

**Indian Creek
Nature Center
Fall 2012**



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John Bursnall
President 315-344-7245

Bill Brown
Vice President 315-386-4034

Carol Zimmerman
Treasurer 315-212-2800

Roger Hutchinson
Secretary 315-386-4795

Jan Trybula
Newsletter 315-268-8230

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Bill Brown
Don Brown
Pat Burdick
John Bursnall
Ray Erickson
Roger Hutchinson
Glenn Johnson
Steven Manders
Jim Schulte
Jan Trybula
Mary Beth Warbuton
John Wood

**Welcome to the August 2012 newsletter of the
Indian Creek Nature Center!**

Fall is almost upon us and, as you can see, there are some great field trips within and around ICNC and our annual birdseed sale will be operating again this year. Please note the membership form in case you have not already sent in your annual dues; the center depends on this annual income for maintenance and upkeep supplies. We also depend on voluntary help for our twice annual 'Work Days'. In this regard, thanks are due to the YCC for their clearance work this summer, and to the boy scouts earlier in the year.

A number of new features have recently been put in place: new boards and a guide to specific features on the revised Lowland Trail; a complete resurface of the main entrance gravel road; and, very soon, a new map and sign for the main entrance parking lot, which should be in place early in the fall. Thanks to the DEC for the last two items and for their regular

mowing of entrance road and trails.

We have experienced one of the driest of summers - one that raises issues of climate change and likely related increases in weather volatility. Both clearly affect the center. The latter in terms of increased blow-downs and trail blockages and the former in the longer-term effect of changing habitats. Modification of habitat is clearly of concern for nature centers like ours - do we try to maintain these habitats (and for how long)? Or, just carry out a minimum of maintenance upkeep and allow natural changes to continue unabated? These are serious questions. If you have any comments, suggestions, etc., please let us know.

Finally, a welcome to our three new board members: Ray Erickson, Steve Manders, and Mary Beth Warbuton; and a sincere vote of thanks to retiring
(Continued on page 2)

Indian Creek Nature Center
PO BOX 286
CANTON, NY 13617

Web
<http://www.indiancreeknaturecenter.us/>

Welcome... (continued from page 1)
members and officers for their commitment and hard work.

I hope that you have plenty of opportunities to visit ICNC this fall and, if you do, please sign-in at the entrance kiosk (not only for safety, but also to

demonstrate usage; many thanks!).

Sincerely,
John Bursnall
President, ICNC

PS: Two Sandhill Cranes visited the northern boundary of ICNC a few weeks ago, way south of their normal summer range (ever changing nature).

Fall 2012 and Winter 2013 Public Programs!

Public programs are provided free of charge by volunteer naturalists, biologists, foresters, and educators. We only ask that you **register** with the program leader **prior** to the date of the event by calling the phone number provided with each entry. **Unless otherwise noted, all groups will meet at the Main Entrance parking lot.**

CANOE/KAYAK THE MARSH

A great paddle where we can take time to sit, watch and listen. Life jackets are required. Binoculars, camera, and insect repellent are desirable.

Note: Meet at the start of the DEC Middle Access Road on CR 14, 1.6 miles from NY 68.

Leaders: Mary Beth Warburton (315) 268-0150 and Ann Spencer (315) 379-1383.

Date: In late August or early September. Date To Be Announced. Please see our website or look for date and time in newspapers or on the radio.

WILD FRUITS

Most of us can easily recognize common wild fruits like apples, but can you distinguish between chokeberries and chokecherries, *Aronia* and *Clintonia*, fox grapes and Virginia creeper? How about partridgeberry from winterberry? Would you like to sample a delicious nut-like seed from a common wetlands plant? We'll look at wild fruits like these and the plants that produce them, and discuss their importance in wildlife survival.

Leader: Don O'Shea (315) 393-5137.

Date: Saturday, September 8, 9:30 a.m. – ?

GEOLOGIC FEATURES OF THE NATURE CENTER AND THE NORTH COUNTRY

Join John Bursnall, Geology professor at St. Lawrence University, for a look at the geology of ICNC, as well as some road stops in the surrounding area.

Leader: John Bursnall (315) 344-7245

Date: Saturday, September 15, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00

FALL WORK DAY

Join Board members for a workday to set the Center in order for the winter. Tools will be supplied, or bring your own. There's plenty of work for all.

Leader: Roger Hutchinson (315) 386-4795

Date: Saturday, September 29, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00

ECOLOGY OF WETLANDS

Tom Langen, Biology Professor at Clarkson University, known for his work with road crossings for reptiles and amphibians, will lead a walk around the Nature Center's wetlands, taking a look at their ecological significance and their place in the larger landscape.

Leader: Tom Langen (315) 268-7933

Date: Saturday, October 6, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00

TREES AND SHRUBS

Join retired forester Don Brown during the season for fall colors. We will take a look at the forest and trees, with emphasis on identification as well as their ecological and silvicultural characteristics. For all ages.

Leader: Don Brown (315) 244-1517

Date: Saturday, October 13, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00

WINTER SNOW SHOE TREK AND FAMILY FUN DAY

An easy snowshoe or ski ramble (the center has some snowshoes to loan). We'll check for tracks and birds and then have hot cocoa by the fire. Please bring extra mittens for the kids.

Leader: Ann Spencer (315) 379-1383

Date: Depends on snow – Date To Be Announced. Please see our website or look for date and time in newspapers or on the radio.

WINTER TRACKING

The ICNC hosts a wonderful array of interesting animals and fauna throughout the year. Peter O'Shea, local naturalist and author, will lead the group in identifying various creatures by their tracks and other unique features. If snow is sufficiently deep, trackers can bring their snowshoes or borrow them from the Nature Center. If no snow, we'll scout the trails on foot. Dress appropriately.

Leader: Peter O'Shea (315) 848-2178

Date: Saturday, January 5, 2013, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00

Please consider becoming a member of the Indian Creek Nature Center!

Student member (in school or college) \$10
 Senior Citizen member \$10
 Individual member \$20
 Family membership \$30
 ICNC Patron \$100
 ICNC Life Member (nontransferable) \$200

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: _____
 Membership for 20__ New Renewal

Please consider an additional Donation! \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:
Indian Creek Nature Center
 PO Box 286
 Canton, NY 13617

Indian Creek Nature Center is run by North Country Conservation – Education Associates, Inc. a section 501(c)(3) organization that relies on memberships, grantors, and donors. Your donations are tax deductible.

ICNC Birdseed Sale 2012!

The birdseed sale is one of the many fundraisers for the ICNC, and we need your financial support! Your purchases are, in part, a contribution toward maintenance, overhead, and programs at the ICNC.

Please Keep This Copy for Your Records!

Wt.	Description	Qty.	Price	Total
20#	Choice Blend	_____	\$16.50	_____
40#	Choice Blend	_____	\$27.50	_____
20#	Premium Blend	_____	\$19.50	_____
40#	Premium Blend	_____	\$34.00	_____
20#	Just Desserts	_____	\$28.00	_____
18#	Cardinal Blend	_____	\$19.00	_____
20#	Finch Blend	_____	\$23.00	_____
20#	Chickadee Blend	_____	\$22.00	_____
30#	Value Blend	_____	\$14.00	_____
20#	Black Oil Sunflower	_____	\$17.00	_____
50#	Black Oil Sunflower	_____	\$33.00	_____
25#	Striped Sunflower	_____	\$24.00	_____
40#	Striped Sunflower	_____	\$36.00	_____
25#	Sunflower Kernels	_____	\$38.00	_____
50#	Cracked Corn	_____	\$16.50	_____
10#	Nyger (Niger Thistle)	_____	\$16.00	_____
25#	Nyger (Niger Thistle)	_____	\$31.00	_____
Ea.	Nutty Butter Suet	_____	\$ 1.25	_____
Ea.	High Energy Suet	_____	\$ 1.25	_____
Total Enclosed = \$ _____		(Check # _____)		

Please Return This Copy with Your Order!

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Total Enclosed = \$ _____		(Check # _____)		

Mail your order by **Friday, October 5** to:
Roger Hutchinson
 c/o Indian Creek Nature Center
 4 Orebed Road
 Canton, NY 13617

Pick up order on **Saturday, October 20**, 9:00-3:00
 at Army Reserve Center, W. Main St. Canton, NY

**Make Checks Payable to:
 Indian Creek Nature Center**

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ ZIP _____
 Phone: _____

INDIAN CREEK NATURE CENTER
PO BOX 286
CANTON, NY 13617

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SYRACUSE NY 13200

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