

Opening Speaker

Fred Whitford -

Fred Whitford, Clinical Engagement Professor, Botany and Plant Pathology and Director of Purdue Pesticide Programs. Fred has a bachelor's degree in wildlife management and M.S. and Ph.D. in entomology. He has served as the Coordinator of the Purdue Pesticide Program since 1991. Fred is the author of *The Grand Old Man of Purdue University and Indiana Agriculture: A Biography of William Carroll Latta*, *The Queen of American Agriculture: A Biography of Virginia Claypool Meredith*, and *For The Good of the Farmer: A Biography of John Harrison Skinner*, *Dean of Purdue Agriculture* as well as two other books on pesticide management. He has authored more than 300 publications and become a popular speaker with more than 5,000 presentations given throughout Indiana and the United States. He has received numerous awards from organizations and universities.

Presenters

Joe Robb

Joe is the Project Leader of Big Oaks and Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Complex and the Refuge Manager of Big Oaks NWR near Madison, IN. He has worked with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service since 1985. Joe has a B.S. in Forestry (with a wildlife option) from Purdue University. He has a M.S. and Ph.D. from The Ohio State University in Zoology, where he specialized in waterfowl ecology. He has published over 24 peer reviewed papers and is actively investigating grassland and forest birds and crawfish frogs at Big Oaks NWR. Dr. Robb also is a part-time Lecturer at Hanover College where he has taught Conservation Biology. Joe and his wife Amber are actively converting their yard in Vernon into native pollinator habitat.

Kirsten Carlson

Kristen is an Educator at the Big Oaks NWR. She has a BS in Biology Indiana University, an MS in Secondary Science Education Indiana University and an MS Certification in Special Education.

She taught high school biology, honors biology, inclusion biology and AP biology from 2000-2010. Taught science at the Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility and environmental science at the Madison Correctional Facility via Oakland City College. Has been focusing on the last seven years on working with schools and other groups to create pollinator habitats and Monarch Waystations along with tagging monarch butterflies for MonarchWatch. Has provided many workshops for teachers and presentations for others on creating pollinator/monarch habitats and support to collecting, rearing and tagging monarchs. Has worked with individuals and groups to collect and stratify milkweed seed.

Krispn Given

Krispn is an Apiculture Specialist. For the past 12 years Krispn Given has been engaged in honey bee breeding and research working with Dr Greg Hunt at Purdue University. His responsibilities include, maintaining the 110 research colonies, running the Purdue honey bee breeding program, teaching an annual queen rearing short course, managing the honey bee laboratory and extension activities. Krispn also teaches an annual instrumental insemination class each year at the university. His focus has been on selecting bees that chew mites and grooming behaviors.

Peggy Stark

Peggy taught second grade in the Seymour Community School System for thirty years. During that time she worked with several outdoor labs and created different pollinator gardens. She has taught several groups about the life cycle of Monarch Butterflies, their journey, how they can be raised and tagged.

Nate Yazel

Nathan Yazel, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, District Wildlife Biologist. He has a BS in wildlife biology from Ball State University. He has worked for Div. of fish and wildlife for 19 years. A few years ago, Nate converted his cropland into warm season grasses with forbs in creating a pollinator habitat and manages it.

Kids Activity Leaders

Beth Steiner

Beth is an active volunteer with several local groups and holds memberships on several boards. She teaches about the importance of Agriculture, water quality, and pollinators, during the yearly Soil and Water Conservation District Elementary Programs.

Pam Winegarden

Pam is an active member of the Jennings County Pollinator Committee and a master garden through the Extension Service.

Donna Stanley

Donna works for the USFW at the Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge in charge of educational activities and tours. She is an active member of the Jennings County Pollinator Committee.