

Conservation Conversation: An Earth Day Celebration

April 15, 2018, 9:00 am – 7:00 pm

IPFW Alumni Center, 1528 East California Road

Sponsored by the Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Arts and Sciences START program,
IPFW Environmental Resources Center and DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife

9:00 **Welcomes and Housekeeping:** *Bruce Kingsbury and Brad Feaster*

Putting the State Wildlife Action Plan into Action

Brad Feaster, DNR Fish and Wildlife

9:20 **Indiana Stream and Wetland Mitigation Program**

Brad Baldwin, Department of Natural Resources

9:40 **Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*) Augmentation in the Tippecanoe River**

Brant Fisher, DNR Fish and Wildlife

10:00 **Cold-water Habitat Initiative**

Steve Donabauer, DNR Fish and Wildlife

10:20 **BREAK** – *Go look at the displays!*

10:40 **Restoring Wetlands for Our Community**

Betsy Yankowiak, Little River Wetlands Project

11:00 **Accessibility and Utility of Water Quality Data for the Maumee River Basin: WQIS**

Robert Gillespie, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne

11:20 **Digging Down to Clean-Up: City Utilities' Clean Water Program**

Anne Marie Smrcek, City Utilities, City of Fort Wayne

11:40 **Managing the Riparian Areas of the Summit City**

Dan Wire, Parks and Recreation, City of Fort Wayne

12:00 **Lunch** - *Get in on some pizza! Check out the displays!*

1:00 **Grasslands for Gamebirds and Songbirds Initiative**

Jason Wade, DNR Fish and Wildlife

1:20 **Urban Wildlife Program**

Jessica Merklung, DNR Fish and Wildlife

1:40 **Using Fire for Conservation**

Nate Simons, Blue Heron Ministries

- 2:00 **Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA)**
Scott Johnson, DNR Fish and Wildlife
- 2:20 **Changing Culture to Save Lives: An IPFW/BCCC Collaboration**
Sherrie Steiner, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, IPFW
- 2:40 **BREAK** – *Mingle and Check out those displays!*
- 3:00 **Challenges Facing the Conservation of Bats in Northeastern Indiana**
Scott Bergeson, Department of Biology, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
- 3:20 **Nature Preserves in Northeast Indiana: Conservation Priorities**
Tom Swinford, DNR Nature Preserves
- 3:40 **Conserving Cedar Creek Corridor: Land Preservation at the Landscape Level**
Jason Kissel, ACRES Land Trust
- 4:00 **The ERC - Looking Back and Looking Forward**
Bruce Kingsbury, IPFW Environmental Resources Center
- 4:20 **PANEL:** *Where do we go from here?*
- 5:00 **BREAK LAST CHANCE TO VISIT TABLES AND DISPLAYS**
- 5:30 **DINNER** **Capturing Nature Through Photography** – *Brian Wood*
RSVP Required

Even more organizations will be in attendance with displays and representatives eager to chat about their most recent efforts to create a sustainable world. These organizations include:

- ACRES Land Trust
- Black Pine Animal Sanctuary
- Earth Charter
- Fox Island Alliance
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Indiana Native Plant and Wildlife Society
- Little River Wetlands Project
- Sierra Club
- Water Quality Information Services
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- And others!