

Little River Wetlands Project's 2019 Volunteer Opportunities

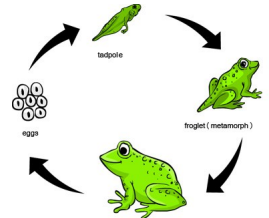


Contacts: Preserves and Programs Steward - Maraiah: m.russell@lrwp.org

Wetland Educator-Aly: a.munger@lrwp.org

Science of the Seasons: Phenology Project Training

Saturday, March 2 , 1pm-3pm, meet at LRWP Office



Learn to observe changes and use the app INaturalist to contribute to biodiversity science, both locally and globally! Recording the changes that plants and animals go through over the course of the year is a great way to monitor the overall health of the surrounding environment. Phenology is the study of seasonal life cycle events. What date do Bur Oaks start to leaf out? What are the frogs doing today? Join us for information about this project and how you can participate. Contact Maraiah to sign up for the training.



Community Outreach Events

Join us at an offsite event to help spread the word about all the great things LRWP does! This is another great way to get outside and help us at the same time. We set up tables with information and fun educational activities at a variety of events throughout the year. Look for emails detailing the 2019 events we plan to participate in and how you can sign up to help with them.



LRWP Trail Guide Training

Saturday, August 17th, 10 am-Noon

If you love nature and would like to share your knowledge with others, consider training to become a wetland guide with LRWP. You will help serve over 10,000 participants at our education programs.

If you'd like more information, contact Aly!





Stewardship

Saturdays , November thru March, times and dates TBA

Wednesdays, April thru October, starting at 5:30pm**

Tuesdays, August thru October, starting at 5:30 pm, "Seed Gatherings"



Become a Preserve Steward and help our stewardship crew with various activities that help our native plants thrive. This is a very neat way to get to understand what restoration actually involves and really get to know our preserves – off the trail. We remove invasive species, do plant transplants, plantings, native garden maintenance, trail repair, seed gathering and spreading (in fall), and more! Contact Maraiah for more information and to join the email list for these events.

**subject to winter weather conditions*

***We will not meet April 3 due to the Volunteer Kickoff Event*



Nest Box Monitor Training

Saturday, March 23, 10am to Noon



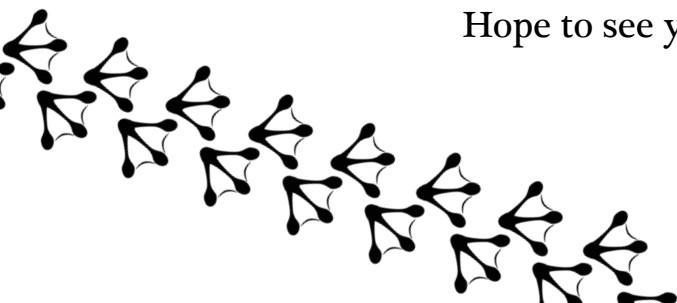
Have you noticed the bluebird boxes located around the trails? Have you ever taken a moment to watch who's coming and going? Join us for Nest Box Monitor Training and learn how to safely check on and record what's happening in those boxes! This training will focus on the smaller bluebird nest boxes, so no wading necessary! If you are interested in signing up for this project, contact Maraiah .

Volunteer Kick-Off Campfire

Wednesday, April 3, from 6pm to 8pm

Join us to launch another great year of working with the LRWP community! Enjoy some hot dogs (Kosher and veggie too) and s'mores around the campfire with other fellow volunteers at the Eagle Marsh barn. If raining, we will have a pizza party! Hear about the upcoming events of 2019 and learn how you can be a part of them. You're welcome and encouraged to bring along your family or anyone interested in becoming a volunteer. Please RSVP to Maraiah with food preferences, by March 31.

Hope to see you at this fun, laid back event!





Annual Spring Clean-up

Saturday, April 13, from 10am until Noon

Meet at the Eagle Marsh gateway parking area (west of green gate) at 6801 Engle Road. Help us protect our preserve's habitats and the wildlife that depend on them at this annual event by helping to remove winter's trash. Bring garden rakes, grabbers, any useful tools, trash bags, and work gloves (waterproof recommended) if you can and be ready to get wet and muddy. Great event to bring family and friends along too!



Hoosier Riverwatch Testing – *HELP WANTED*

Did you know that LRWP has been conducting water testing since 1996! We would like to continue testing the sites we established in 1996, as well as the ones we established in 2015.

- 1) We need a volunteer to spearhead this citizen science project by organizing testing 4 times a year with Hoosier River Watch.
- 2) We need a few more volunteers to help lead testing groups.
- 3) We need extra hands to assist leaders when they go out to do sampling.

We will go over what is to be expected and will train you as needed, yet some experience with water testing is preferred. If any of these needs would be a fit for you please contact Maraiah.





Earth Day Fort Wayne Orientations

Wednesday, April 24 from 6:30pm to ~7pm

Thursday, April 25 from 12:15pm to ~12:45pm

Saturday, April 27 from 9am to ~9:30am



These volunteer orientations at Eagle Marsh Barn are designed to help you understand what is expected of you at Earth Day Fort Wayne and will help ensure the event runs smoothly. They are not mandatory but highly suggested for new volunteers. The orientations will last roughly 30 minutes. Once you sign up for Earth Day Fort Wayne, look for an email with a link to an online sign up for one of these dates!

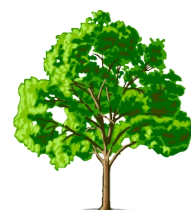
Earth Day Fort Wayne

Sunday, April 28 from 9am to 7:30pm

(event is from 1pm to 5pm)

This is becoming a fantastic community event celebrating Earth Day and all that this community is doing to help our planet! Past years have had over 2,000 people come out and it has grown every year! This event will be very similar to previous year's events with education stations, a farmer's market, a tent featuring our partners in conservation, a native planting, presentations and the bird viewing station. We will need help during set up, parking, education stations, sharing information, clean up, and more!

Our shifts will tentatively be: 9:15am to 12:15pm, 12:00pm to 3:00pm, 2:45pm to 5:45pm, and 4:45pm to 7:30pm, with a few hands likely needed earlier (8:00am-9:00am). Look for an email with a link to our online sign up for this event or give the office a call, in **early March** so you are able to sign up as soon as possible. We will be reaching out to outside volunteers but want to offer it to you all first!





Urban Turtle Festival

Sunday, June 9, 1pm-5pm

Volunteer to help LRWP with our Urban Turtle Festival at Eagle Marsh! Participants will see turtles that live at Eagle Marsh, learn more about these cool reptiles, and support our turtle conservation efforts in our large urban wetland. Volunteers will help with Education Stations, Parking, Information, and more!

Sign-up opportunities will be emailed out in advance, so look for this in your inbox!



Invasive Plant Species Training

Part 1, Wednesday, June 12, at 6pm at LRWP Office

In this indoor training, you will learn to identify invasive plant species known to be on our properties and where the infestations are. If you miss Freya, here's your chance to see her again, she will be running these trainings! RSVP with Maraiah.

Part 2, Saturday, June 15, from 10am to noon at the Eagle Marsh barn

This field training will build on what was learned in Part 1 by examining first-hand the invasive species we encounter at Eagle Marsh. This training will sharpen our abilities to identify species in the field and differentiate them from possible look-a-likes.



Monarch Monitor Training

Saturday, June 22, from 10am to Noon

Join a team of monitors that check weekly for monarch adults, caterpillars, and eggs at Eagle Marsh and our Arrowhead Preserves. This is part of the citizen science Monarch Larva Monitoring Program through the University of Minnesota. This training will go over how to identify different monarch life stages, how to monitor, and pick the trail you would like to monitor. Weekly monitoring occurs between July and September and substitute monitors are available to help during vacations, etc. If you are a trained monitor, please let us know if you would like to continue monitoring this season. Contact Maraiah to sign up.





Monarch Festival Orientations

Wednesday, September 4 from 6:30pm to ~7pm
Thursday, September 5 from 12:15pm to ~12:45pm
Saturday, September 7 from 9am to ~9:30am*



These volunteer orientations are designed to help you understand what is expected of you at Monarch Festival and will help ensure the event runs smoothly. These are not mandatory but **highly recommended for new volunteers**. The orientations will last roughly 30 minutes, and take place at Eagle Marsh Barn. Once you sign up for Monarch Festival, look for an email with a link to an online sign up for these dates!

**We most likely need help getting stuff ready for Monarch Festival on the following day, so if you are able and willing to help out for a couple hours after orientation, we would greatly appreciate it!*

Monarch Festival

Sunday, September 8 from 9am to 7pm
(Event is 1pm to 5pm)

This has become such an important educational event as we, unfortunately, are seeing the monarch butterfly population plummet. This event will focus on educational activities that explore the monarch life cycle, migration, and threats to their survival.

There will also be a milkweed planting and the opportunity for participants (and volunteers) to take milkweed plants home. We need help with the education stations, selling t-shirts and such, parking, etc...

Our shifts will tentatively be: 9:15am to 12:15pm, 12:00pm to 3:00pm, 2:45pm to 5:45pm, and 4:45pm to 7:30pm, with a few hands likely needed earlier (8:00am-9:00am). There will be an online sign-up made for Monarch Fest closer to the event. Last year's event had over 2000 visitors and the event is growing – so we may see a bigger turn out if the weather is right!





Volunteer Appreciation Cookout

Thursday, November 7, 6pm to 8pm



Come enjoy some hot dogs and s'mores around the campfire with other volunteers as we celebrate another great year with Little River Wetlands Project! If it is raining, we will have a pizza party. We will discuss all the amazing work you did over the year and what we would like to do in 2020. Plus, we will hand out the awards for all the hard work you have done throughout 2019. You're welcome to bring along your family. Please RSVP by November 4 by emailing or calling the office. Hope you can make it to this laidback and fun event put on just for you!

Other possible opportunities for 2019

Mowing, trail monitoring, office help, preparation for the large events, native garden group, distributing event information to places around town, etc.

Talk to us about anything you'd like to see happening and we will see if that would work!



Contact Information:

Office Phone: 260-478-2515

Maraiah: m.russell@lrwp.org phone ext: 105

Aly: a.munger@lrwp.org phone ext: 106

