

Riffles & Pools

Office of Water Quality www.idem.IN.gov



The White River in Marion County

January / February 2014

In this Issue:

- Equipment Check
- U.S. EPA Awards for Environmental Educators
- Project Dragonfly Watch
- New County GIS
- Photo Contest

Riverwatch Events:

*Riverwatch
Schedule coming
February
2014*

Hoosier
Riverwatch is
sponsored by



Riverwatch News: Greetings Riverwatchers!

Welcome to 2014! Based on the weather thus far, it may be a month or so before you actually head to the stream. Although, kudos to your hearty souls out there now. However, it is never too early to start getting your game plan in order so you can hit the ground running.

First, check your monitoring supplies. Look for expired materials, nets with holes, cracked magnifiers, etc. If you have received an equipment package from Hoosier Riverwatch, you can refill basic supplies by visiting www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch/2334.htm and filling out the request form. We will also be offering equipment packages in 2014. These are available for not-for-profits, schools, and government entities. Look for the application to be available in March.

If you do not have a package but are looking to update or purchase equipment, Riverwatch uses a variety of vendors. You can check out *Appendix A* of the manual (www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch/2332.htm). However, as you may recall from the workshop, you are not required to use our recommended methodologies to be part of our network. We encourage you to use test kits that provide reliable data and are easy for you to use. If you have access to a lab or one of the probes, that is fabulous. *(Continued on last page)*



U.S. EPA Environmental Education Award Applications now Open

U.S. EPA is welcoming applications from public school teachers (K-12) for the third annual Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Education.

Deadline: February 28, 2014.

The award recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers and their local education agencies nationwide for excellence in integrating environmental education into their lessons and connecting students with their communities and the natural world.

Winners will receive \$2,000 to support their professional development in environmental education and each winner's school will also receive a \$2,000 award to help fund environmental education activities and programs that support the teacher.

For more information, visit www2.epa.gov/education/presidential-innovation-award-environmental-educators.

For questions, please contact bowman.jennifer@epa.gov

Riverwatch Workshops are Coming

Hoosier Riverwatch is in the process of scheduling workshops for 2014.

The preliminary listing will be released in February 2014 with additions throughout the year. Please check, www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch/2364.htm throughout the year for more details.



Dragonfly Pond Watch Project

Dragonfly Pond Watch is a volunteer-based program of the Migratory Dragonfly Partnership (MDP) to investigate the annual movements of five major migratory dragonfly species in North America: Common Green Darner (*Anax junius*), Black Saddlebags (*Tramea lacerata*), Wandering Glider (*Pantala flavescens*), Spot-winged Glider (*Pantala hymenaea*), and Variegated Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum corruptum*). By visiting the same wetland or pond site on a regular basis, participants will be placed to note the arrival of migrant dragonflies moving south in the fall or north in the spring, as well as to record when the first resident adults of these species emerge in the spring.

For more information, download a flyer about the Pond Watch Project and other MDP projects at:

www.migratorydragonflypartnership.org/uploads/ROOT/File/MDP-citizen_science_projects.pdf.

White County to Share GIS Data

With the recent addition of White County, all but three of Indiana's 92 counties are contributing critical geographic data to the IndianaMap, the largest publicly available collection of Indiana geographic information system (GIS) map data. The data collected from the counties are integrated in statewide data layers and made available to the public. These layers consist of land parcels, point addresses, road centerlines, and local administrative boundaries.

These data along with more than 240 other geographic data sets are used to promote economic development, manage natural resources, prepare for and respond to natural disasters, support academic research, and inform the public.

You can:

- Access easy-to-use interactive web maps from a computer or mobile device.
- Select from a gallery of predefined maps to view or customize.
- Download free GIS data and metadata.
- Learn about IndianaMap GIS projects, initiatives, and news.

Visit www.IN.gov/gis/ for more information.



Indiana Photo Contest

The Indianapolis Airport Authority and The Nature Conservancy in Indiana invite artists to submit photographs and photo-based artworks highlighting the natural beauty of Indiana, to be selected through a competition format for display at Indianapolis International Airport for a three-month period beginning in May 2014.

The competition is open to professional and amateur photographers regardless of residence or citizenship, so long as the laws of their jurisdiction allow participation and they are able to comply with the rules and procedures of this competition. Photographers must be age 13 or older.

Employees of The Nature Conservancy and the Indianapolis Airport Authority, and their immediate families, are not eligible to participate. Due to copyright licensing requirements and other laws, applicants under age 18 must have a parent or legal guardian available to cosign the application form and to authorize participation and any applicable agreements.

All submitted artworks must be photographs or photo-based images. All photographs must have been shot within the past five years (2009-2013). The photographed location must be within the State of Indiana. Preference will be given to images of Nature Conservancy preserves within Indiana.

Within each category, photographers may submit up to 3 images in each of the following divisions, for a total maximum submission of 12 artworks:

- Landscape
- Plant life
- Wildlife in natural habitat
- Artistic

More information, including complete rules and application can be found at:

www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/indiana/iaa-photo-contest.xml . The deadline is February 1, 2014.





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Greetings... (continued from the cover)

The next thing to think about is your sampling sites and monitoring dates. Do your sites reflect the questions you are asking (study design)? Do you have dates planned? I know sometimes it seems that I am a chicken with its head cut off, running from place to place. I imagine some of you feel the same way, so go head and schedule your monitoring dates now. This will ensure you have the time to get out into the water. If your study design relies on wet weather monitoring, make sure you know who is going to go out and when.

I am excited for what 2014 brings us. You will be hearing more about the External Data Framework, which I think all of you can play a role in contributing. Volunteers are important to the success of water quality programs, so I hope you are all ready to dive on in.

If there are questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at riverwatch@idem.IN.gov or 317-308-3392.

- Lisa

Hoosier Riverwatch Mission:

The mission of Hoosier Riverwatch is to involve the citizens of Indiana in becoming active stewards of Indiana's water resources through watershed education and clean-up activities. Hoosier Riverwatch is sponsored by the **Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Office of Water Quality.**

For more information, go to www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch .

