



Friends of White's Woods

Monthly Newsletter



OCTOBER



Friends of White's Woods
Member Meeting
October 27, 2026

SAVE THE DATE: Oct. 27th FWW 2026 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

FWW needs your help more than ever! So, please plan to stop by for the membership meeting on October 27, 2026, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church, 100 S 6th Street, Indiana. There will be cake!

The meeting will provide updates about ongoing projects including invasive plant removal and tree planting in White's Woods, along with information about the status of the IUP Co-op Forest. Important discussion about future plans is also on the agenda: How can we best protect White's Woods for the 22nd Century? Can the park be better? Bigger? Can we confirm the presence of additional endangered species? How do we protect the species in our forest, particularly given the challenges of climate change. Eat cake. Bring a friend. See you on October 27th!

Roadless Rule Comment Period Extended to Oct. 6th

One of the most important public land protections in U.S. history is about to be repealed by the current federal administration. The chance to submit comments ends on Oct. 6th.

If the [Roadless Rule](#) is repealed, 45 million acres of national forests will be opened to road building, logging, mining, and other extractive industries. Submit your comment to keep some national forests roadless and wild. You can provide your comment now to: <https://saveroadlessforests.com/>, <https://roadless.org/> or to the [Sierra Club petition portal](#).



FALL BIRD MIGRATION

Direction: South Speed:
13 mph Altitude: 1,600

On Mon, Sep 28- 29, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. EDT., **191,000** birds crossed Indiana County. You can track the fall bird migration at [CornellLab Birdcast](#). Be sure to check out our [local migration dashboard](#). Many different bird species are on the move, including the Indigo Bunting, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Scarlet Tanager, American Redstart (pictured) Green Heron, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Chestnut-sided Warbler.

UPCOMING FWW EVENTS

October 6th: Deadline to submit comments to protect the Roadless Rule.

October 27th: FWW Annual Member Meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 100 S 6th St.

November 12th: Restoring and Managing Habitat for Imperiled Species, Pamela Shellenberger, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4-5 p.m.

SATURDAYS: Barberry Removal: Weather permitting. 10 - noon. Please help! Sign up@ [FWW website](#)
See the monthly [Naturally](#) column, brought to you by FWW and [The Indiana Gazette](#).

September: [A Diamond in the Sky](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)
[WHY WE NEED THE
ROADLESS RULE](#)
(Short film)

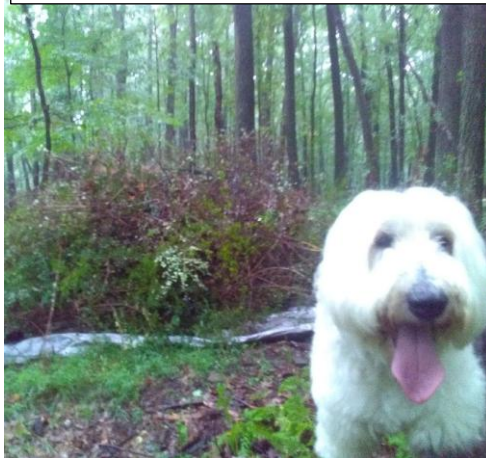
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SEPTEMBER 2026 WWNC BARBERRY ATTACK!



Plant Patrol member Ed Donley stands beside that group's September 12th work.



The barberry-removal Inspector Dog celebrates the IUP Into the Streets group effort.

FWW
MEMBERS
HOST

SEPT. 12th

IUP

“INTO

THE

STREETS”

with help from
Plant Patrol!



FWW's Jessica Jopp, IUP students Aidan Gardner, Eli Conaway, Cadence Straka, Jaimie Miller, and McKenzie Pauli.

Over 85 participants joined FWW to work 170 total hours to combat barberry in White's Woods on Sept. 12th, 13th, and 19th. IUP Greeks, Ambassadors, the Student Government Association, and majors in graphic art, speech therapy, information science, chemistry, nursing – and many more – all did fantastic work! We owe them our thanks.

GREAT FALL & WINTER “WEEDS”

In addition to golden rod (pictured p. 1, top right), there are a number of beautiful native fall and winter “weeds” to look for.



Queen Anne's Lace



Joe Pye Weed



Witch Hazel



False Daisy

Fall and winter native plants [feed the birds, butterflies, and bees](#) who live here. Most butterflies stay home for the winter.

It is time to renew your FWW membership!

You can get a [great new FWW t-shirt](#) with a \$25 membership renewal. Even better, you can support FWW community education and ongoing projects to protect the woods. [Support FWW](#) and continue your efforts to save White's Woods. (Please help in any way that you can.)

CLIMATE FORESTS UPDATE

This week, the Trump administration has [substantially weakened the Endangered Species Act](#), arguing that only “intent to kill,” and not collateral harm caused by [habitat destruction](#), is illegal. The administration is also [selling off national parks](#) opening them to [drilling and mining](#), and reducing [professional staff](#).

October quote “We need acts of restoration, not only for polluted waters and degraded lands, but also for our relationship to the world. We need to restore honor to the way we live... and receive the respectful acknowledgement of the rest of the earth's beings.”
— Robin Wall Kimmerer, [Braiding Sweetgrass](#).

NEWS. In response to 13 deaths and 230 other attacks on humans, [Japan killed 14,000 bears](#).

For more information, visit: friendsofwhiteswoods.org
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