

Indiana Academy of Science



Red-tail Land Conservancy

Annual Bio Blitz

2017

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From the Desk of Barry Banks...

Welcome!

May 31, 2017

To: The Members of The Indiana Academy of Science,

From: Barry Banks, Founder & Executive Director, Red-tail Land Conservancy

Re: Bio Blitz

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of Red-tail Land Conservancy, I want to welcome the members of Indiana Academy of Science to east central Indiana. For the last eighteen years, Red-tail Land Conservancy has been accomplishing our mission to preserve, protect, and restore the natural areas and farmland of east central Indiana while simultaneously increasing awareness of our natural heritage. To date we permanently protect 2,670 acres and we are consistently adding to that total.

From our inception, I have realized the importance of applying solid science to the stewardship and restoration of natural areas. We have had the good fortune to have available to us some of the best natural scientists in the state, including Don Ruch, Byron Torke, Tom Swinford, Kevin Tunesvick, and many more. I am very pleased that our staff and I will be hosting this year's Bio Blitz.

I also want to thank the members of Robert Cooper Audubon Society for sponsoring this wonderful event. Our colleagues at RCAS have been active conservationist in our community for decades and we appreciate their involvement in the 2017 Bio Blitz.

I wish you a successful event and I look forward to reading the reports.

For the Land,

Barry Banks

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Red-tail Land Conservancy

Our Mission:

Red-tail Land Conservancy preserves, protects, and restores natural areas and farm land in east central Indiana while increasing awareness of our natural heritage.

About Us:

Focused on this mission in six counties in east central Indiana, the not-for-profit land trust has grown steadily since its inception in 1999 when a public meeting held at Minnetrista Cultural Center in Muncie attracted 87 people.

Funded entirely by private contributions from individuals, business, and foundations, RLC hired a full-time Executive Director and recorded its first conservation easement in July, 2000. In its first decade, Red-tail Land Conservancy has provided land conservation options to individual landowners and partnered with local governments in restoration projects while engaging students and adult volunteers in land stewardship activities and education.

As a result, over 2,600 acres of natural areas and farm land are permanently protected, and Red-tail Land Conservancy receives growing support and recognition for its role in improving east central Indiana.

Schedule of Events

Saturday, June 10th

- All Day:* *Field work at the discretion of team leaders*
- 8 AM: Introductory meeting at Oakwood Retreat Center barn
- 11 AM-1 PM: Lunch at the discretion of team leaders
- 6 PM: Dinner at the Oakwood Retreat Center barn

Sunday, June 11th

- Until 2 PM:* *Field work at the discretion of team leaders*
- 11 AM-1 PM: Lunch at discretion of team leaders
- 2 PM: Wrap up at Oakwood Retreat Center barn

Note: It is recommended to bring a sack lunch. Snacks and water will be available all day Saturday and Sunday at McVey Memorial Forest at the pavilion at the Hgwy 1 parking lot and at White River Woods at the Oakwood Retreat Center barn.

Directions and Parking

Oakwood Retreat Center

3801 S 575 E

Selma, IN 47383

Super 8

3601 W Fox Ridge Ln

Muncie, IN 47304

White River Woods

S CR 575 N

Selma, IN 47383

McVey Memorial Forest

IN-1

Farmland, IN 47340

Hotel > Oakwood Retreat Center/White River Woods

Turn left onto Fox Ridge Ln then another left 294 N. Turn left onto W McGalliard Rd. Continue on McGalliard Rd for approx. 5mi. Turn right onto 300 E/N Country Club Rd. Turn left onto IN-32 W/E Jackson St. Turn right onto S CR 475 E/Whitney Rd. Turn left onto E CR 125 S/Smithfield Pike. Turn right onto S 625 E. Turn right onto E CR 167 S. Continue on CR 172 S. CR 172 S becomes CR 575 N. The Oakwood Retreat Center will be on the right. You will pass White River Woods which is also on the right.

Hotel > McVey Memorial Forest

Turn right onto W Fox Ridge Ln. Turn left onto N Everett Rd. Turn right onto W Purdue Ave (the first cross street). Turn left onto N Everett Rd. Turn right onto 300 N/W Riffin Rd. At the traffic circle, continue onto 300 N/Riffin Rd. Turn left onto N Broadway Ave. Continue straight onto IN-67 N. Keep right to continue on IN-28 E/W State St. Turn right onto IN-1 S. McVey Memorial Forest will be on your left just after the blue bridge that crosses the Mississinewa River.

White River Woods > McVey Memorial Forest

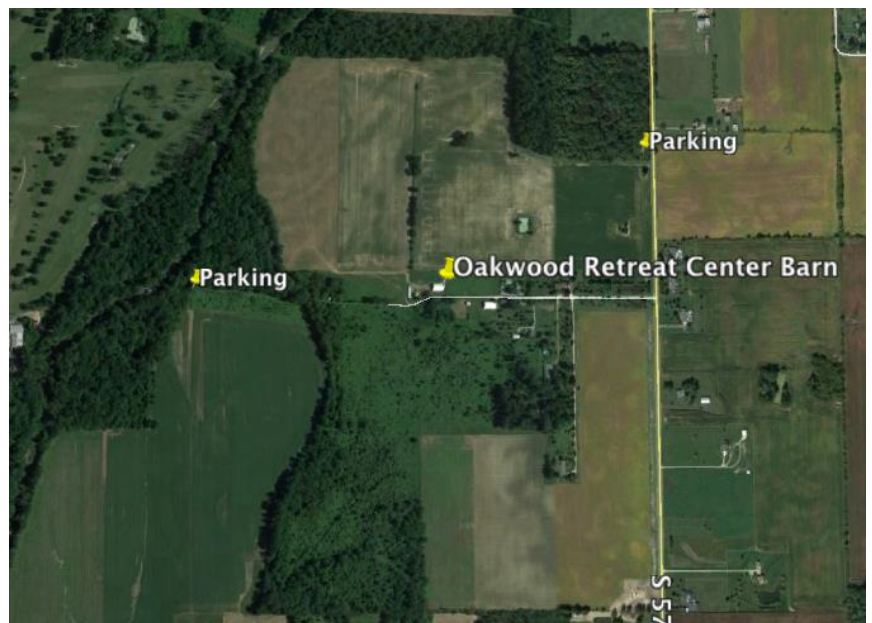
Head North on S CR 575 N. S CR 575 E turns right and becomes E CR 172 S. Continue onto E CR 167 S. Turn left onto S CR 700 E. Turn right onto IN-32 E. Turn left onto N 900 W. Continue on IN-1. McVey Memorial Forest will be on your right.

Parking on Site



McVey Memorial Forest has three parking lots on site. All allow for easy access to the 249-acre site. The parking lots at CRs 750 and 700 only allow for a handful of cars. Overflow vehicles can be parked in the grass near the parking lot at Hgwy 1. The pavilion is where snacks and water will be located Saturday and Sunday. The Mississinewa River can be accessed quite easily from the parking lot at CR 750 N.

A parking lot for the north section of the woods is located west of CR 575 N. The remainder of the property can be accessed by the lane of the retreat center. The lane can be followed west all the way to the White River. Snacks and water can be accessed at the bar Saturday and Sunday.



White River Woods Boundary



McVey Memorial Forest Boundary

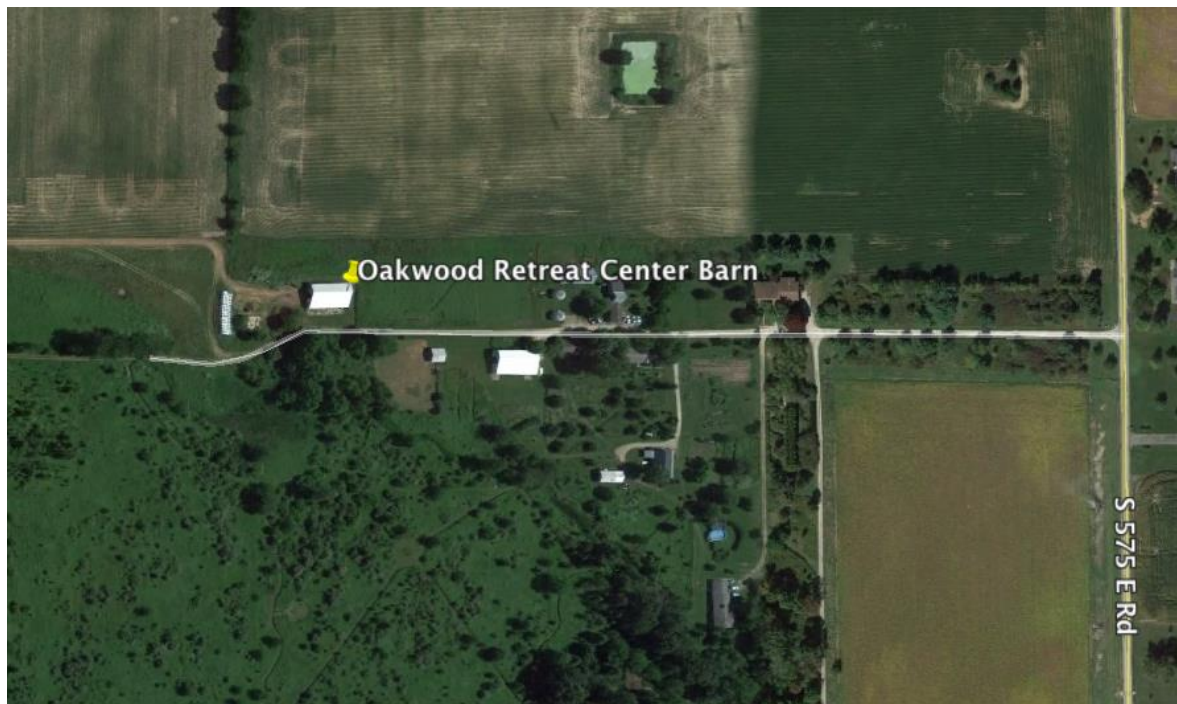


Notes about Oakwood Retreat Center and White River Woods

Oakwood Retreat Center barn will be the primary meeting location for this event. Red-tail's White River Woods is adjacent to the retreat center to the north and west.

At Oakwood Retreat Center, enter the campus from the east by turning off CR 575 N. The barn where we will meet is located at the back of the campus, north of the lane.

When driving through the Oakwood campus, please be aware that other retreats will be happening in their main building so please use caution and drive slowly.



Local Restaurants

1. **Damask Café:** 3201 W Bethel Ave, Muncie, IN 47304
Delicious Mediterranean and Middle Eastern lunch and dinner food.
2. **Two Cats Café:** 1813 W University Ave, Muncie, IN 47303
Light lunch and breakfast fare inspired by Middle Eastern cuisine.
3. **Eva's Pancake House:** 831 Broadway St, Anderson, IN 46012
American-style breakfast food (only open until 3pm).
4. **Sunshine Café:** 3113 N Oakwood Ave, Muncie, IN 47304
American-style breakfast food (open 24-hours).
5. **The Caffeinery:** 401 S Walnut St, Muncie, IN 47305
The best coffee shop in Delaware County.
6. **Amazing Joe's Grill:** 909 Wheeling Ave, Muncie, IN 47303
Delicious American-style grill and bar.
7. **The Downtown Farmstand:** 125 E Main St, Muncie, IN 47305
Fresh lunch with ingredients straight from local farmers.
8. **Thai Smile 2:** 125 E Main St, Muncie, IN 47305
Wonderful Thai lunch and dinner cuisine.
9. **Puerta Vallarta Restaurant:** 508 Tillotson Avenue, Muncie, IN 47304
Delicious Mexican food for lunch or dinner and great margaritas.

‘Thank You’ to our sponsors!

Our efforts would not be possible without the help and generous donations from our sponsors:



Oakwood Retreat Center