Jam—The Folk Band</p>				1	2	3 Beach open Fishing Derby 1:30 Nat Disc 2:30 Raptor Feed
4 9 Birdwalk 1:30 Feeding 2:30 Raptor	5	6	7 8:30 Coffee 9:30 Gardeners 3 Feeding Time 6:30 Concert	8	9	10 OPEN 11 Nature Play Day 1 Dulcimers 1:30 Nat Disc 2:30 Raptor Feed
11 9 Birdwalk 1 Dulcimer Fest 1:30 Feeding 2:30 Raptor	12	13	14 9 Gardeners 3 Feeding Time 6:30 Concert	15	16	17 9 Invasives 10 Nat Play Day 1:30 Nat Disc 2:30 Raptor Feed
18 9 Birdwalk 1:30 Feeding 2:30 Raptor	19	20	21 9Gardeners 9:30 Story Time 3 Feeding Time 6:30 Concert	22	23	24 1:30 Nat Disc 2:30 Raptor Feed
25 9 Birdwalk 1:30 Feeding 2:30 Raptor	26	27	28 9 Gardeners 3 Feeding Time 6:30 Concert	29 Little Ducklings Summer Fun Day	30 9:30 pm Stargazing at Eagle's Crest	TRIATHLON JUNE 10 <i>Park access restricted until 11 am</i>

Coffee Talk, Wednesday, June 7, 8:30 am, EDC

“Trapping Time—Megenity Cave”

Gerhard Gennrich, Volunteer Assistant, Indiana State Museum Annual Dig, sharing fifteen years of experience excavating paleontological treasures at the permanent grave of several Ice Age animals, including what has become the largest collection of peccary (a piglike mammal) remains in North America.



July 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Summer Concerts at the Marina

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

July 5—Charlie Ballantine & the Providence Band

July 12—Hogeye Navvy July 19—Monica Herzig Acoustic Band

July 26—Tim Grimm

TRIATHLON

JULY 15

*Park access
restricted until
11 am*

1

1:30 Nat Disc
2:30 Raptor Feed

2 9 Birdwalk
1:30 Feeding
2:30 Raptor

3

4 HOLIDAY
EDC & OC
CLOSED

5 8:30 Coffee
9:30 Gardeners
3 Feeding Time
6:30 Concert

6

7

8
Pack the Parks
1:30 Nat Disc
2:30 Raptor Feed

9 9 Birdwalk
1:30 Feeding
2:30 Raptor

10

11

12 9 Gardeners
3 Feeding Time
6:30 Concert

13

9:30 Story Time

14

15 OPEN 11
9 Invasives
1:30 Nat Disc
2:30 Raptor Feed

16 9 Birdwalk
1:30 Feeding
2:30 Raptor

17

18

19 9 Gardeners
3 Feeding Time
6:30 Concert

20

21

22 8 Iron Ea-
gle Paddle &
Run 1:30 Nat
Disc

23 9 Birdwalk
1:30 Feeding
2:30 Raptor

24

25

26 9 Gardeners
3 Feeding Time
6:30 Concert

27

28

29
1:30 Nat Disc
2:30 Raptor Feed

30 Last Beach
day 9 Birdwalk
1:30 Feeding
2:30 Raptor

31

Eagle Creek Park Foundation Iron Eagle Paddle and Run

Saturday, July 22, 8 am

All ages welcome



Coffee Talk, Wednesday, July 5

8:30 am, EDC

Colletta Kosiba

“Bald-Faced Hornets and Turtles”



Eagle Creek Park

5901 Delong Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46254

Earth Discovery Center Phone: 317-327-7148
Ornithology Center Phone: 317-327-BIRD (2473)
Park Office Phone: (317) 327-7110
Volunteer Coordinator Phone: (317) 327-7123
EDC Hours: Mon-Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5
OC Hours: Mon-Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5
Park Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9-5, Sat 9-3

More. Outdoors... Naturally.



MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission is to educate and inspire our community to actively participate with our natural environment.

Indiana Master Naturalist Classes ECP, Thursdays, 6-9 pm, August 3-October 5

The mission of the Indiana Master Naturalist program is to bring together natural resources specialists with adult learners to foster an understanding of Indiana's plants, water, soils, and wildlife, and promote volunteer service in local communities.

- Get hands-on instruction from experts in the field
- Gain entry level understanding of Indiana's natural history
- Attend a minimum of eight 2-3 hour long courses
- Be connected with local resources to complete 30 hours of volunteer service
- Receive IMN accreditation from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Contact the EDC to enroll.

Eagle Creek Park Staff

Brittany Davis Swinford, Senior Manager
Dawn Van Deman, Manager, EDC
Leah Frenzel, Asst. EDC Mgr./Naturalist
Will Schaust, Manager, OC
Jennifer Boyce, Naturalist
Nate Hawkins, OC Seasonal Naturalist
Mallory Kirby, Naturalist
Jenna McElroy, Naturalist
Heidi Shoemaker, Naturalist
Janice Parks, Volunteer Coordinator
Shilah Larison, Manager, Park Office
Dan Neeley, Asst. Park Office Manager
Jenny Love, PO Customer Service Rep

View Newsletter online at: www.Eaglecreekpark.org/volunteer

Deadline for Next Issue: July 24
Natalie Nicholls, Newsletter Editor
Email: nanicho@comcast.net

Happy Birthday to:

June 1—Jason Goldsmith,	June 21—Carol Barber
Sue Lane, Bradley Swick	June 23—Sandy Burrow
June 2—Carmen D'Andrea	June 30—Thom Heeter
June 3—Bill Neureiter	July 3—Toni Robbins
June 5—Carole Cole, Sandy DeLong	July 7—Nandita Chittajallu
June 8—Ashley Honeycutt	July 8—Mike Ainley
June 9—John Pankhurst	July 17—Shirley Gates
June 10—Wayne Bivans,	July 26—Amy Houston
Beth Frailey	July 29—Les Eigenbrod,
June 11—Janice Parks	Donna McCarty
June 16—Hillary Brown	July 30—Bob Hargate
June 17—Nancy Bush	July 31—Sue Arnold,
June 18—Liz Uhls	Joshua Saoner
June 19—Daiva Miller	