



Working towards the preservation of an ecologically sound Lake Maxinkuckee and its surrounding watershed

## Fun Activity for Kids

**Snowy Owls**

Snowy owl population is estimated at 200,000 and decreasing. Just recently they were looked at as a vulnerable species.

Lesson: Look up fun facts about Snowy Owls. Find out what they eat, where they live, what sound they make, where they fit on the food chain, etc. What does it mean to be a vulnerable species?

**Materials Needed:**

- o Pine cones – not huge, but not too small
- o Black, yellow, and white felt
- o Googly eyes – large
- o Sharpie marker
- o Cotton balls – about 10 per owl
- o Hot Glue or Tacky Glue

**Step 1:** Pull cotton balls apart into smaller pieces. Then poke the cotton in between the scales of the pine cone. Make it as fluffy and snowy as you want.

**Step 2:** Cut out wings from white felt. Use a black Sharpie marker to draw some patterns on the wings. This is a good time to discuss the difference in markings between juveniles, adult females and adult males.

**Step 3:** Cut out a beak from black felt, and two circles from yellow felt. You'll want the yellow circles to be slightly larger than your googly eyes. Glue the googly eyes to the yellow circles with hot glue or Tacky glue.

**Step 4:** Assemble your owl! Glue on the eyes, beak, and wings.

Ask your child to explain which owl they made (juvenile, adult male, adult female) and how they can tell.

## Make a Pine Cone Snowy Owl

*Snowy owl population is estimated at 200,000 and decreasing. Recently they were looked at as a vulnerable species.*

Look up fun facts about Snowy Owls:

- What do they eat?
- Where do they live?
- What sound do they make?
- Where do they fit on the food chain?
- What does it mean to be a vulnerable species?

## The Impact of La Niña



Winter conditions play a role in what the lake could look like next season.

[Read Full Article](#)

## Pretty Invasive Pears Bounty



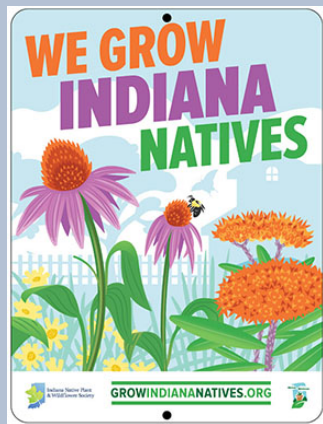
Marshall County SWCD is offering a bounty on invasive Callery Pear trees. They will pay property owners to remove a pear tree and replace it with a beneficial native tree.

Contact Jodie at Marshall County SWCD for more information.  
574-936-2024 x 3

[Marshall County SWCD](#)

## Native Garden Certification

Do you grow native Indiana plants in your garden?



If so, you can apply to be a Grow Indiana Natives certified garden!

This is a free program, and those who meet the criteria will receive a Grow Indiana Natives window cling and be eligible to purchase a 9x12" metal sign for their garden.

To join, you can fill out an [application](#) and submit a list of your native plants and a few garden photos.

[More Information](#)

### Thank You

LMEF's outreach, education, water monitoring, research and advocacy would not be possible without the support of our dedicated donors.

We rely on YOU to help support our mission:

*Working towards the preservation of an ecologically sound Lake Maxinkuckee and its surrounding watershed.*

As we look back at the year that was, and the year ahead, we celebrate the successes and look forward to new beginnings. I am proud to lead this organization on the journey of protecting Lake Maxinkuckee.

**Debbie Palmer**  
President

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### Happy New Year

"Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming **"Wow! What a Ride!"**

—Hunter S. Thompson

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Articles Concerning the Lake and Watershed



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