

Monday, April 27, 2026

We're all from  the same root



Thanks to HEC Board Vice Chair Ellen Rosenthal and The Netherleigh Fund, **your Earth Month gift will be doubled**, up to a total of \$25,000, which is our largest April gift match ever!

Please help us reach this lofty goal by making your donation by April 30th. hecweb.org/donate



{{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

Did you know that fungi allow trees to [communicate](#) with each other? Beneath your feet, mycelia, or threadlike fungal structures, intertwine with tree roots to form what experts refer to as the [mycorrhizal network](#). Also known as the “wood-wide web”, this vast, microscopic fungal network allows trees to transfer carbon, nitrogen, minerals, and even send [chemical, hormonal and slow-pulsing electrical signals](#) to other trees. In return, fungi keep 30% of the sugar transferred through the network.

This finding paints trees in a new light – one in which they are deeply interconnected with each other and rely on an interdependent community to survive and thrive. HEC supporters remind us of the mycorrhizal network, because you connect us to your communities and sustain us. This Earth Month, **there are just three days left to double your impact** and send us support to help us grow - no fungi required. From now through this Wednesday, April 30, [every dollar donated to HEC during April will be doubled, up to a total of \\$25,000](#) thanks to an unprecedented April gift-match opportunity from HEC Board Vice Chair Ellen Rosenthal and The Netherleigh Fund.

Speaking of sustaining life forms, we had so much fun seeing **YOU** this Earth Month! HEC staff and volunteers visited six counties and eight events this April. Like underground fungal networks, you are vital, but we don't get a chance to see you every day. Thank you for the intriguing conversations, laughs, and earthy joy. More opportunities to connect are coming up at May Earth Month events - just look for the golden type in the 'Upcoming Events' section.

Don't forget to [double your impact](#) today – it's as easy as dropping us a line through the wood-wide web.

Double My Impact & Help HEC Grow



Earth Day at the Children's Museum; photo by Eve Earley



Earth Day at the Children's Museum; photo by Eve Earley



Earth Day at Purdue Fort Wayne; photo by Faith Van Gilder



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Roots of Change



Agriculture plays a prominent role in Indiana's water quality, carbon sequestration, and more. In [a recent blog post](#), Brent Kumfer, owner of [The Rejoicing Vine Winery](#) in Indianapolis, illustrates how regenerative agriculture has the potential to take root in Indiana. Better yet? Every single Hoosier plays a role - so learn how *you* can support regenerative farming in your locality.

Read more about
Indiana's "next great harvest"

Calling all Indy Residents to Comment - this week!



Pictured: AWS data center campus in New Carlisle, Indiana. Photo courtesy of South Bend Tribune.

On April 21, the Indianapolis Department of Metropolitan Development (IndyDMD) [presented draft zoning policies for local data centers](#) to a committee of the Indianapolis City-County Council. But before the Council votes on the proposed regulations, IndyDMD wants to get reactions and feedback from the city's residents - and HEC is encouraging our Indy-based supporters to accept DMD's invitation!

The [draft zoning regulations](#) and [related FAQs](#) can be found on IndyDMD's [data center webpage](#), where you can also submit a comment using their [convenient online form](#) and/or register to attend either of next week's community information sessions, which will be held:

- [Tuesday, April 28, 2026, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.](#)
- [Thursday, April 30, 2026, from 12 to 1 p.m., 2026, from 12 to 1 p.m.](#)

Advance registration is **required** to attend either session.

HEC supports the city's intention to regulate data centers, but would like to see stronger language around integration of clean energy, sourcing and discharge of water, and inclusion

of pollution impact studies. Click the "blog post" button below for more about HEC's position on the draft regulations.

Visit IndyDMD's
Data Center Page

Check out HEC's
Blog Post

HEC News & Views

- [Indiana coal ash cleanup at risk under EPA rollback proposal](#), with Indra Frank, WFYI Public Media, April 24, 2026
- [What environmental issues are Hoosiers facing this Earth Day?](#), with David Van Gilder, Indiana Public Media, April 20, 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**.*

- **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
- **June 6 | 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM** | [Pike Farmer's Market](#), Common Ground West Church 5429 Lafayette Road Indianapolis IN 46254
- **June 13 | 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM** | [Pike Farmer's Market](#), Common Ground West Church 5429 Lafayette Road Indianapolis IN 46254
- **June 20 | 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM** | [Pike Farmer's Market](#), Common Ground West Church 5429 Lafayette Road Indianapolis IN 46254
- **June 27 | 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM** | [Pike Farmer's Market](#), Common Ground West Church 5429 Lafayette Road Indianapolis IN 46254

There are just three days left to double your gift!

Donate Now

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