

# INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

August 2011

On the web at <http://www.frontiernet.net/~indiancreek> Contact us by email at [indiancreeknews@hotmail.com](mailto:indiancreeknews@hotmail.com)

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## Water News

"With the summer temperatures rising, it is important that we conserve on our water use. Effective immediately, please only do any long term watering on odd/even days based on your street number. Long term watering referring to watering a couple of hours at a time. Established trees should do just fine in the heat. It is best to water early in the morning or late at night. Running a sprinkler all day long is not good for your lawn or the Indian Creek water system.

The Indian Creek board members appreciate your cooperation.

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## Pine Wilt Nematode

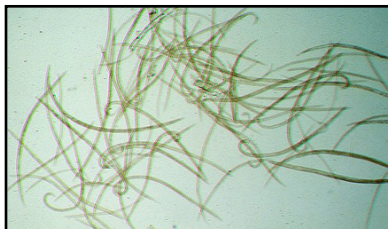
by Brian Krause



I suddenly lost a pine tree in my backyard seemingly in just a few months. Then, I noticed that another tree of what appeared to be the same species, in my front yard, very large, was exhibiting symptoms also. I was alarmed since to lose a tree 30+ feet tall is a huge loss to the landscape and a tragedy. I took samples and photos into the University of Illinois extension office. They sent the specimens off to Champaign for testing. I got the results back and no fungus or insect infestation was found. But what they suspected is something I had researched on the internet and hoped was not going to be the prognosis. The likely culprit is something called pine wilt nematode. It is carried by beetles and the tiny worms end up blocking the vascular system of the tree...nutrients can't circulate and the tree dies, usually quickly.

My tree is an Austrian pine. There are other properties in the subdivision that look like they have lost at least one tree with a couple more probably infected. Driving on county highway 29, you can see the same type of tree that people have bordering their yards on the west side toward the road, and there are more dead there. There is no treatment. To reduce the chances of infection of other trees, the recommendation is to cut down and remove infected trees and either bury them or burn them.

Not every tree that gets pine wilt nematode will die. Some trees can get infected and survive.



Pine wood nematode



Pine sawyer beetle

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# Steve Liebenow Memorial Scholarship

The Towanda Lions Club is sponsoring a \$500.00 scholarship for a 2011 High School college bound senior and/or currently enrolled college student attending classes full time from the Towanda area. This is a one-time scholarship not open to renewal.

**Applicants for this scholarship must meet the following criteria:**

1. The applicant must have a Towanda mailing residence address.
2. Average grade of C verified by a high school transcript.
3. In 250 words or less, submit a letter of application containing a brief biographical profile which includes your college plans, school activities, community service activities and work history. Indicate your plans for using the scholarship money and why you are deserving of the award.
4. Submit 2 letters of recommendation: one from a teacher, counselor or administrator, and one from a non-relative in the Towanda area.
5. Submit a copy of your fall 2011 class schedule of the college/university you will be attending.
6. Letter of application, recommendations, transcript, and class schedule must be received by the Scholarship Committee Chairman by September 15, 2011.

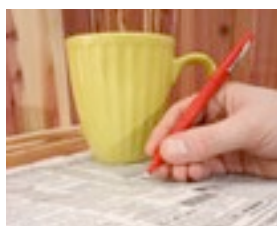
Mail to:

Steve Liebenow Memorial Scholarship  
c/o Mr. Robert Hancock  
7 Bent Tree Lane  
Towanda, Illinois 61776

The Towanda Lions Club committee will review all applications and select one scholarship winner. All applicants will be notified by mail of the committee's choice. This scholarship is offered in memory of Steve Liebenow, a long-time Lions Club member, educator, and community leader who passed away.

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## Classified



**For Sale:**

2008 Mazda Miata convertible, Touring Model with power options, 6 disk CD, 6 speed manual, dark green exterior, charcoal interior, 2700 miles, new condition, \$18,500.

Ron Fontaine (309) 728-2717

Two (2) 1972 Schwinn 10 speed Continental bikes in excellent original condition, light blue, always stored inside and very little usage. \$125 each.

Ron Fontaine (309) 728-2717

**Make an Offer:** SHARP Digital Imager Copier in working order, solid wood card catalogue.

Karen Stott Bersche, Director, Towanda District Library - Phone: (309) 728-2176

Email: [director@towandalibrary.org](mailto:director@towandalibrary.org)



## Towanda Area Fall Garage Sales

The fall sales will be held **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 8, 9, and 10.**

If you would like to be included, please provide, by **Wednesday, August 31:**

- 1) the sale location and your contact information,
- 2) the **days** and **times** your sale will be open (it is not necessary to be open all days),
- 3) **list of items** to advertise (as space is available) on the flyer that is distributed with the map of locations, and
- 4) **\$7.00** (check made payable to Gail Ann Briggs)

Emailed lists are preferred (you will receive a response that it has been received):

[rgbriggs@frontiernet.net](mailto:rgbriggs@frontiernet.net) ~ 112 Hunt ~ 728-2187.

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## Directory of Area Organizations

Is your group or organization interested in new members?

An updated directory is 'in-the-works'. Please provide, as soon as you are organized, the following information for your group or organization to be included in the list:

- 1) **name** and **title** of person to be listed,
- 2) **location** of meetings/events,
- 3) regular meeting time and day, and
- 4) whether meetings are weekly, monthly, or periodically

send to Gail Ann Briggs [rgbriggs@frontiernet.net](mailto:rgbriggs@frontiernet.net) ~ 112 Hunt ~ 728-2187

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## Towanda Area Historical Society

We will be meeting on Wednesday, August 31, at 7:00 p.m. at the Towanda Community Building (and not Tue.Aug.23). The program will be a discussion of the newly published Hudson IL history book with its authors, Sue Keeran and Judy Lampert. The public is invited.

Regular meetings are planned for 7:00 p.m. at the Community Building on the 4th Tuesdays of September (27), and October (25). Special events "That's the Way It Was...." are in the planning stages and will be announced later.

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## A Fond Farewell

A farwell to all Indian Creekers. We want to tell everyone how much we enjoyed living here in Indian Creek for the last 21 years and wish everyone the best.

We will be moving to the Denver area on August 5th. Brian will still be working at the same company (Farnsworth Group) in their Denver office. For those of you who we haven't seen since selling our house our new email will be [bcmeyers4@gmail.com](mailto:bcmeyers4@gmail.com).

Brian and Carol Myers



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# Towanda Library

## Go Green Series

### "Waste Less = Save More" Workshop at 5:30 on Wednesday, August 17th

Join us for a one-hour workshop in which The Ecology Action Center offers sound advice for adults seeking to economize. You may be surprised how much a rain barrel can save you on your water bill! Learn about the Ecology Action Center's Yard Smart program.

[McLean County Freecycle](#), is an online exchange opportunity for residents of McLean County. It is open to all people who want to find a home for items that can still be used, rather than relegated to the landfill.

This program is free and open to the public thanks to contracts EAC holds with McLean County. The Ecology Action Center's primary mission is solid waste reduction and clean water issues. Bring your recycling questions.

## McLean County Arts Center Presents Free Watercolor Workshop on Monday, August 22 at 4:30

This 90-minute class educates students about their own creative process as well as fundamental techniques of watercolor painting. Presented by the McLean County Arts Center. Sponsored by the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation's Jerome Mirza Arts & Cultural Fund. Pre-registration at the library is required.

## Read To The Dogs – Tuesday evenings 5:30 to 6:30

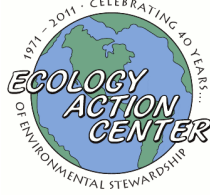
Bring your favorite book or choose one from our library's collection to read to Annie, Bella, or Sam – the certified therapy dogs that come to the library each Tuesday evening August through November. Share some reading time with a cuddly companion. (Parents, you must pre-register your child for the 15-minute appointments.)



## Unit 5 Schools

Check out <http://www.unit5.org/index.shtml> for the latest about registration dates and locations, district calendar, new phone numbers, individual schools, special announcements, contact information, and other need-to-know information.

The first half day of school for students is **Thursday, August 18**



202 W. College Avenue

Normal, Illinois 61761-2552

[www.ecologyactioncenter.org](http://www.ecologyactioncenter.org)

Phone: 309-454-3169 • Fax: 309-454-7508

## Panel Discussion: Small Business Can Go Green To Save Green

The Ecology Action Center in Normal invites local small business owners to participate in their first “Sustainable Solutions for Small Businesses” discussion panel on Friday, August 5th at Heartland Bank, 200 W. College Avenue in Normal.

“Sustainable Solutions for Small Businesses” is an opportunity for business owners to share ideas about applying green practices to everyday objectives without affecting their bottom-line. The panel will feature business owners from the Bloomington-Normal area as well as representatives from the Illinois Green Business Association and the Ecology Action Center.

“While we know that businesses need to look out for their bottom line,” said Michael Brown, Executive Director of the Ecology Action Center, “there is an intersection where what’s good for the environment is also good for business.”

The event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Heartland Bank’s Community Room. Interested participants are asked to sign up by July 29, 2011. Event refreshments will be provided by Kelly’s Bakery in Bloomington. For more information or to register, please call The Ecology Action Center at 309-454-3169.

### **August Rain Barrel and Composter Workshops Scheduled**

The Ecology Action Center wants to help Bloomington-Normal area residents conserve water, reduce stormwater runoff pollution, and reduce waste going to the landfill. To meet these goals, the EAC has scheduled low-cost workshops where residents will learn about these issues in detail and build their own rain barrel or composter that they can take home and put to immediate use. The workshops are a very cost-effective alternative to buying a ready-to-use rain barrel and include all materials, tools, and instruction needed to successfully build a 55- gallon rain barrel for home use. The rain barrel design includes screens to prevent mosquito entry and an overflow hose to direct extra water away from the house foundation and into the yard.

Backyard composting is the easiest way to reduce waste from home and create rich soil nutrients to feed one’s garden at the same time. The composter workshops will include everything needed to successfully begin home composting. Various types of compost systems and techniques will be discussed in addition to troubleshooting tips to avoid potential problems. In addition, each workshop will include a discussion on vermicomposting, or composting with worms. Participants will make and take home two 32-gallon composters ready for use and receive a kitchen compost pail.

Rain Barrel workshops are scheduled for August 9 at 5:30 p.m. and August 13 at 10 a.m. The composting workshop is scheduled for August 11 at 5:30 p.m. Workshop space is limited and pre-registration is required; online registration or downloadable registration forms are available at

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[www.ecologyactioncenter.org](http://www.ecologyactioncenter.org) on the BN Green Events Calendar or by stopping by the Ecology Action Center at 202 West College in Normal during regular business hours. Confirmation of registration and workshop location details and will be provided after payment and registration form are received. More information on the workshops is available by calling 309-454-3169.

*The Ecology Action Center is the primary resource for environmental education, information, and outreach in McLean County. The EAC educates for environmental action at a walk-in information center and through educational programs on a variety of environmental topics.*

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## Towanda Baptist Church Blood Drive

The Towanda Baptist Church is sponsoring a Blood Drive on Wednesday, Aug. 24, at the Towanda Community Building from 3-7. Donation appointments can be scheduled between 3:00 PM and 6:45 PM. A blood donation takes approximately 45-60 minutes. Eligible donors must be in good health; feel well the day of the donation; weigh between 110-350 lbs., be at least 17 years old (16 year olds may donate in Illinois with the approved consent form signed by a parent); have vital signs within criteria.

**Remember to bring IDENTIFICATION or your Red Cross donor card so you can donate!**

Every two seconds, someone in this country needs blood. There is fewer than ten percent of the eligible population actually donating each year. There are 10-12 pints in our bodies and a single pint can help save three lives. As an added incentive, between May 16 and September 7, 2011 all presenting donors (ages 21 and older) will have a chance to win a trip for four to Orlando, FL. All presenting donors of all ages are eligible to win other fun summer prizes.

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## American Legion

The Towanda American Legion will have a breakfast on Sunday August 7th from 7:30 to 11 :00. Breakfast will include eggs, egg casserole, sausage, bacon, hash browns, pancakes, fresh fruit, biscuits and gravy and drink for \$8.

The Legion will also have a dinner on Friday August 12 from 5:30 to 7:30. Dinner will include steak, shrimp or steak/shrimp combo, baked potato, salad, dessert and drink for \$10.

The Legion continues to collect donated items to send to our service men and women. This month we will send a box to **Chris Dutch whose parents live in Indian Creek.**

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## Towanda Seniors

The Towanda Seniors will meet at noon for a potluck dinner on August 10th at the Towanda Community Building. Meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring your own table service. Hosts will be Gene and Letha Crosier and Jean Miller. If you have any questions please contact Beverly Meginnes at 728-2769.