

THE ACRES QUARTERLY

Spring 2022 | Vol. 61 – No. 1



ACRES
LANDTRUST

Healing Lands and Healing People

Ecological Reflections: Year 5 of 200

Retiring Trails: Glennwood Nature Preserve

Member Profile: Tedra Hemingway

Spring Road Trip

Winter Photo Contest Winners

From the Executive Director

Dear Members,

ACRES strives to be accessible to all. Our mission statement speaks to this.

ACRES Land Trust owns and protects natural and working lands, inspiring people to value, appreciate and support these places for the benefit of all—today and forever.

Although only three letters, “all” is encompassing:

- “All” includes everything that crawls, slithers, walks, flies, drifts, floats, migrates or otherwise finds itself in an ACRES nature preserve.
- “All” includes everything beyond the nature preserves as well—the innumerable benefits the preserves produce that extend beyond their boundaries.
- “All” includes people in and beyond the preserves.

Although ACRES stewards the preserves for the benefit of thousands of species of plants and animals, one species dominates our time and attention: *Homo sapiens*. Humans decide not only which properties are preserved but also how (in what ways) each will be stewarded. And we humans must ensure this work continues indefinitely.

Since ACRES relies on people, we need to ensure all people have access to ACRES. We strive to do this by keeping membership dues low and providing free access to many nature preserves. For those who can't visit, we provide additional ways to experience the preserves such as in paintings, photos, videos and writing; by ensuring accessible meeting spaces and trails; and by making the preserves available to serve as venues for diverse groups of people.

You are part of all the people that ACRES benefits. If you have ideas about how to encourage more people to access ACRES, please share your ideas with me. “All” is a big task; we need your help. We “all” need your help.



Jason Kissel
jkissel@acreslandtrust.org
260-637-2273 ext. 102

Cover photo by Thomas Sprunger: Skunk cabbage is among the first native plants to flower each spring. Characterized by a mottled maroon hood-like leaf, the plant gets its name from the unpleasant odor it emits. The scent attracts pollinators like flies. Explore the trails in late March to spot skunk cabbage in wet wooded areas.

ACRES Land Trust owns and protects natural and working lands, inspiring people to value, appreciate and support these places for the benefit of all—today and forever. Today we protect and manage more than 7,300 acres in northeast Indiana and portions of southern Michigan and northwest Ohio. In addition to helping care for and restore our local land, your support also offers trail systems where you and others can explore thriving natural places, from dawn to dusk, at no charge. Thank you!

1802 Chapman Road, PO Box 665 | Huntertown, IN 46748-0665
260-637-ACRE (2273) | email: acres@acreslandtrust.org

acreslandtrust.org



WELCOME

107newmembers!

Doug Abramowski
Jennifer Adair
Kara Alverson
Roger Baker
Dr. Matthew Barb
from Michelle Capper
Mandy Beaty & Steve Bratten
Sara Beck
Jennifer Bergstrom
from Todd Davis
Rose Boidock
Suzanne F. Brooks
Atticus Brown & Family
from Janet, James & C.J.
Canino
Cole Buffenbarger
Theresa Burns
Wayne Byerley
Barbara Christensen
Melanie Clark & Alonso Molina
Gomez
Brian Clifford
Brian & Amy Cook
Lorri Courtney
Becky Cummings
Tom & Janet Daugherty
Ken & Vickie DeLuca
Susan Devito
Wendy & Mark Eissey
from Harvey & Fran Hathaway
Jean Emmerson
from Ann Goff
Christina Fiet-Ihnen & Aaron
Ihnen
Stan & Ann Frazee
Tina & Jeff German
Andrew Getz & Jess Gabbard
Kerstin Glaess
Beth Graves
Anna Gunzenhauser
Herbert Hansen
Emil Harris
Megan & Eric Heishman & Family
from George & Mary Morrison
Tyler Henn

Hightech Signs
Shondell Hobbs
Geri & Glenn Hochstetler
Jay Jackson
from Hannah Jackson
Laura & Phil Jackson
from Rachel & Allen Loechner
Jay & Karen Jenkins
Thomas & Janice Jervis
Jen Jonasch
from Erin McKeever
Mark Jones
Jason & Shelley Kauffman
Carol Kennedy
Keith & Jayne Kesler
Jill & Brian Kimball
Donna Koehlinger
Corey Koscielniak & Joseph
Skadsberg
Kim Krish
David Kurtz & Lizbeth Rodecap-
Kurtz
Jon & Marilyn Lamey
The Larimer Family
from Erin McKeever
Emily LaRue
Catherine Lassen
Jennifer Lawburgh
Mary Lawson
Denise Lloyd
Hillary Lloyd
Betsy Loechner
from Rachel & Allen Loechner
Jan & Dianne Lung
Deanna Mains
Julia Mast
Veronica & John Mertz
David Michell
John & Kylie Morrison & Family
from George & Mary Morrison
Thomas Munson Sr.
Julia Myers
Clay & Kathy Neuenschwander
Nick & Becky Papaik
Elaine Patterson & David Bolton

Sara & Leroy Pierce
Lisa Primoic
David & Kelly Quinn
from Gary & Julie Fike
Charles & Lisa Rausch
Grant Reed
Jeremy & Kristi Reinhard
Marty Ridoux
Donna Ritchey Martin
Josh Romine
from B. Winebrenner
Construction LLC
Rebecca Rupright
Ruben Ryan
from Amy McLatcher
Kent & Mallory Sallaz
from Alexandra Kern
Rob Schlipf
Todd A. Sidel
Darlene & Kip Sipe
Olivia Spiegel
Bruno Strapko & Rachel Battaglia
Max Swoveland
from Nancy Swoveland
Beverly Troyer
Brenda & Michael Tudor
Marta & Michael Vaillancourt
Lynn VanDame
Jeff Vanette & Amy McLatcher
from Amy McLatcher
Andrew & Kaitlyn Vetter
Charlie Waltemath
Pam Wasson
from Erin McKeever
Lynn Wehrenberg
from Scott Miller
Henri Wesdorp
Emily & Devin Wieland
Debra Wiseman
from Greg Wiseman
Matthew & Susan Wojewuczki
from Linda & Paul Wojewuczki
Paul & Katie Wollam
Deborah Wyss
Molly & David Yuska

in memory of

Bill Claxton
from Steven & Vicki Bahlis,
Roger & Cheryl Bellis, Norman
& Deborah Brown, C&A Tool
Engineering, Inc., Michael &
Lucia Claxton, Shirley Claxton,
Barbara Jablonski, Dianne &
John Joustra, Juliann Myers,
Gloria Pressler, Darlene &
Lowell Stahlhut, Bruce &
Valerie Sweetheimer, Gary
Whonsetler

Mary Cowan
from Barb & Dave Kissel
Mike Garber
from Mark & Marian Garber
Linda Garman
from Bill Garman
Ruth Kern
from Noel & Patricia Holmgren,
Bill Kern, Shirley Needham
Lynda Laatsch
from Jennifer & Bryan Ballinger

Larry Moran
from Debra Moran
Scott & Frances Nevin
from Alan & Carolyn Critchfield
Laura Rasler-Gooley
from Bonnie Lou Gordon,
Judith & Danny Rickert, Sara &
Scott Sortal, Beverly Troyer

Continued on p18

Healing Lands and Healing People

by Christy Thomson

ACRES allows the land to heal by giving it space and time to recover. Protecting it from further harm allows us to enjoy it while hoping our climate will sustain it. The mission of forest therapy is the same, but in a more subtle way. Relationship is at the very center of both land trust and forest therapy movements.

For just the past five years of ACRES 62 years of service, sites all over northeast Indiana have hosted forest therapy walks. Tel-Hy, Pehkokia Woods, Bicentennial Woods, Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run and Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve have all graciously welcomed participants into an uncommon kind of relationship. Current cancer patients, those in remission and their families and friends have enjoyed the beauty and peace they find during these walks.

In the work of forest therapy, the unspoken partnership between the guide and the land has an influence as well. As a forest therapy guide and ACRES member, I am committed to becoming familiar with these places and to look for ways to build reciprocal relationships with the land. Each visit to an ACRES preserve is unique, but most visitors will likely agree that time on the trails gives us a sense of peace and clarity. Especially since the onset of the pandemic, we all have needed these outdoor spaces to help manage our stress and anxiety.

Beginning in the 1980s in Japan, *shinrin-yoku* or “forest bathing” was created and closely studied, revealing the health benefits from time in the forest, benefits of which so many of us are inherently aware. From authors Dr. Qing Lee to Richard Louv and Florence Williams, a multitude of books explain our human bodies’ need to interact with the earth, her forests, wetlands, mountains and waters. For example, the evidence details how our immune systems are boosted when we encounter conifers, the positive effects of awe on our psycho-emotional state and the healthy benefits of a childlike curiosity. Our bodies know we need to go outdoors. Thanks to ACRES, many more of us have wild spaces to fill that need.

During forest therapy walks, participants engage with not only that curiosity but also with memories of their past, all while slowing down during mindfulness-encouraging invitations. They are invited to feel the earth with their hands and feet. They are invited to touch tree bark, to notice patterns in branches, to sit next to trickling or flowing waters. They are also invited to share what they experience with each other, if they are comfortable doing so.

Although no two forest therapy walks are ever the same, walks with Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana participants are especially heart-centered. Being touched so closely by both the grief and the possible growth of that particular challenge offers the possibility of life lessons learned and the vulnerability to share them. It builds friendships that last for years beyond the treatment time. Each time I have a walk with Cancer Services, I know I am going to encounter some of the most beautiful people, telling the most beautiful stories, all surrounded by a place that holds us and knows how to listen more intently than even I do.

Forest therapy is not a series of esoteric practices. It is simply an invitation into a contemplative mindset that allows emotional healing, opportunities for immune system enhancement and deepening relationships with ourselves, our friends, coworkers, and even strangers.

While the land holds stories of the people who were here before, it also has the ability to open our minds and hearts to see ourselves and others in a more connected way.



Next time you are visiting an ACRES site, slow down, touch the mosses and the tree bark, walk in the soft mud, gaze at reflections in the waters. Notice what is present around you and its interaction with what is inside you. This is how the gently healing practice of forest therapy does its work.

We protect what we love. And what a gift it is to better love this home of ours and the people in it. Thank you, ACRES, for making that a possibility!

And ACRES thanks you, Christy Thomson, for inspiring people to value, appreciate and support these places while connecting with nature. Thomson is a certified forest therapy guide and owner of Wild Communion. Learn more about her work at wildcommunion.org. Join Thomson for Forest Bathing for ACRES Members at Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland Reserve April 23. See page 12 for details.

A LOOK BACK AT 2021

Thanks to you, we were able to achieve so much in 2021! From building our capacity to protect more local land to offering fun and inspiring programs, you keep our mission moving forward. Here are just a few of the highlights and accomplishments from last year. To read many more, visit acreslandtrust.org/acres-2021.

A MORE ACCESSIBLE OFFICE

We renovated our headquarters at the Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve to include accessible parking and restrooms, additional office space for staff, workspace for volunteers and a more welcoming reception area. **Coming soon:** We plan to open an accessible trail and overlook deck at the preserve later this year.



RAISING OUR STANDARDS



We're making progress on a four-year plan to improve signage, parking and trail maintenance at ACRES preserves. Last fall, we added a new parking lot and signage at Seven Pillars Nature Preserve. Our stewardship team built a new trail and bridge that connects the parking lot to the existing trail system. Learn more about this project at acreslandtrust.org/raisingourstandards.

RAISED \$100,000 TO PROTECT MORE LAND

For our 2021 year-end fundraising campaign, we asked you to help us protect more local land, and you showed up in a BIG way. These dollars will directly benefit the protection of new land. Thank you for helping ACRES acquire more vital places for permanent protection!

FINANCIAL REPORT: JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021

NET WORTH

Value of Nature Preserves	\$25,259,157
Bank Accounts	\$1,641,353*
Equipment	\$744,029
Investments & Endowment	\$5,907,031
TOTAL	\$33,551,570

*\$500,000 is restricted as a self-loaning account for new acquisitions.
ACRES has no long-term liabilities.

REVENUE / EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

Revenues	\$2,235,235
Expenditures	\$883,968**
NET REVENUE	\$1,351,267

**By accounting standards, cost to purchase land is considered a 'transfer of an asset' and cannot be shown here as an expenditure.

MEET THE ACRES BOARD



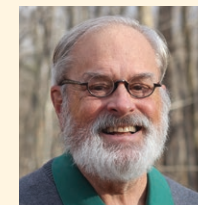
Dawn Ritchie
President
City of Fort Wayne
Greenways & Trails
Manager



Wayne Shive
Vice President
Retired Business Owner



Joe Conrad
Vice President
CANI (Brightpoint)
Retired CEO



Mark Maffey
Secretary
Retired Aerospace
Commodity Manager



Veronica Mertz
Treasurer
Brightpoint
VP of Administration



John Caffray
Sturges Property Group
VP of Brokerage



Janet Canino
Educator, Therapist,
Environmental
Advocate



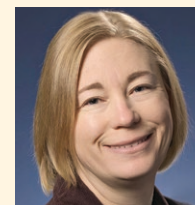
Dan Ernst
Earth Source, Inc.
VP & Principal
Landscape Architect



Bob Hake
ITT Aerospace/
Communications
(L3Harris)
Retired Director of
Business Management



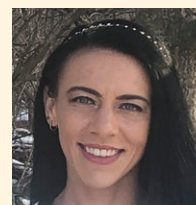
Brittany Hall
Fort Wayne Philharmonic
President & CEO



Jill Noyes
Trine University
Director of Library &
Information Services



Kidane Amare Sarko
Purdue Extension-
Allen County
Health & Human
Sciences Educator



Carly Thompson
Curriculum Developer
and Speaker
PhD Student



Rob Parker
Kosciusko Chamber of
Commerce
President & CEO



Terry Thornsbury
Viridian Architectural
Design, Inc.
President & Principal
Architect



Chris Fairfield
Recording Secretary
Special Education
Teacher

ECOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS



Year 5 of 200

ACRES is creating a 200-year snapshot of Wing Haven in Steuben County through the works of artists, humanities scholars and scientists.

We launched the Ecological Reflections project in 2017 with the goal of compiling a body of work to better understand how a particular place changes through time. The project seeks to inspire people to see land and its protection in a new way.

In 2021, ACRES partnered with local artist Matt Mabis to create a piece that captures Wing Haven's landscape through clay.

Artist Statement by Matt Mabis

I grew up in a small rural village in Ohio as a son of a cabinet-making wood carver and a seamstress. My extended family was filled with other types of craftspeople and artisans as well. With such a fertile garden of influence around me, I was inevitably drawn to the arts like a moth to flames.

Clay gives my hands the tactile experience I enjoy and has a wide range of applications. I found that the visual representation painting and drawing can achieve, clay can do as well when used in sculpting reliefs.

Despite its proximity to Angola, Indiana and Interstate 69, Wing Haven provides a peaceful serenity, both restful and regenerative. I was impressed with how the Wing Haven buildings nestle into their surroundings, almost as companions to nature rather than in competition with it.

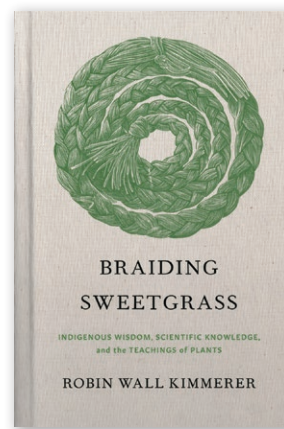
My goal for this piece was to capture the grade and perspective of the land, which is difficult to do in a two-dimensional format. I wanted to depict the textures of the

landscape, to convey the "feeling" of this special place using clay to create a very low-relief profile.

Being asked to do this project for ACRES Land Trust was a gift. It gave me the chance to give back to this organization that has provided me with a sense of peace and wonder by protecting local land across our region, not only for my benefit, but also for my kids and grandkids and the whole community.



See Mabis' work for yourself at our Wing Haven Spring Celebration! Details on page 13.



SAVE THE DATE

ACRES is proud to host Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants*, June 15–16, 2022.

Her visit is made possible by the Edward D. and Lone Auer Foundation as well as a generous Allen County couple and will include a book discussion with Q&A session and book signing, plus lots more fun! More details to follow.

Photo spread on pages 10–11 by Chuck Fletter: Bald eagles perch on a nest called an aerie. The young eagle on the right will gain its adult plumage (the signature white feathered head) at 4–5 years of age. Bald eagles can weigh up to 14 pounds with a wingspan reaching up to 7 feet. Their nests are the largest of any North American bird, measuring up to 6 feet wide and 2 feet deep. Bald eagles mate for life and return each year to the same location. Look for their nests in forested areas near water at ACRES preserves like Kokiwanee and Seven Pillars Nature Preserve.



SPRING HIKES & events

ACRES events are held rain or shine. Preserve maps available online at [acreslandtrust.org/preserves](https://www.acreslandtrust.org/preserves)



ASHERWOOD MAPLE SYRUP TASTING FOR MEMBERS

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 9 am-noon

WABASH COUNTY | Asherwood
7496 W. SR 124, Wabash, IN 46992

You're invited to a maple syrup tasting and guided tour of ACRES maple sugaring operation. Learn how trees are tapped, step into the historic sugar shack and taste this sweet treat for yourself. Syrup will be available for purchase if you'd like to take some home. Presented by *Grady Stout, Asherwood caretaker; Jason Kissel, executive director; and ACRES volunteers*



SPRING CLEANING

Help us keep our preserves beautiful! Gloves, bags, visibility vests and light snacks provided.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 10:30 am-noon

DEKALB COUNTY | James P. Covell Nature Preserve
Approximately 2727 County Road 52, Auburn IN, 46706
In partnership with the Auburn Conservation Team



THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 3:30-6 pm

HUNTINGTON COUNTY | Pehkokia Woods
1570 Flaxmill Road, Huntington, IN 46750

VISIT TO PEACE FARM FOR MEMBERS

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1-3 pm

WELLS COUNTY | Peace Farm, Address available with RSVP

We'll tour the prairie and woods at this closed preserve with land donor Jann Prince. Biology professor Dr. Bruce Kingsbury will be on hand to help us keep an eye out for salamanders.

Space is limited. RSVP to outreach@acreslandtrust.org or call 260-637-2273 by March 24.

SPRING READING HIKE & CRAFT

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 10am

WABASH COUNTY | Mary Thornton Nature Preserve
1541 E. 300 N, Wabash, IN 46992

Join fellow families and enjoy a springtime children's book along the trails. Afterwards, make a nature inspired craft. In partnership with the Andrews-Dallas Township Public Library.

Space is limited. RSVP to outreach@acreslandtrust.org or call 260-637-2273 by April 7.

FOREST BATHING FOR MEMBERS

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2 pm

NOBLE COUNTY | Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland Reserve
9478 N. 600 W., Ligonier, IN 46767

Explore the preserve following certified forest therapist Christy Thomson's playful prompts, engaging your sense of wonder, inviting renewal and restoration.

Space is limited. RSVP to outreach@acreslandtrust.org or call 260-637-2273 by April 21.

Please stay home if you feel ill or have been recently exposed to someone with COVID-19. Masks are encouraged at all indoor events.

WILDFLOWER HIKES FOR MEMBERS

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2-4 pm

NOBLE COUNTY | Lloyd W. Bender Memorial Forest
1891 North River Road West, Albion, IN 46701

Hosted by John J. Smith and Tony Fleming. Space is limited. RSVP to outreach@acreslandtrust.org or 260-637-2273 by April 28.

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2-4 pm

WABASH COUNTY | Kokiwanee
5825 E. 50 S. Lagro, IN 46941

Hosted by Dave Hicks and Jason Kissel. Space is limited. RSVP to outreach@acreslandtrust.org or 260-637-2273 by May 5.



GARLIC MUSTARD WORKDAYS

Help remove the easy-to-pull invasive garlic mustard weeds. Gloves, bags and light snacks provided. Please RSVP to outreach@acreslandtrust.org or 260-637-2273.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 10:30 am-noon

ALLEN COUNTY | McNabb-Walter Nature Preserve
16138 Davis Road, Spencerville, IN 46788

SATURDAY, May 7, 10:30 am-noon

ALLEN COUNTY | Spring Lake Woods and Bog
12905 Lake Everett Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46818

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 10:30 am-noon

ALLEN COUNTY | Bicentennial Woods
340 E. Shoaff Road, Huntertown, IN 46748



BOOK DISCUSSION FOR MEMBERS

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 6-7:30 pm

ALLEN COUNTY | ACRES Land Trust Office
1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN 46748

Take time this spring to listen to a podcast episode, and read several essays and selected chapters from author Robin Wall Kimmerer. Gather with other readers on the deck to discuss your observations and explore themes.

Space is limited. Contact outreach@acreslandtrust.org or 260-637-2273 for a list of discussion material, or to RSVP by May 18.

WING HAVEN SPRING CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1-5 pm

STEUBEN COUNTY | Wing Haven
180 W. 400 N. Angola, IN 46703

Celebrate the spring season among the ravines and lakes of Wing Haven. Local artist Matt Mabis will present an original work that was commissioned as part of our 200 Year Ecological Reflections project at this preserve. Learn more about the project and see previously submitted work: [acres200er.org](https://www.acres200er.org).



NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2-3:30 pm

WELLS COUNTY | Acres Along the Wabash
182 S.E. SR 116, Bluffton, IN 46714

Join us on a hike along the ravines and bluffs of the Wabash River.

One of Indiana's Precious Few

by Chris Fairfield

Walking up the narrow entrance trail of Glennwood Nature Preserve, I anticipate something great and the land does not disappoint. The trail opens into a rare Northern Indiana circumneutral bog. This unique property once supported the south end of spring-fed Willet's Lake. In the 1920s, the lake was quickly drained through the Anglin Ditch for agriculture and a gravel pit. Over the years, this drained area received minimal aeration. Fortunately, its glacial depressions filled with organic matter: Houghton muck, floating mats of sphagnum moss called hummocks and vegetation to create another wetland formation—a bog.



Glennwood Nature Preserve is just one of 15 circumneutral bogs left in Indiana.

These 36.7 acres were part of Miami tribal territory ceded to the United States in the 1826 Treaty of Mississinewa. The acreage was later part of a larger parcel bestowed on the Anglin family by George Washington for the family's service in the Revolutionary War. Today, thanks to the generous donation of Dr. Steven L. and Lynn Hossler of Kosciusko County, ACRES proudly owns and stewards this distinctive property.

In 2000, the Hosslers were actively looking for special land to save and enjoy. During the Hosslers' initial inspection, hiking around an abandoned and overturned truck, a decaying silo and trash, Steven knew this acreage was exceptional. When the Hosslers attended the auction advertising the acreage as a building site or hunting ground, they doggedly outbid the timber prospectors. Three years later, they donated the preserve to ACRES in honor of Steven's grandfather, Glenn Manwarren, who had inspired Steven to love nature during their morning countryside walks.

Under ACRES forever care, Glennwood Nature Preserve will remain one of only 15 circumneutral bogs left in Indiana; many others were drained or mined for peat. Its maturing woods will continue to provide sanctuary to wildlife migrating through the surrounding agrarian landscape. The bog will absorb and filter water impurities from rain events and runoff. Its moist habitat will provide a healthy home to a wide variety of insects, amphibians and plants such as cattails, ferns, Canada mayflower, poison sumac and even some carnivorous plants. Glennwood Nature Preserve will remain an Indiana wetland treasure.

On December 31, 2022, ACRES will retire the public trails in this special place.



Tedra Hemingway

ACRES member and volunteer Tedra Hemingway's fascination with nature has touched every part of her life. Some of her happiest memories have been spending time outdoors. She remembers playing in the woods all day and mushroom hunting with her family in the springtime.

"When I was a child growing up, we were always outside," she said.

Later on, nature would bring together Hemingway and her late husband, Ted. Thanks to their shared interests, the couple "just clicked." "We were always in the woods hiking or bird watching. In the winter, we cross-country skied and downhill skied. We were always paying attention to what was outside," she said.

About 10 years ago, while looking for a place to earn volunteer hours for the Indiana Master Naturalist program, Tedra and Ted were introduced to ACRES. They enjoyed their involvement with the organization and decided to become members.

"It's an amazing organization, and it does such great things," Hemingway said.

Now retired after teaching fourth grade for 26 years, Tedra considers volunteering an important part of her life. Her community service also includes volunteering for the Allen County Public Library's Audio Reading Service Program which broadcasts reading newspapers, magazines and other materials to people who have difficulty reading printed material. Tedra has not only found it fulfilling to be able to support organizations that need help, she also has found a community of service-minded people.

"Once you start volunteering, you form a whole new community of people," she said.

As an ACRES volunteer, she has helped lead hikes, provide event support and assemble and distribute the *Quarterly*. Hemingway has also enjoyed sharing ACRES with others—she gifted her hairdresser with a preserve guide and organized a hiking group among her friends.

Thank you, Tedra Hemingway, for sharing your time and your passion for nature with ACRES!



TAKE A SPRING ROAD TRIP WITH ACRES

This road trip takes you to Noble County and focuses on spring ephemerals—those hardy plants that start early, braving late snows and freezing temperatures to stay ahead of the shade overhead trees will produce once late spring arrives. Since these early plants need to gain the attention of pollinators, they produce showy blooms throughout spring—the earliest starting in March! These blooms are a welcome site for hungry pollinators looking for their first meal of the year, and a welcome sight for those of us who walk through spring forests.

Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland Reserve

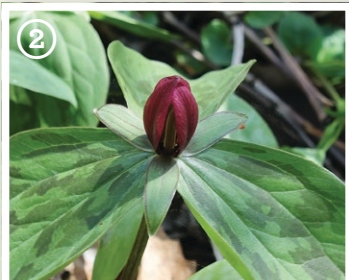
9478 N. 600 W., Ligonier, IN 46767

When ACRES acquired this forest in 1961, it contained trees 125+ years old. Today, more than 60 years later, the forest is approaching old-growth status. Before leaves obscure your view, your spring walk allows you to see the unique rolling hills (glacial kames), peer into the deep ravines and see across acres of large trees standing where they began their lives about 200 years ago. Spring wildflowers are abundant and diverse with different species showing up each week throughout spring.



Lonidaw

987 N. Allen Chapel Road, Kendallville, IN 46755



Lonidaw provides one of ACRES best places to view trilliums. Several species of trillium in the preserve carpet the forest floor each year, usually peaking near the beginning of May. After walking through about a mile of white, red and pink trilliums, you'll be treated to a bright yellow burst of petals from the marsh marigolds around Little Whitford Lake.

Nearby Points of Interest

Here are a couple fun stops to make while you're in the area:

Gene Stratton-Porter Historic Site

1205 Pleasant Point, Rome City, IN 46784

Discover Indiana author Gene Stratton-Porter's source of literary inspiration at this historic site featuring 148 acres of gardens, woods, lake shore and newly restored wetlands and prairies. You can tour Stratton-Porter's cabin on Sylvan Lake or enjoy a guided nature walk. Visit indianamuseum.org/historic-sites/gene-stratton-porter for hours and admission.

Harry Stuff Brewing Company

4319 W. US Hwy 6, Wawaka, IN 46794

This family-owned brewery is a great place to relax after a day of hiking. The brewery's scratch kitchen serves up Colombian empanadas and brick-fired pizza. Guests must be at least 21 years of age. An outside space is pet friendly. Open Thursday-Sunday. Visit harrystuffbrewing.com for hours.

WINTER PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

LANDSCAPE



Emily Simmons

Christmas Nature Hike

*Foggy morning
Tom and Jane Dustin, Robert C. and Rosella C.
Johnson and Whitehurst Nature Preserves*

MACRO



Anna Gunzenhauser

Sea Shells in the Forest

*Shell like tree fungus
McNabb-Walter Nature Preserve*

SELFIE

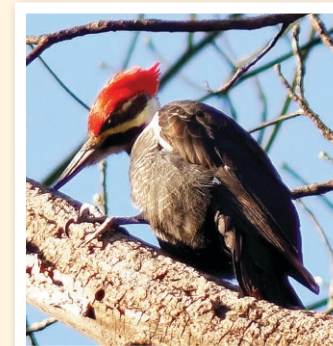


Anna Hornberger

Hikes are Delicious!

*"Best part of hiking is that there's always
a tasty snack along the way—moss, sticks,
animal droppings, a kid's face, you never
know!" said the dog.
Lonidaw*

WILDLIFE



Bryan Gibson

*Woody, the Pileated Woodpecker
Enjoying the rare northeastern Indiana winter sun
Bicentennial Woods*

PEOPLE/PETS ON PRESERVES

Sharli Grove

Curious Cats

*Odysseus and Nyx exploring nature.
McNabb-Walter Nature Preserve*



*Congratulations to all the winners! And thank you
to everyone who submitted entries. Take a closer
look at these winning photos online at
acreslandtrust.org/winter2021*

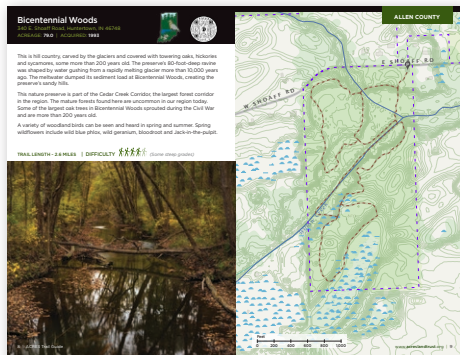
New Trail Guide available March 2022

We've updated our Trail Guide! The new, full-color guide includes updated maps, photos and descriptions of the trail systems at 31 ACRES preserves. This spiral-bound book is the perfect size to take in your vehicle or backpack.

You might remember this book was previously called a "Preserve Guide." However, since it does not include a comprehensive list of ACRES preserves, we felt it more appropriate to call it a "Trail Guide." Sticking close to our core mission of protecting land, the majority of places we protect are closed to the public. Some preserves are closed to protect sensitive areas or natural features. Others are life estates where a land donor lives and retains land rights.

Thanks to member and volunteer support, ACRES maintains trails at many preserves for free public use to inspire visitors to join us in our mission to protect land forever. We invite you to use the new Trail Guide to explore these special places, and we thank you for helping ACRES protect these preserves and many more!

The new Trail Guide will first be available for purchase at the ACRES Land Trust office, or you can visit acreslandtrust.org/shop to order online or to see a list of retailers across our service area.



in memory of (continued from p3)

Phillip Smith
from Thomas Hoffman & Margie Moran
Ed & Phyllis Stumpf
from Terry Stumpf
Carol Summers
from Diana Harris
Dick Walker
from Fonda Lynne & Timothy Alford, All
Seasons Climate Controlled Storage, Bryan &
Heather Bechtold, Pamela & Phillip Blausen, Bev
Brandt, Diane & John Brown, Linda Dearing,
Jean Edholm, V.J. & N.E. Evans, Ron & Sheryl
Flickinger, Roger Haiflich, Kim & Tyler Harris,
Joan & William Johnson, Dianne & John Joustra,
Patrick & Patricia Kiel, Leslie McClelland, Dan &
Beth Nieter, Ricky Orr, Arleta Owens, Larry Paris,
Elaine & George Petersen, Tina Puitz, C. William
Read II & Cheryl Read, Reflection Professional
Cleaning, William Smith, Fred Soule, Lisa &
Douglas Spare, Mary & Bob Stark, Jerry & Shirley
Strope, Three Rivers Food Co-Op, Michael &
Patricia Tyler, Kevin & Mary Jean Walker, Charlie
Waltemath, Judy Wee, Terry & Judy Werling,
Jeffrey & Rebecca Wilson, Jane Winnerman-
Shaw
Don Wenger
from Susan Wenger & Dennis Shipley

Jan Wilson
from Amy McLatcher
Joseph Yuska
from Rosemary & David Wolfe
in honor of
Brian Grubb
from Morgan Allen
Harvey Hathaway
from Wendy & Mark Eissey
Cheryl Hively & Charles Hively, Jr.
from Sandra Slone
Crystal Jones
from Cathy Voors
Regan O'Shaughnessy
from Kathy & Andy O'Shaughnessy
Josh Romine
from Brent Winebrenner
Maureen Voors
from Cathy Voors
Karen Wesdorp
from Henri Wesdorp
Brad & Kelly Zimmerman
from Sandra Slone

SPECIAL thanks

ACRES Board of Directors and Committee
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Archive project volunteers:
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Carol Spallone
Craig Bobay
Mapping ACRES trails
Tim Brauch
Mapping ACRES trails
Dave Brumm
Office maintenance
Dan Ernst
Donating chainsaw engine oil, chain lubricant
Larry Ewing
Built new cabinets for ACRES office
Chris Fairfield
Contributing article on retiring trails
Pam George
Support for Holiday Pop-Up Shop
Tedra Hemingway
Interview for member profile
Ford Hudson
Donating bottled water
Jeri Kornegay & Lyn Winchell
Donating bamboo disposable cutlery
Lions Club of Dunlap
Hosting ACRES presentation
Mark Maffey
Donating batteries

Rachel McNett
Donating postage stamps
Harry Oelschlager
Donating bottled water
Louise Pomeroy
Office support
Quarterly assembly and distribution volunteers
Seed collection workday volunteers
Donna Seiler
Donating paper towels, ground coffee,
batteries
Nate Simons of Blue Heron Ministries
Guided hike at Lime Lake for ACRES winter
solstice staff outing
Jerry Sweeten and EcoSystems Connections
Institute
River health presentation
Christy Thomson
Contributing article on forest bathing
Trail Guide volunteers and photographers
Viridian Architectural Design
Volunteer workday at Bicentennial Woods
Volunteer hike leaders Tim Brauch, Joe & Nancy
Conrad, Tony Fleming, Diane Hunter, Mark &
Mary Ellen Maffey
Volunteer preserve stewards, caretakers and trail
monitors
Weed Wrangle volunteers
Winter photo contest participants

wish list

To order from ACRES Amazon Wish List, visit acreslandtrust.org/wishlist

ACRES memberships	Individually-wrapped snacks
Your stories and photos	Mike's Carwash gift cards
Birdseed	Insect repellent
Garden trowels (new or gently used)	Office Depot gift cards
Garden hand trimmers (new or gently used)	Paper towels
Hardware store gift cards	

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MEMBERSHIP: Life Member, \$1,000; Corporate Member, \$500; Annual Member, \$20. Dues payable annually.

SPRING POOLS

by Robert Frost (1874-1963)

*These pools that, though in forests, still reflect
The total sky almost without defect,
And like the flowers beside them, chill and shiver,
Will like the flowers beside them soon be gone,
And yet not out by any brook or river,
But up by roots to bring dark foliage on.
The trees that have it in their pent-up buds
To darken nature and be summer woods —
Let them think twice before they use their powers
To blot out and drink up and sweep away
These flowery waters and these watery flowers
From snow that melted only yesterday.*



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