

Monday, April 6, 2026



{{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

Despite today's brisk temperatures (and a freeze watch over much of central Indiana), the world beyond our windows is once again turning lush and green. It's a vivid illustration of what Henry David Thoreau once described, in the "Spring" chapter of [Walden](#), as nature's "assurance of a certain generosity at the roots."

Nature has undoubtedly been more generous toward humans over the last few centuries than we have been to her - but, this month, you can help correct that imbalance! Thanks to an unprecedented opportunity made possible by HEC Board Vice Chair Ellen Rosenthal and The Netherleigh Fund, **every dollar donated to HEC during April will be doubled, up to a total of \$25,000.**

Like the roots of a tree, the generosity of our supporters is what sustains HEC and the work we do together. Some roots are newer and shorter while others are older and grow deeper, but each one is vital to the tree's ability to survive and thrive. This Earth Month, some will spend their time communing with nature and others will spend it advocating for nature in their community - but it all comes from the same "***generosity at the roots.***"

And through April 30, [a gift to HEC](#) could double your generosity to nature and your impact on Indiana's future! Please give today.

Double My Impact

## Grow your Green (the green way)!

Your investments. Your values. Your choice.



While you're busy advocating for Indiana's environment and reducing your carbon footprint, **your retirement account is most likely quietly investing in fossil fuels, and you might not even realize it.**

There are roughly \$9.9 trillion dollars invested in 401(k) plans alone in the United States, with \$12.6 trillion representing IRA plans. [Fossil Free Funds](#) estimates that \$863 billion USD have been invested in fossil fuels through IRA and 401(k) plans.

But here's the good news: we can help you grow your green sustainably.

Join the Hoosier Environmental Council for a free webinar on [Friday, April 10th at noon to explore the fundamentals of sustainable investing and learn how individuals can align financial decisions with personal values.](#)

Experts from HEC Green Business C.H. Douglas & Gray Wealth Management will discuss ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) investing and navigating the opportunities and tradeoffs it presents. Participants will leave with a better understanding of how they can responsibly address the environmental and social impacts of their financial portfolio.

Sign Up Today

## LEAP District

HEC has released a [summary report](#) on the LEAP industrial district and the plan by Citizens Energy Group (CEG) and Lebanon Utilities to supply water to the district from CEG's central Indiana supply system and to discharge wastewater generated by multiple LEAP district industries into the north end of Eagle Creek Park and Reservoir in central Indiana.

Eagle Creek Park and Reservoir is a biodiversity hotspot in Indianapolis, serves as a public drinking water resource, and provides significant recreation and tourism opportunities.

HEC believes that decisions made by utilities, businesses, and governments should be based on the best available science, so that all stakeholders are assured that the project will not cause significant environmental and community harm. Care should be taken to steward the park, and the Upper White River watershed, so that it remains a healthy and viable water resource for future generations.

[Read Our Report](#)

## Get Inspired by Green



If early spring flowers and tender tree buds are inspiring you to take a snapshot, don't just let it gather dust on your phone's camera roll: send it to us! You don't have to be a professional photographer to participate in our spring call for photos. So let your inner shutterbug shine and send us all your favorite snapshots for use in our promotional materials.

We always give credit to photographers. Email photos to [comments@hecweb.org](mailto:comments@hecweb.org). Be sure to include your full name as you would like to see it credited.

[Send Photos](#)

## From Green to Brown to Green Again!

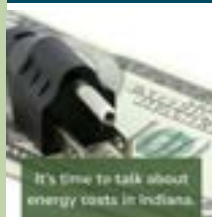


Interested in learning more about compost and how your child's school might take steps towards teaching kids about a circular food system? Join Indiana Grown for their upcoming Webinar, Composting in Schools, April 9, from 4:00 to 5:00 PM ET.

They will be joined by Lauren Click, the Founder and Executive Director of Let's Go Compost, a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping schools to expand composting education and Gowri Somasundaram, Board President of the Indiana Composting Council. They will discuss the basics of composting in schools, the resources Let's Go Compost has for schools including NGSS aligned composting lessons, and Indiana specific regulations and grants for composting programs.

Bring your questions and your food scraps for a fun and educational experience that will help shape our schools to be better equipped for composting initiatives. Register [here](#) today!

## Energy Costs: Feeling Lean, or Going Green?



If you wince every time you switch the lights on, you're not alone. Indiana is facing a mounting energy affordability crisis, and everyday Hoosiers and business owners are caught in the middle. If you've been swamped by energy bills, this is an opportunity to speak up. Through March 26th to April 22nd, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission is hosting a series of listening sessions to address energy affordability. [Check out meetings near you](#) to make the Commission aware of your concerns.

**HEC News & Views**

- [Inside the MDC vote on Martindale Brightwood data center](#), with Paula Brooks, IndyStar, April 1, 2026
- [Utilities warn of soaring costs related to Trump order for Indiana coal plants to stay open](#), with Indra Frank, Indiana Capital Chronicle, March 26, 2026
- [EPA regulation rollbacks continue to impact Evansville area](#), with Indra Frank, Courier & Press, March 20, 2026
- [How to find the most up-to-date news on Indy area data centers](#), with Paula Brooks, Indiana Capital Chronicle, March 18, 2026
- [Sierra Club and Partners Challenge Trump Administration's Illegal Efforts to Block the Retirement of Indiana Coal Plants](#), with Indra Frank, Sierra Club, March 17, 2026
- [Groups Challenge Illegal Order Halting the Retirement of Indiana Power Plants](#), with Indra Frank, Earthjustice, March 16, 2026
- [Gary Residents Question Whether Data Centers Are Worth the Cost](#), with Sam Carpenter, CaptialB, March 16, 2026
- [Indiana wants to toll I-70. A full cross-state trip could cost drivers nearly \\$16](#), with Sam Carpenter, WFYI, March 10, 2026

## Upcoming Events

*The events below are in Eastern Standard Time unless otherwise denoted.*

*Staff from HEC will be present at all events listed in **golden type**.*

- **April 7 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM** | [Water Stakeholder Input Workshop](#), Allen County Public Library - Main Location, 900 Library Plaza, Fort Wayne, IN 46802
- **April 9 | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM** | [Composting for Kids with Indiana Grown](#), virtual
- **April 10 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM** | [Webinar: The Fundamentals of Sustainable Investing](#), virtual
- **April 11 | 10:30 – 11:45 AM** | [CNC Training with the Indianapolis Public Library](#) | Indianapolis Public Library - Lawrence Branch 7898 Hague Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46256
- **April 11 | 11:00 AM - 2:30 PM** | [Gary Planet Palooza](#), Marquette Park, 1 N Grand Blvd, Gary, IN 46403
- **April 13 | 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM** | [The Nature Conservancy White Water Sampling Blitz](#) | Prairie Creek Park, 7801 S 560 E Rd. Selma, IN 47305
- **April 13 | 6:00 – 7:15 PM** | [CNC Training with the Indianapolis Public Library](#) | Indianapolis Public Library - Franklin Road Branch 5550 S Franklin Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46239
- **April 16 | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM** | [Water Stakeholder Input Workshop](#), Beck Agricultural Center, 4550 US-52, West Lafayette, IN 47906
- **April 18 | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM** | [Porter County Earth Day Celebration](#), Porter County Expo Center, 215 E Division Rd, Valparaiso, IN 46383
- **April 18 | 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM** | [Earth Day Celebration at the Children's Museum](#), 3000 N Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46208
- **April 18 | 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM** | [Terre Haute Earth Day Celebration](#), St. Mary of the Woods, 1 Sisters of Providence Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876
- **April 18 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM** | [Bloomington Earth Day Celebration](#), Switchyard Park Pavilion, 1601 S Rogers St, Bloomington, IN 47403
- **April 20 | 6:00 – 7:15 PM** | [CNC Training with the Indianapolis Public Library](#) | Indianapolis Public Library - West Perry Branch 6650 S Harding St, Indianapolis, IN 46217
- **April 22 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM** | [Water Resources Conservation & Planning Workshop](#), County Administration Building – Conference Room 180 S. Main Street, Martinsville, IN 46151
- **April 22 | 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM** | Indiana State University Earth Day Celebration (Live Link Coming Soon), 200 N 7th St, Terre Haute, IN 47809
- **April 25 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM** | [Zionsville Greenfest & Native Plant Sale](#), Heritage Trail Park, 4050 S 875 E, Zionsville, IN 46077
- **April 25 | 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM** | [Westfield Green Day](#), Grand Junction Plaza, 225 S Union St., Westfield, IN 46074
- **April 25 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM** | [Elkhart Environmental Center Earth Day Celebration](#), Elkhart Environmental Center, 1717 E Lusher Ave, Elkhart, IN 46516
- **May 12 | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM** | [Water Stakeholder Input Workshop](#), Knox Community Building 55 East Lake Street, Knox, Indiana, 46534
- **May 17 | 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM** | [Eco Fest Fort Wayne](#), Headwaters Park, 333 South Clinton Street Fort Wayne, IN 46802
- **May 30 | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM** | [Earth Day Indiana](#), Garfield Park, 2345 Pagoda Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46203

*Your support makes the programming described in this email possible. Thank you!*

Donate Now

[comments@hecweb.org](mailto:comments@hecweb.org) [www.hecweb.org](http://www.hecweb.org)



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