



On the web at <http://www.indiancreeksubdivision.org>

Contact us by email at indiancreeknews@hotmail.com

Indian Creek Tree Planting Initiative

From Fred Walk, Indian Creek Grounds Chair

Dear Indian Creek Homeowners,

Over the years our common ground areas have lost hundreds of trees. The emerald ash borer, Dutch elm disease, wind and ice storms, and an excessive amount of “scrub” trees preventing growth of hardwood trees have all taken a toll on our old growth woodlands. The time has come for us to regenerate and preserve our wooded habitat with the Indian Creek Tree Planting Initiative.

What is the Indian Creek Tree Planting Initiative?

The Ecology Action Center (ECA) is willing to partner with us to reach their goal to plant 10,000 trees throughout our local community this spring. I recently walked our common ground area with Michael Brown, the Director of the ECA, and determined that we could plant at least 200 small (1-3’ tall) sapling hardwood trees in our existing habitat. Red, black, burr, swamp white, and pin oaks along with hickory, pecan, and Kentucky coffee are the variety of tree saplings that would be planted. Now is the ideal time to plant the saplings to help sustain our wooded areas. The plan is to plant the tree saplings prior to and during the upcoming May 14 Indian Creek workday. Workday details will be provided at a later date.

Your financial help is needed.

It would cost approximately \$2,500 to purchase 200 tree saplings and the materials needed to protect the trees from being consumed by deer, rabbits, and other critters. The ECA is asking us to make a suggested contribution of \$5 per sapling to offset the cost of the trees. It is vital that we protect the small trees by constructing a 4-foot tall cylindrical “cage” made from poultry (chicken) wire held in place by fence posts. These materials along with tags to identify the trees, and potentially replacing some saplings next spring would amount to \$2,500.

You currently pay into the annual fund (homeowner/grounds fund) for the maintenance of our grounds that cover the costs of trail upkeep, tractor expense, insurance, utility locate fees, etc. At this time the annual fund is lacking the reserves to support the cost of the tree initiative. It should be noted that the expenses in this fund have been greatly minimized due to the many Indian Creek volunteers who have donated their time, equipment, and expertise to maintain our beautiful habitat. Now is the time to regenerate our delightful woodlands for all of us to enjoy now and into the future.

What can you do?

The Indian Creek Board of Directors is asking homeowners to consider making a donation that would go directly to an Indian Creek Tree Planting Initiative account. **All donations would be expressly earmarked for tree sapling planting and maintenance.** These donations would not be used for any other purposes. Any donation, large or small, is greatly appreciated.

How can I donate?

Checks can be written to the Indian Creek Water and Homeowners Association (ICWHA) and sent to Fred Walk at 10 Bent Tree Lane. Please indicate Indian Creek Tree Planting Initiative on the check memo. Cash donations can also be given directly to Fred. Please contact him at 309-830-2188 or fwalk@frontiernet.net with any questions. Thanks for your consideration and helping to preserve our unique wooded environment.

Sincerely,

Fred Walk
Indian Creek Grounds Chair

Indian Creek Homeowners and Water Association Board of Directors:

President: Barb Leathers
Vice President/Secretary: Britany Huber
Water Chair: Jim Larson
Treasurer: Dave Schulthes
Grounds Chair: Fred Walk

Implementation Phase of the Indian Creek Tree Planting Initiative

From Fred Walk, Indian Creek Grounds Chair

Dear Indian Creek Homeowners,

Between May 8-13, 2022 many industrious Indian Creek residents contributed hundreds of hours enduring hot and humid weather to plant, cage, mulch, and water 200 hardwood tree saplings throughout our common grounds. This undertaking involved many steps before coming to fruition. The accompanying photos depict the various stages involved in the process.

1. Determining the location for the planting of each sapling.
2. Assembling 200 protective chicken wire cages.
3. Secure the fencing posts needed to support the cages placed around the trees. Many posts were created by cutting 10- foot ½ inch pieces of reinforcing rod in half.
4. Digging holes to plant each sapling.
5. Delivering posts and cages to each tree sapling site.
6. Secure cages around each sapling by driving posts in the ground and wiring the cages to the posts.
7. Spreading mulch around each tree to retain moisture and control weeds. The mulch used was obtained from tree service companies doing tree removal work in Indian Creek.
8. Watering of each sapling to stimulate root growth.
9. Let Mother Nature take its course!

An additional 200 hardwood saplings were made available to us by The Ecology Action Center to create our own tree nursery. A space beyond the well road common ground area was cleared and the ground prepared to plant the saplings. These trees will be propagated and then be used to replace saplings that might not survive and to plant additional trees next spring.

Prior to planting the trees some areas in the common ground were cleared from brush and dead trees to provide the space needed to plant the saplings allowing them to flourish. Take a walk along the trails, the main road by the bridge, and the open common ground areas and you will see that many of the saplings are beginning to leaf out.

This undertaking was a community wide effort made possible by the many residents who donated their time, equipment, financial, and in-kind resources. Our successful tree planting venture is good example of individuals pulling together to accomplish a major task to enhance our current living environment while preserving it for future generations.

We are closing in on reaching our goal of raising \$2,500 to cover the costs of the tree planting initiative. A big thank you to all of you who made a financial donation or an in-kind contribution. **Donations are still being accepted.** Checks can be written to the Indian Creek Water and Homeowners Association (ICWHA) and sent to Fred Walk at 10 Bent Tree Lane. Please indicate Indian Creek Tree Planting Initiative on the check memo. Cash donations can also be given directly to Fred. Please contact him at 309-830-2188 or fwalk@frontiernet.net with any questions.

The following individuals contributed their time, labor, and equipment during the Indian Creek tree planting implementation phase.

Scott Anderson, Mark Bertsche, Mary Ann Boyd, Doug Braun, Tom Chilipala, Tommie & Tim Crouthamel, Craig Doubet, Kathy Dumler, Jim Ferrier, Randy Haag, Bob Hancock, Rod Hinderliter, Jim Kellenberger, Barb Leathers, Ron Metz, Larry and David Meyer, Mark Miller, Nathan Moore, Kathy Nelson, Al Schroeder, Jeremy and Preston Thomas, Fred and Fran Walk, and Keith and Connie Whittum.

Sincerely,

Fred Walk









Above: a budding Red Oak sapling and the tree nursery



IC Bird Count

On Saturday afternoon, May 7, two members of the local National Audubon Society conducted their Spring Bird Count of Indian Creek walking along our trails and common grounds. Below is their checklist from that part of the day. They observed roughly 40 species during the two hours conducting the count. Here are a few of their comments: Highlights were a worm-eating warbler which is only rarely seen in these parts, and a Brewster's Warbler, which is one of two possible hybridizations of golden-winged warbler x blue-winged warbler ... very interesting, and a first for me. The Indian Creek trails are a wonderful birding habitat. Thank you to you and the community for preserving and maintaining it!

We do indeed have a wonderful habitat for the many birds that live and visit our environment. You can visit our website indiancreeksubdivision.org and click on birds to learn, and listen, to the many birds that frequent our natural surroundings.

Fred Walk
IC Grounds Chair

Date: 5/19/22 Observer(s) Mike Nickuly, Sheri Glowinski # of observers 2
 Location Indian Creek Nature Trail
 Earliest birding time 12:10; Latest birding time 2:10; Owling hours 0 hrs 0 mins 0
 Daylight party hours walked: 2 hrs 0 mins; Daylight party hours driven: — hrs — mins
 Daylight party miles: 1.8 walked — driven; Other party hours: —; Other party miles: — (Explain: —)

****Record number of bird species in front of bird name****

1	Snow Goose	Greater Yellowlegs	Yellow-throated Vireo	Hendow's Sparrow
1	Canada Goose	Lesser Yellowlegs	Blue-headed Vireo	Song Sparrow
	Mute Swan	Bonaparte's Gull	Philadelphia Vireo	Lincoln's Sparrow
	Trumpeter Swan**	Ring-billed Gull	Warbling Vireo	Swamp Sparrow
9	Wood Duck	Herring Gull	Red-eyed Vireo	1 Eastern Towhee
	Blue-winged Teal	Caspian Tern	Loggerhead Shrike	Yellow-breasted Chat
	Northern Shoveler	Common Tern	10 Blue Jay	Yellow-headed Blackbird
	Gadwall	Forster's Tern	American Crow	Bobolink
	American Wigeon	Carolina Loon	Fish Crow	Western Meadowlark
1	Mallard	Double-crested Cormorant	Carolina Chickadee	Eastern Meadowlark
	Northern Pintail	American White Pelican	5 Black-capped Chickadee	Orchard Oriole
	Green-winged Teal	American Bittern	Chickadee sp.	Baltimore Oriole
	Cauwshack	Least Bittern	6 Tufted Titmouse	Red-winged Blackbird
	Redhead	Great Blue Heron	Horned Lark	1 Brown-headed Cowbird
	Ring-necked Duck	Great Egret	N. Rough-winged Swallow	Brewer's Blackbird
	Lesser Scaup	Snowy Egret	Purple Martin	Common Grackle
	Hooded Merganser	Little Blue Heron	Tree Swallow	Ovenbird
	Common Merganser	Cattle Egret	Bank Swallow	1 Worm-eating Warbler
	Red-breasted Merganser	Green Heron	Barn Swallow	Louisiana Waterthrush
	Ruddy Duck	Black-crowned Night-Heron	Cliff Swallow	Northern Waterthrush
	Northern Bobwhite	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	1 Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Golden-winged Warbler
	Wild Turkey	Black Vulture*	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Blue-winged Warbler
	Ring-necked Pheasant	1 Turkey Vulture	2 White-breasted Nuthatch	2 Black-and-white Warbler
	Pied-billed Grebe	Osprey	Brown Creeper	Prothonotary Warbler
	Rock Pigeon	Mississippi Kite	7 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Tennessee Warbler
	Eurasian Collared-Dove	Northern Harrier	15 House Wren	1 Orange-crowned Warbler
1	Mourning Dove	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Sedge Wren	2 Nashville Warbler
	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Cooper's Hawk	Marsh Wren	Mourning Warbler
	Black-billed Cuckoo	Bald Eagle	Carolina Wren	Kentucky Warbler
	Common Nighthawk	Red-shouldered Hawk	European Starling	5 Common Yellowthroat
	Chuck-will's-widow	Broad-winged Hawk	2 Gray Catbird	Hooded Warbler
	Eastern Whip-poor-will	Red-tailed Hawk	Brown Thrasher	1 American Redstart
1	Chimney Swift	Barn Owl**	Northern Mockingbird	Cape May Warbler
	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Eastern Screech-Owl	Eastern Bluebird	Cerulean Warbler
	Virginia Rail	Great Horned Owl	Veery	Northern Parula
	Sora	Barred Owl	Gray-cheeked Thrush	Magnolia Warbler
	Common Gallinule	Belted Kingfisher	1 Swainson's Thrush	Bay-breasted Warbler
	American Coot	Yellow-billed Sapsucker	Hermit Thrush	1 Blackburnian Warbler
	Sandhill Crane	Red-headed Woodpecker	1 Wood Thrush	1 Yellow Warbler
	Black-necked Stilt	4 Red-bellied Woodpecker	7 American Robin	Chestnut-sided Warbler
	Black-bellied Plover	5 Downy Woodpecker	Cedar Waxwing	Blackpoll Warbler
	American Golden-Plover	Hairy Woodpecker	House Sparrow	Black-throated Blue Warbler
	Semipalmated Plover	Pileated Woodpecker	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	12 Palm Warbler
	Killdeer	Northern Flicker	American Pipit	Pine Warbler
	Upland Sandpiper	American Kestrel	1 House Finch	2.3 Yellow-rumped Warbler
	Dunlin	Peregrine Falcon	Purple Finch	Yellow-throated Warbler
	Least Sandpiper	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Pine Siskin	Prairie Warbler
	White-rumped Sandpiper	Eastern Wood-Pewee	15 American Goldfinch	1 Black-throated Green Warbler
	Pectoral Sandpiper	Acadian Flycatcher	Grasshopper Sparrow	Canada Warbler
	Semipalmated Sandpiper	Willow Flycatcher	1 Chipping Sparrow	Wilson's Warbler
	Western Sandpiper	Least Flycatcher	Clay-colored Sparrow	Savannah Tanager
	Short-billed Dowitcher	Eastern Phoebe	Field Sparrow	Scarlet Tanager
	American Woodcock	Great Crested Flycatcher	Lark Sparrow	6 Northern Cardinal
	Wilson's Snipe	Western Kingbird	White-crowned Sparrow	1 Rose-breasted Grosbeak
	Wilson's Phalarope	Eastern Kingbird	4 White-throated Sparrow	Blue Grosbeak
	Spotted Sandpiper	White-eyed Vireo	Vesper Sparrow	4 Indigo Bunting
	Solitary Sandpiper	Bell's Vireo	Savannah Sparrow	Dickcissel

* IORC Documentation required only if outside normal range

RECORD, AND PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION FOR, ADDITIONAL SPECIES ON BACK

Towanda HCE

The Towanda HCE group will finish up their HCE year with an outing to Busy Corners Restaurant in Goodfield on Tuesday, June 7, to meet there at 11:30 for lunch. They are located at 302 S Eureka St. Then it'll be shopping on your own at local places in the area. For more information about this event, contact Cindy Kelley, 309-824-4797.

We are also looking forward to our McLean County HCE Annual Meeting on July 12. 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at The Chateau in Bloomington. There will a Fine Arts & Crafts show of items made by members. The program will be "Inside Stories of Ewing Manor" following the business meeting. Tickets are HCE member/\$17; Guests/\$22. Contact Karen Thompson, 309-830-6232 for more information and to purchase tickets by June 27.

The Towanda HCE is sponsoring the July 3rd Spaghetti Supper at the Towanda Community Building, Sunday, July 3, 2022, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Ticket prices: Adult/\$8; 2-7yr child/\$4 and Under 2 yrs/FREE. Spaghetti, bread, and salad by Avanti's; Homemade desserts and drinks. **CARRY OUT AVAILABLE – WALK INS ONLY. No advance ticket sales. For more information, contact Cindy at 309-824-4797.**

TOWANDA HCE

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Sunday, JULY 3RD

4:30 TO 6:30 P.M.

TOWANDA COMMUNITY BUILDING

TICKET PRICES:

ADULTS/\$8.00 2-7 yr.CHILD/\$4.00

Under 2 yr - FREE

Spaghetti, bread & Salad by Avanti's

Homemade Desserts & Drinks

CARRY OUT AVAILABLE – WALK INS ONLY

Sponsored by: Towanda Home & Community Education (HCE)

PHONE: 309-824-4797



Preview the Towanda Flea Market

Enjoy good food!! Fireworks at dusk!

Towanda Fire Department



The Towanda Fire Departments would like to remind everyone the warning of burning outside landscape waste.

Here are some helpful tips to remember when considering landscape burning:

- **Check the weather and fuel conditions.**

Don't burn when it's windy or when vegetation is very dry.

- **Check local regulations.**

In your area, a permit may be required. Remember to call in before you burn.

- **Look up.**

Choose a safe burning site away from power lines, overhanging limbs, buildings, vehicles, and equipment. You'll need at least three times the height of the pile of vertical clearance.

- **Prepare.**

Keep your area small and manageable.

- **Always stay with your fire until it is completely out.**

Drown the fire with water, turn over the ashes with a shovel and drown it again. Repeat several times.

- **Check the burn area regularly over the next several days**

Especially if the weather is warm, dry, and windy.

If you have any questions regarding the Towanda Fire Department or would like information in becoming a firefighter, please contact Chief Brett Lueschen at 309.728.2353 or email: towandachief@gmail.com

Water Hydrant Flushing Schedule – 2022

The six water hydrants located in Indian Creek subdivision will be flushed on the dates listed below. Water hydrants are flushed in order to reduce the build-up of sediments in our water system. This is an important process for improving water quality. Our water operator will flush one hydrant at a time and allow it to run for 10-15 minutes (the next in line hydrant is opened concurrently for a brief period to keep water flowing through the system). Water pressure in our system's lines is maintained by the 35,000 gallons of water in our tower, however, pressure in home lines will be reduced during flushing much like when multiple faucets are opened in your homes. Flushing the hydrants will also stir up sediments so please follow the procedures listed below:

- Do not run water during the flushing time period.
- Following flushing, run water through faucets until clear. We recommend this be done by-passing any treatment/filtering system in your home because of the increased sediment stirred up during the flushing process.

Please mark your calendars with the dates listed below. Flushing will be done between 5:30 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. weather permitting. **Hydrants will not be flushed in freezing conditions or other inclement weather.**

Monday, June 27	Monday, October 31
Monday, July 25	Monday, November 28
Monday, August 29	Monday, December 26
Monday, September 26	

Summer Lawn Watering

Please follow our recommended summer watering schedule by only watering on even or odd days corresponding to your street address number and limit watering to 3-4 hours. This will help ensure our well pump can replace water being used in our tower. Summer water usage typically is much higher than the rest of the year and can strain our water system capabilities.

Jim Larson – ICHWA Water Chairperson

Calendar

On Saturday, July 2, Lamplighter Subdivision residents will be celebrating a 50 Year Reunion. We are inviting former residents to attend, but need their contact information. Please help by getting me names and a way to get in touch with those you know. Thank you!
Gail Ann Briggs ~ (309) 824-1649 or rgbriggs@frontiernet.net

Towanda 4-H

The Towanda 4-H will meet at 6:30 on Tuesday June 7, at the Community Building. Members will be giving talks and demonstrations. They will also received information about the McLean County Fair. For more information contact Scott Clement at 309 275-5910 or Jeanie Wager at 309 728-2852.

Obituary

Susanne 'Johnson' Grindley, 64, of Towanda, IL passed away on Sunday May 15, 2022, at 5:01 a.m. at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington, IL. A service will be held at a later date. Memorial Contributions can be made to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

<https://www.kiblerbradyruestman.com/obituary/Susanne-Grindley>

The above was posted at the request of the family

The Trees of Indian Creek – the Northern Catalpa

By Greg Beneze

The Northern Catalpa is one of the more unique trees in Indian Creek. It demands your attention. The Catalpa produces clusters of large, trumpet-shaped white flowers in May and June, that are showy and fragrant. The flowers resemble irises, with their purple and yellow coloration on the inside. Hummingbirds and bees love the flowers and these flowers are the sole host to the Catalpa Sphinx Moth, also known as the Hawk Moth. Catalpa trees begin to flower when they are 7-8 years old.

There is a small grove of these ornamental trees near the intersection of Candle Ridge and Timber Creek Roads where you can watch for these unusual blooms.



The catalpa tree is found in forests from southern Illinois and Indiana to western Tennessee and Arkansas. First cultivated in 1754, the wood was used for fence posts and railroad ties because of its resistance to rot and the tree's fast growth rate. Common names for this tree are many and colorful—including cigar tree, Indian bean tree, catawba, caterpillar tree, hardy catalpa and western catalpa.

The giant heart-shaped Catalpa leaves are among the largest tree leaves in our woods. The leaves can be 12 inches long and 5-6 inches wide.



The name Catalpa is said to derive from a Cherokee Indian word meaning bean. The seed pods look like large green beans. They are 8–20" long and 1/4–1/2" wide, starting out green and turning brownish as they ripen. They are filled with numerous, 1" long seeds that are fringed at the ends. Indians are said to smoke bean pods for a hallucinogenic effect, which led to the tree becoming known as the Indian cigar tree, Indian bean, and smoked bean.



It is a fast growing tree with twisting trunk and branches. The Catalpa can grow to a height of 40-60 feet with a spread of 20-40 feet at maturity. Our small grove of Catalpa trees include both small trees and several very large ones (which are to the west of the Candle Ridge/Timber Creek intersection). Be sure to look for these unique trees on your next walk.



CLASSIFIED

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Real Estate Agent - eXp Realty

- Thinking about selling your house?
- Considering buying a house?
- Contact me today!
 - Cell - (309) 360-9020
 - Email - jerrod.ingram@exprealty.com
 - Website - jerrodingram.exprealty.com

exp
REALTY

For Hire:

Bailee Harmon is available to pet sit, babysit, and to do other household chores such as water plants/flowers and cleaning. Please contact Bailee at (309)530-8279 or her mom, Hallie Harmon at (309)530-5360

Aubrey Thomas is available for childcare and pet care. She has taken the Safe Sitter course and is experienced with taking care of several animals. Aubrey is a Junior at NCHS. Please call or text her at 309-532-7522.

Lydia Lueschen is available for babysitting. She is 16 years old and has completed a babysitting course along with being CPR certified. Please call or text her mom – Dallas Lueschen- at 309-826-1868.

For Sale:

Vintage Thomasville China Buffet- Burl Walnut, lighted. Beautiful, bottom storage has two pull out drawers. One piece, 82" tall by 58"wide, 16" deep. Excellent Condition. \$350.00

Vintage Stanley Cherry Dining Room Set. Six chairs with padded upholstered seats. Has two large leaves and a custom protective table pad. A beautiful set. \$850.00

For information or to see please call Kathleen at [\(309\) 824-2784](tel:3098242784).