



PO Box 187
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Working towards the preservation of an ecologically sound Lake Maxinkuckee and its surrounding watershed

Goodbye February...
Hello March
☺



Green Up Your Lawn - Not the Lake!

Just one pound of phosphorus can
generate 500 pounds of wet algae!



Let's create a phosphorous free buffer all around the lake.

Take the Pledge!

Fertilizer, the wrong kind and applied improperly, can be a source of phosphorous and nitrogen runoff into the lake. This leads to excessive aquatic plant growth and algae blooms.

Take the pledge to do any or all:

- Conduct a soil test prior to applying fertilizer.
- Follow label instructions for proper use and application.
- Use only phosphorous free fertilizer on your lawn (example: 10-0-10).

Both FH Decks and Landscaping and Sellers Services use phosphorous free fertilizer. If you use either of these businesses, **you can take the pledge!**

For DIYers, phosphorous free fertilizer is sold at the Ace Hardware in Culver.



2024 Legislative Session

Thursday, March 14, 2024 Last day for adjournment of both houses

Hoosier Environmental Council has a nice bill tracker so you can stay on top of environmental legislation.



Update:

HB 1383: Removing More Wetland Protection

The first bill in the 2024 Session to reach the Governor's desk and be signed into law.

SB 246: Wetlands Tax Break

SB 246 has been engrossed (which means it has been amended) on second reading in the House and is now eligible for a final vote.

SB 177: Agrivoltaics Task Force

Agrivoltaics is a term used to describe a dual use parcel of land with solar and agriculture. Agrivoltaic projects in Indiana and other Midwestern states have successfully grown a variety of crops and grazed animals between solar panels, showing agrivoltaics has potential to produce energy and food on the same piece of land. ***Still watching for an update.***

HB 1305/SB 249: Major Groundwater Withdrawal Facilities

Would require a feasibility study and permit before a facility could withdraw 10 million gallons of groundwater per day or more for commercial or industrial purposes. This is a first step forward in state water supply planning. ***Still watching for an update.***

Let your legislator know how you feel about these and other proposed environmental bills. Find your legislator [here](#).



2024 Free Fishing Days

May 12 June 1-2 September 28

On Free Fishing Days, Indiana residents do not need a fishing license or a trout/salmon stamp to fish the state's public waters. All other rules such as seasons, bag, and size limits apply.

You do not need a license if you are:

- An Indiana resident born before April 1, 1943.
- Under the age of 18

Free Fishing Days are an excellent opportunity to learn how to fish, take your family fishing, or introduce a friend to fishing.



To see what properties are hosting Free Fishing Day events, go to the [DNR Calendar](#).

Prefer to learn on your own? [See Fishing Tips and Videos](#).

In Case You Missed It

Indiana Businesses are Water Dependent

Indiana Needs a Long-Term Water Strategy

In August 2023, The New York Times published an article about groundwater depletion, interviewing more than 100



experts, traveling the country and creating a comprehensive database using millions of readings from monitoring sites.

The investigation reveals how America's aquifers are being exhausted in much of the country, and in many cases it won't come back.

[Read Full Article](#)

Happy St. Patrick's Day

*"May green be the grass you walk on,
May blue be the skies above you,
That pure be the joys that surround you,
May true be the hearts that love you."*



The Patron Saint of Ireland

St. Patrick was born in Roman Britain in the late 4th century. At the age of 16 he was kidnapped and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but returned about 432 AD to convert the Irish to Christianity.

By the time of his death on March 17, 461, he had established several monasteries, churches and schools. Some of the legends that grew up around him include driving the snakes out of Ireland and using the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity.

It was emigrants, particularly to the United States, who transformed St. Patrick's Day into a largely secular holiday of parties and celebrations of all things Irish.

Irish and non-Irish alike take part in the "wearing of the green"—wearing an item of green clothing or a shamrock in the lapel. Corned beef and cabbage are associated with the holiday, and beer is often dyed green to celebrate the day.

Although some of these practices eventually were adopted by the Irish themselves, they did so largely for the benefit of tourists.

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