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



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## Welcome Adam Thada

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### **New LMEF President**

LMEF is excited to announce the selection of Adam Thada as our new President. With ten years of experience in the conservation and sustainability field, Thada brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership to the organization.

"We are thrilled to welcome Adam to our team." says Abbe Starr, LMEF Chair. Starr also noted that "his approach, experience and mindset align perfectly with our mission and objectives. We are confident he will lead us well."



## Native ~ Non-Native ~ Invasive

*Do You Know the Difference?*



*Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams*

### Field Notes:

- Native: a species that originated and developed in its surrounding habitat and has adapted to living in that particular environment. (It can become aggressive, similar to an invasive species.)
- Invasive: a species of plant or animal that outcompetes other species, causing damage to an ecosystem.
- Non-native: a species that originated somewhere other than its current location and has been introduced to the area where it now lives (also called exotic species).

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## *INVASIVE* English Ivy

### Ecological Threat

English ivy is an aggressive invader that threatens all vegetation levels of forested and open areas, growing



European colonists introduced English ivy as early as 1727. It is widely planted for its evergreen foliage and dependability as a year-round “carefree” groundcover.

**Although recognized as a serious weed of natural ecosystems, parks, landscapes and other areas, it continues to be sold and marketed as an ornamental plant in the United States. Vast resources, time and labor are expended attempting to manage infestations on public and private lands.**

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along the ground as well as into the forest canopy.

Vines climbing up tree trunks spread out and envelop branches and twigs, blocking sunlight from reaching the host tree’s foliage, thereby impeding photosynthesis. An infested tree will exhibit decline for several to many years before it dies.

The added weight of vines also makes trees susceptible to blowing over during storms.

English ivy has been confirmed as a reservoir for bacterial leaf scorch (*Xylella fastidiosa*), a harmful plant pathogen that affects a wide variety of native and ornamental trees such as elms, oaks and maples.

## Recent Blog Articles

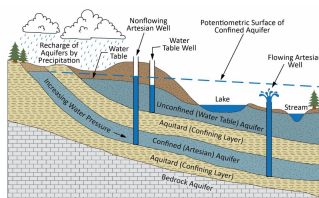
### Green Up Your Lawn Not the Lake!

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### Let's Talk About Aquifers

[Read Full Article](#)



Recent LMEF Board meetings have included

### Data Buoy for Lake Maxinkuckee

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Just like fertilizer makes your grass grow, when it runs off into the lake, it causes aquatic plants to grow as well.

In mature lawns, unless a soil test indicates that the turf needs supplemental phosphorus, which is rarely the case in our area, it is best to apply lawn maintenance fertilizers. These products contain low (such as < 3%) phosphate levels. Or better yet, 0% phosphate!

discussion about the aquifer that supplies Lake Maxinkuckee and how little we know about it.

LMEF is committed to being proactive in protecting Lake Maxinkuckee and it seems important to gather more information on this topic.

LMEF has been monitoring for decades, both through paid consultants and through volunteers.

We submit four lake samples to the IU Clean Lakes Program each summer but don't get a report until the following spring.

This is good information to have but to be proactive measurement data should be provided in real time.



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## Indiana State Tree

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The tulip tree, known also as yellow poplar, was adopted by the 1931 General Assembly (Indiana Code 1-2-7). It attains great height and can be found throughout the state. It has a distinctive leaf shape (it appears in the border of the state seal), and the tulip shaped greenish-yellow flowers appear in May and June.



*Liriodendron tulipifera*

### Fun Facts:

- The tulip tree is the state tree of three states, viz. Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee.
- Tulip trees are one of many plants that can be a host for tiger and spicebush swallowtail butterflies.

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