

Monday, April 13, 2026



{{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

When you take refuge beneath a shady tree on a hot summer day, you probably think about the green leaves shielding you from the sun. But how often do you think about what's beneath your feet?

Root systems, which feed and stabilize trees, are often three times the size of a tree's canopy. So, if what you see looking up at a tree impresses you, think for a moment about all you're *not* seeing.

In our book, roots are the most underrated part of any tree. Many of us barely notice them until we're digging tree roots out of a flower bed or staring in shock at a tree uprooted by a strong spring storm.

But roots don't go unappreciated at Hoosier Environmental Council. We think of ourselves as a tree with a root system of supporters many times larger than an outsider might see at first glance. And each and every one of those roots anchors us to our mission, nourishes our movement, and strengthens our commitment to growing a healthier, stronger Indiana.

This Earth Month, you can help our root system have a growth spurt, thanks to an unprecedented April gift-match opportunity from HEC Board Vice Chair Ellen Rosenthal and The Netherleigh Fund. From now through April 30, [every dollar donated to HEC during April will be doubled, up to a total of \\$25,000.](#)

Please, double your impact and help us grow even stronger.

Double My Impact!

## Invest Like You Mean It

Your investments. Your values. Your choice.



Ever worry about how your retirement savings are being invested? We're sorry to say, chances are good that a significant portion is invested in fossil fuel industries.

[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: you don't have to choose between saving for your future and living your values. Last Friday, HEC Green Business C.H. Douglas & Gray Wealth Management hosted a [webinar](#) about ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) investing and navigating the opportunities and tradeoffs it presents. Watch the replay to gain a better understanding of how you can responsibly address the environmental and social impacts of your financial portfolio.

Watch the Replay

Are you busy this weekend?



Bloomington. Valparaiso. Indianapolis. What do these three cities have in common?

HEC staff will be tabling at Earth Day events in all three locations **THIS Saturday, April 18!** As part of our Earth Month festivities, we get back to our roots by talking with the people who matter most to us – everyday Hoosiers. This year, we're highlighting the [Improving Kids' Environment \(IKE\) Coalition](#), a HEC program that focuses on kids' environmental health. Swing by our table to learn how [wet dusting](#) can reduce lead exposure and how you can minimize asthma triggers by improving indoor air quality.

Come put the "Hoosier" in "Hoosier Environmental Council" this weekend at these three events:

- **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 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM** | [Bloomington Earth Day Celebration](#), Switchyard Park Pavilion, 1601 S Rogers St, Bloomington, IN 47403

## Your Snapshots Can Make a Difference

If you're reading our e-newsletter, you're probably also taking pictures of the violets that sprouted up in your lawn and the cool bug you found hanging out on your back patio. But did you know that your local nature pictures can be a force for good? **From April 24 to 27, you can take photos for the 2026 City Nature Challenge through the iNaturalist app to contribute to a global community science project.** Data from your photos will help scientists learn about urban biodiversity in your area, and can even help inform conservation policy.

More participation means more data and larger insights. So don't be afraid to take your phone for a nature walk next weekend with some friends!

Participating cities include [the greater Indianapolis area](#), [greater Fort Wayne](#), and [Chicagoland](#), which includes Northwest Indiana. Learn how to use the iNaturalist app and take research-grade photos at the training below.

- April 20 | 6:00 – 7:15 PM | [CNC Training with the Indianapolis Public Library](#) | West Perry Branch



## Help us See Indiana Through Your Eyes



This spring, we want to see Indiana's natural beauty through the eyes of Hoosiers. Each time we do a call for photos, we're delighted by the serene landscapes, winding forest trails, and native wildlife you capture.

We spend a lot of time trying to communicate that Indiana's environment is worth conserving. But your photos do it in a snap. Send us your favorite nature 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

## HEC News & Views

- [Water quality of Indiana rivers and streams improving, says the state](#), with David Van Gilder, IndyStar, April 9, 2026
- [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
- [Data Center Townhall](#), with Sam Carpenter, WSBT News, 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 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)



Hoosier Environmental Council  
3951 N. Meridian St  
Suite 100  
Indianapolis, IN 46208  
United States

If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please  
(Unsubscribing is not supported in previews).

Sent by [comments@hecweb.org](mailto:comments@hecweb.org)

{{Disclaimer}}

