

The Nature Nuts News - June 2011

"The rule of no realm is mine...But all worthy things that are in peril as the world now stands, those are my care. And for my part, I shall not fail in my task...if anything passes through this night that can still bear fruit and flower again in days to come...For I am also a steward."

~ J.R.R. Tolkien as spoken by Gandalf in *The Return of the King*

Welcome to volume 4 issue 6 of "The Nature Nuts News", a monthly newsletter keeping you updated with Allen County Parks Volunteer activities. Included is a monthly calendar of events for volunteers.

My Family Issues

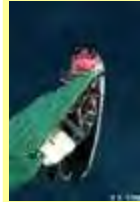
We have all been there. We know from whose genetics we have been derived. Oh the agony! What am I jabbering about? Well, my niece and nephew and two daughters thought it a grand idea to gather toad tadpoles from their great aunt's outdoor fish pond this weekend and bring them home to grandma's house in a styrofoam cooler, upon which they had poked air holes in the lid for "the tadpoles to breathe". Imagine my disgust upon discovering that my very own offspring had forgotten that tadpoles breathe through gills just like fish! More importantly, they planned on raising these stolen wonders at home. Once I convinced them that the tadpoles would probably die if we took them home, a grand scheme was secretly developed to "save" all of the tadpoles from the outdoor pond and release them in the local creek. Apparently said aunt did not want tadpoles in her pond! Putting further personal disgust aside, I questioned why she wanted the tadpole removed. "Aunt the Great" claimed "that she was going to put coy fish in that pond and didn't want that many tadpoles muddying the waters!" Ugh! Imagine her disgust when I told her that the tadpoles would provide free food for her non-native golden outdoor pests (oh I mean pets!). Here's hoping that the fish are free food to non-native cats!

Aside from the obvious issues, I won't even discuss the legal ramifications of moving animals species from one habitat to another!



Metea Programs (call 449-3777)

- 6/1 Eve. Hike w/ Michael, 9pm
- 6/6 Mon. Morn. w/ Michael, 7am
- 6/10 Lightning Bugs, Fireflies, 8pm
- 6/11 Canoeing Basics, 9a-12noon
- 6/12 Metea Challenge, 2-5pm
- 6/18 Cedar Creek Canoe Trip, 1-5pm
- 6/18 Cedar Creek Wade, 2pm
- 6/19 Living Crayfish Study, 2pm



6/24 Night Hike, Lightning Beetle Fireworks! 9:30pm

Fox Island Programs (call 449-3180)

- 6/13-17 Jr. IMN Class, 9am-3pm
- 6/14 Preschool Discovery Hr., 1pm
- 6/20-24 FISH Camp!, 9am-5pm daily
- 6/27-7/1 Survivor Camp, 9am-5pm
- 7/11-15 Back In Time Camp, 9a-5p
- 7/18-22 Outdoor Games Camp, 9a-5p

School Groups need Guides at Fox Isle:

- 6/2 Abbott Elementary, Pre-K, 9:45-Noon
- 6/3 The *entire South Wayne Elementary* will be visiting Fox Island from 10:00am-1:30pm

www.allencountyparks.org



Requests for assistance or suggestions on how the county can better meet the needs of those persons with disabilities may be submitted to the ADA Coordinator at:
Human Resources Department, Room 208, 1 East Main Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802, or by telephone at 260-449-7217, TDD 260-449-7881.

Allen County Park VIP's

Metea County Park

Toad eggs have hatched.
Look for little black tad-
poles!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Evening Hike with Michael, 9pm	2	3	4
5	6 Monday Morning with Michal, 7am	7	8	9	10 Lightning Bugs, Fireflies, 8pm	11 Canoeing Basics, 9am-Noon
12 Metea Challenge, 2-5pm	13	14	15	16	17	18 Canoe Trip, 1-5pm Creek Wade, 2pm
19 Living Crayfish Study, 2pm	20	21	22	23	24 Night Hike, Lightning Beetle Fireworks, 9:30pm	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Metea County Park Volunteer Needs

Call 449-3777 for info.

This year Metea needs a new leaf collection. Talk to naturalist, Ron Divelbiss.

Meet "Pocky", the soft-shelled turtle!



Tadpole with two back legs.

Metea volunteers needed to develop volunteer events at Metea.

Frog Tracks!

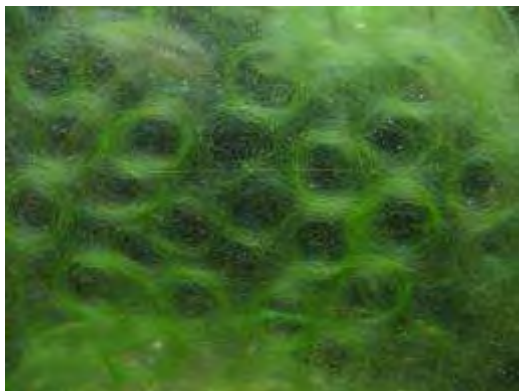


Fox Island County Park

If you venture out to the vernal pools (filling quickly now) look for the brilliant colors of the male woodduck shown in the picture to the right.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Abbott Elementary, 9:45am-Noon	3 South Wayne Elementary, 10am-1:30p	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Jr. IMN Class	14 PreK Discovery Hr. 1pm, Jr. IMN Class	15 Jr. IMN Class	16 Jr. IMN Class	17 Jr. IMN Class	18
19	20 FISH Camp!	21 FISH Camp!	22 FISH Camp!	23 FISH Camp!	24 FISH Camp!	25
26	27 Survivor Camp!	28 Survivor Camp!	29 Survivor Camp!	30 Survivor Camp!	Survivor Camp!	



←—*Blue-green Algae*

Sori underneath fern leaf —>





**Allen County Parks
and Recreation**

7324 Yohne Rd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46809

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



The Nature Nut News

A Publication for Allen County Parks Volunteers



Invasive vs. Native vs. Non-Native

“What’s the difference?”

To find out:

Check out the Purdue Master Gardener State Conference; Sustaining the Circle of Growth!

*IPFW –Fort Wayne, IN.
June 9-11, 2011*