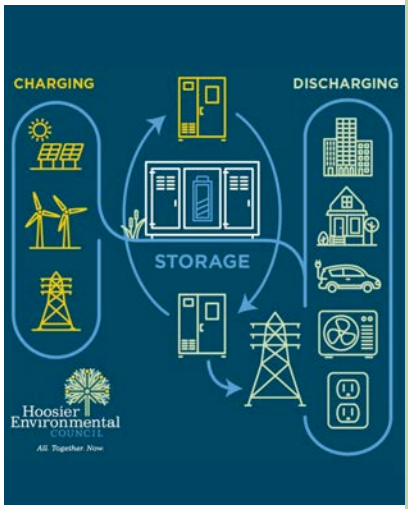
Monday, October 19

{{FirstName or 'Friend'}},



Chances are, you've heard all about wind and solar. But do you know what technology helps maximize their contributions to the grid?

It's called Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), and we're hosting a **free webinar** **tomorrow, October 20th, at 12 PM EDT** that will fill you in on all the BESS basics! We'll talk about how energy storage works, safety considerations, how energy storage projects move through local approval, and how energy storage fits into Indiana's broader energy planning.

What are you waiting for? **Sign up today** to become a better advocate for renewables!

I'm ready to upgrade my renewable energy knowledge

Cultivating Resilience in your Mind & the Climate

"I vividly remember wearing sweaters on Labor Day, but today I reached for my shorts as I checked the weather. According to the National Weather Service, “the Indianapolis area reached or exceeded 95 degrees for the first five days of September. This is the first time since records began in 1871 that there have been 5 consecutive days of 95 degrees or warmer in the month of September." I planned a bird hike in July, relishing the idea of cooler weather by mid-September during the fall bird migration. Instead, my friend and I were greeted with temperatures in the upper 80s, which did little to stop us from enjoying the outdoors. But we both remarked how unusual the warm temperatures were for this late in the year and named it for what it was: a climate crisis. Normalizing extreme weather patterns is how we cope with this change, letting it buzz in the back of our minds, adding to our anxieties outside our immediate awareness..." **Read More Here**

Between the news and the weather, we're reminded that we're in a climate crisis almost every day. That can take a toll on your mental health. Diana Harrington, MA, LMHC and owner of HEC Green Business **Healing Indy LLC** wrote a beautiful essay for everyone who feels as depleted as our planet.

Learn about finding balance and taking action

A Franklin Township Wetland Victory

We're thrilled to announce that the petitioners withdrew proposed petition 2026-MOD-003, which would fill portions of the Franklin Township wetland to accommodate a heavy vehicle sales, rental, and repair facility development.

At the last rezoning hearing in August, the petitioners failed to submit a traffic study and wetland delineation. They requested, and were granted, a 2-month continuance to conduct and submit them. The city staff indicated that another continuance would not be granted. The petitioners withdrew before the next scheduled hearing in October.

While the petitioners have the option to file again in 2027, we're celebrating this as a win. When you write to your officials, share calls to action with your network, and take a stand at public hearings, you can make a real difference.

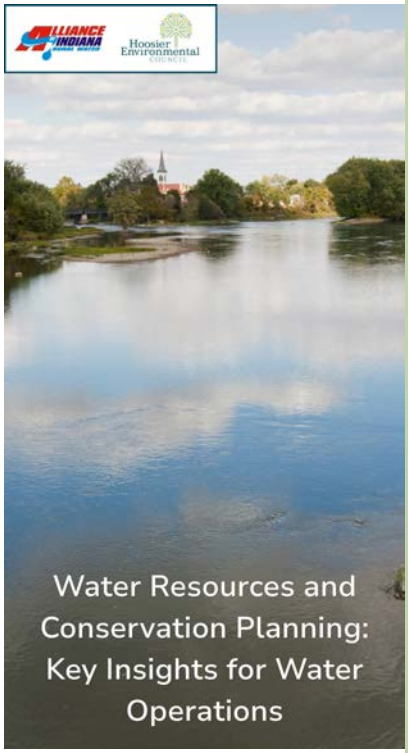
What's next for this much-beloved South Side wetland? Community organization Wetlands Not Warehouses (WNW) Franklin Township has raised $10k to create a conceptual design to turn the land parcel into a community nature preserve and park. The Indy Parks Committee has also **indicated that they support the effort** if WNW can donate the land to them. To learn more about the community's efforts, **visit their website**.

Learn More About Indiana's Water Resources

Are you a water, conservation, farming, or rural utilities professional? Or maybe a clean water enthusiast? If so, HEC and The Alliance of Indiana Rural Water invite you to our upcoming workshop, ***Water Resources and Conservation Planning: Key Insights for Water Operations***, on November 10, from 9 AM to 12 PM EST at the Beeson Clubhouse in Winchester, Indiana.

HEC's Sustainable Agriculture Director, Toby Days, will give a presentation about Indiana's water resources and the need for statewide water planning. Other topics will include the current state of Indiana's water supply, how communities can protect their drinking water sources, what local water testing tells us, and how farming practices can support cleaner water. Attendees will also learn about funding and support available through local and federal programs. Don't miss out — register today!

Learn More & Sign Up



Upcoming Events

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

- **October 20 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM |** Energy Storage 101, Virtual
- **October 28 | 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM |** Farmland Succession Café, Virtual
- **October 29 | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM |** Carmel Green Initiative's Data Center Program, Carmel Clay Public Library, 425 East Main Street, Carmel, IN 46023
- **November 18-19 | 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM |** Drive Clean Indiana's Crossroads Clean Tech Conference, Blue Chip Stardust Event Center, Michigan City, IN 46360

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

Support Our Work

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