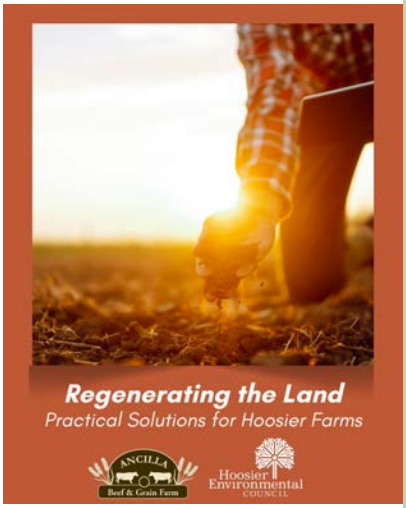
Monday, August 24

{{FirstName or 'Friend'}},



Tomorrow, August 25, is our one-day sustainable agriculture workshop, *Regenerating the Land: Practical Solutions for Hoosier Farms* at Marion University Plymouth from 9 AM to 4 PM EST. **Although we are no longer taking online registrations, you can register in-person on site.**

Agriculture contributes an estimated $35.1 billion to Indiana's economy, and our state's food system plays a large role in the quality of our air, water, and soil. Don't miss your opportunity to level up your conservation advocacy, connect with like-minded people, and learn from innovative experts.

Interested? Check out our **registration page** for directions, parking, and general event information. Please keep in mind that tickets cost $50 and include lunch and a light breakfast.

We hope you'll join us tomorrow.

Get Event Information

Check out the Agenda

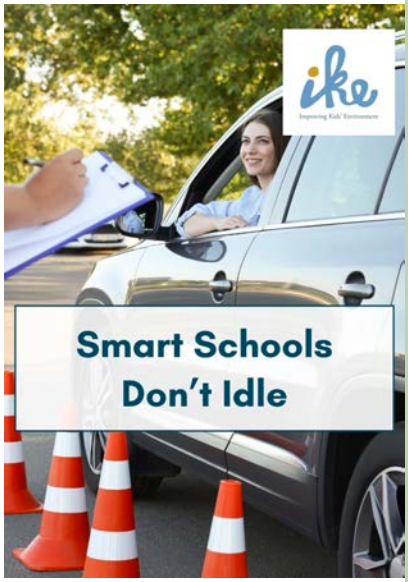
Carpool Line Exhaust is Making it into the Classroom

Have you ever thought about the air pollution from idling vehicles at school pick-up and drop-off lines?

It might seem like a small source of pollution, but it actually makes a big impact on kids' learning environment. According to the World Health Organization, air pollution increases the risk of asthma, cancers, impaired lung function, and cognitive effects, limiting children's ability to learn, play, and thrive.

Indiana alone could reduce emissions by 119 tons each year by simply encouraging parents to turn off vehicles while dropping off and picking up children at daycare.

Not only will this reduce outdoor pollution at schools, but it will improve classroom air quality as well. Because pick-up and drop-off areas are often located near fresh air intakes, idling vehicle emissions frequently wind up inside schools.



That's why HEC's program, Improving Kids' Environment (IKE), is launching ***Smart Schools Don't Idle***, a **free** program that reduces idling vehicle emissions at 5-10 Indiana schools for the 26-27 school year - **and your child's school or daycare could be one of them!**

The program began as a pilot at elementary schools in Marion County, implemented by IKE and the City of Indianapolis Knozone program, through a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency. Today, the "Smart Schools Don't Idle" program has been implemented statewide and is completely free to participating pre K and K-12 schools.

Ready to be part of the solution? Interested schools can reach out to Jocelyn Keranen at jkeranen@hecweb.org or via phone at 317.812.1716 or submit our interest form here.

Ask a Program Question | **Submit an Interest Form** | **Learn More on IKE's Website**

Tiny Particles. Big Consequences.

This water quality month, we're spotlighting tiny particles with big consequences. Our Water Program and Policy Director, Jason Donati, wrote a blog post about microplastics, why they're harmful, and what you can do about them.

Think back to the last time you waded into a river in Indiana. You probably didn't notice any plastic fragments floating in the water. But all around you, microplastics lurked in fiber, film, foam, bead, spherical, and pellet form. Many are invisible to the naked eye. Nanoplastics, microscopic plastic fragments, also floated around – and within you.

Keep Reading

Vote (for) the Environment!

Understanding candidates' environmental stances can be challenging. This event makes it easier.

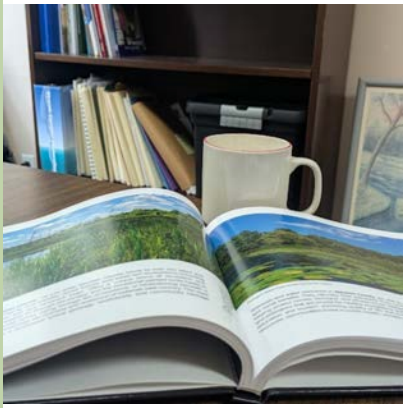
Join Hoosier Environmental Council and Earth Charter Indiana for a non-partisan candidate forum in Central Indiana! Learn more about participating candidates' take on environmental issues impacting Hoosiers.

Be confident at the ballot box. Register to join us on August 28, 2026, from 5 to 7 PM at Forest Park in Noblesville.

Refreshments provided.

Register

Celebrate Water Quality Month with a Little Treat



Your morning coffee ritual just got upgraded.

Get off your phone and take a seasonal road trip through Indiana's wetlands from your couch. Our coffee table book, written by Dr. Maria Iturbide-Chang and captured by 24 Hoosier photographers, features the hidden beauty and wonder of wetlands throughout our state. Come for the mesmerizing nature photography and stay for the fun facts.

Purchasing your copy is the perfect way to round out Water Quality Month.

Purchase your copy here!

Upcoming Events

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

- **August 25 | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM |** Regenerating the Land: Practical Solutions for Hoosier Farms, Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, 9601 Union Rd, Plymouth, IN 46563
- **August 26 | 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM |** Farmland Succession Café, virtual
- **September 10 | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM |** Get the Dirt, Teter Organic Farm, 10980 E 221st St, Noblesville, IN 46062
- **September 19 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM** | 2026 First Annual Butterfly Milkweed Festival & Plant Sale, Holliday Park Nature Center, 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis, IN 46260
- **September 30 | 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM |** Farmland Succession Café, virtual

Made it all the way to the end? Consider making a donation to support our programs.

Support Our Work

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comments@hecweb.org www.hecweb.org

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

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Hoosier Environmental COUNCIL