

# INDIAN CREEK NEWSLETTER

August 2022

On the web at <http://www.indiancreeksubdivision.org>

Contact us by email at [indiancreeknews@hotmail.com](mailto:indiancreeknews@hotmail.com)

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Returns to McLean County: Ecology Action Center opens registration for September 17, 2022

In a surprising shift from the recent trend of every-other-year events, the Ecology Action Center (EAC) has announced a fall McLean County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event for Saturday, September 17, 2022. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is covering major costs for the HHW collection to be held at Heartland Community College from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. "The increased frequency of hazardous waste collection events locally will help increase participation and reduce the likelihood of improper disposal while also conserving local financial resources for taxpayers," said Michael Brown, Executive Director of the EAC.

**The HHW collection event will be appointment-only in order to regulate traffic to prevent long waits; residents must sign up for an appointment at [HHWmclean.org](http://HHWmclean.org).** Residents without computer access may call 309-GOTO-HHW, or (309) 468-6449 for assistance. Due to a current staff shortage, registration by the website [HHWmclean.org](http://HHWmclean.org) is strongly encouraged. Participation is open to all Illinois residents at no cost. Illinois regulations mandate that only residential wastes may be collected—no business or commercially generated wastes are accepted. The deadline for HHW appointments is noon on Friday, September 16, 2022. Volunteers are needed to help with traffic control at the event; sign up is available online at [HHWmclean.org](http://HHWmclean.org).

**Accepted materials include:** Oil-based paints, Used Motor Oil, Herbicides, Pesticides, Insecticides, Old gasoline, Pool chemicals, Cleaning products, Mercury, Acids, Household batteries, Paint thinners, Lawn chemicals, Solvents, Antifreeze, Hobby chemicals, Aerosol paints and pesticides, Fluorescent lamp bulbs, Drain cleaners, and Corrosives.

**Unaccepted items include:** Latex paint, Agricultural wastes, business/commercial sector wastes, Explosives, Fireworks, Controlled substances, Lead acid batteries, Propane tanks, Smoke detectors, Farm machinery oil, Fire extinguishers, Biohazard waste, or Institutional or business waste.

The 2022 McLean County HHW Collection is made possible in partnership with Illinois EPA, support from the City of Bloomington, Town of Normal, McLean County, and BNWRD, and in-kind services provided by Heartland Community College and Republic Services.



The Ecology Action Center is a not-for-profit environmental agency with a mission to inspire and assist residents of McLean County in creating, strengthening and preserving a healthy environment. The EAC acts as a central resource for environmental education, information, outreach, and technical assistance in McLean County.

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## Towanda HCE



The Towanda HCE wishes to thank you for supporting our spaghetti supper July 3. It was great to have the supper again and see many friendly faces. We next meet in September and we'll include more information about it in the September newsletter.

McLean County HCE is again sponsoring the Young at Heart Day at the McLean County Fair on Thursday August 4, 8:30-11:30 in Clover Leaf Auditorium. This is a free fair event with educational booths from businesses/organizations serving seniors, entertainment, food and also golf cart rides around the fairgrounds. Entertainment will be "The Bob & Judy Duo" and also "Tress & The Mixers" with singing and dancing allowed. Free gate admission until 6pm for those age 60 and over. Door prizes will be handed out throughout the morning. If any questions, contact 309-829-2537 or 824-4797. See you at the fair!

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## Towanda Area Garage Sales

Towanda Area Fall Garage Sales - September 8-10 (Thu-Sat)

Are you thinking about ridding your home of unnecessary items? Let me know if you are interested in having a garage sale sometime the weekend following Labor Day (9/8-10), want to share in the cost of advertising, and I'll help with that. Gail Ann Briggs, (309) 824-1649, [rgbriggs@frontiernet.net](mailto:rgbriggs@frontiernet.net). 112 Hunt St (Lamplighter Subd).

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## Raccoons in Indian Creek

As you can see from the photo there are a preponderance of raccoons throughout our neighborhood. Raccoons can cause extensive damage to dwellings and can be a general nuisance. Feeding them is a bad idea as it will habituate them to residential areas and make them dependent on a food source. Feeding wild animals puts them close to human proximity, which puts strain and pressure on the animal, raising the risk of accidents and possible aggression from the animal.

Another issue with raccoons is what they leave behind. Raccoon droppings are dangerous because many contain tiny roundworm eggs that can infect humans and cause serious illness if accidentally swallowed or inhaled. Although these infections are rare, they can lead to irreversible brain, heart, and sometimes eye damage and death.

Feces and material contaminated with raccoon feces should be removed (using a shovel or inverted plastic bag) and burned, buried, or bagged and placed in the trash to be sent to a landfill. Most chemicals do not kill roundworm eggs, but heat will kill the eggs instantly.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Fred Walk  
IC Grounds Chair





# YOUNG AT HEART DAY

At the McLean County Fair & 4-H Show

Interstate Center - West of Bloomington off Rt. 9

**Thursday August 4, 2022**

**8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**



**Senior day at the fair features....**

**Free gate admission ALL DAY (includes parking)  
for those age 60 and over!**

**Educational Booths of organizations serving seniors**

**Musical Entertainment**

**Tress & The Mixers - 8:30 a.m.**

**The Bob & Judy Duo - 10:15 a.m.**

**Refreshments & Door Prizes throughout the morning**

**Golf cart tours around fair every ½ hour ~ 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**Covid 19 Guidelines and restrictions will be adhered to.**

**This event and related activities are subject to change due to Coronavirus Pandemic.**

**Young at Heart Day Committee: Cindy Kelley, Donna LaMar, Kathleen Emery, Candace Thedens,  
Linda Lange, Kathryn McNeely, Nancy O'Neill, Anita Ogden, Pat Pulokas, Joann Hart, Peg Glaser**

**Young at Heart Day is presented by**



**McLean County Association for  
Home and Community Education  
1615 Commerce Parkway, Bloomington, IL 61704**

**Co-chairmen:  
Donna LaMar  
309-829-2537  
Cindy Kelley  
309-824-4797**

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# The Trees of Indian Creek – Walnut

by Greg Beneze

Last month's article was about one of the less common nut trees in our woods, the Shagbark Hickory. This month's focus is on the most common edible nut tree in our woods – the Black Walnut.

Black walnut trees are one of the last trees to leaf out in the spring and one of the first to drop their leaves in the fall. The fall color is yellow to brown. They grow 50 to 120 feet tall, with an average height of about 80 feet. When surrounded by other trees in the forest, black walnuts grow straight and tall with few, if any, lower branches. When planted in the open, such as a single tree in a yard, the tree will branch out closer to the ground, developing a spreading shape that makes it easier to harvest its sweet, round, 2- to 3-inch nuts. The trees bear nuts after 12-15 years of growth. They partially self-fertilize, but will produce a more consistent nut crop if other walnut trees are around to ensure pollination.



Black walnuts are wild native to North America and, unlike most nuts, are not grown in orchards. Their shell is hard to crack and the nut rarely comes out whole. Their taste is somewhat musky, bittersweet.

The walnut that we more commonly find in grocery stores is the English walnut. These are orchard-grown and have a thin, easy-to-crack shell. Their taste is a mild, muted flavor. Fun fact: the English walnut originated in Iran (Persia) but got its common name from the English merchants who sold it around the world.



Black walnuts have higher levels of antioxidants, polyunsaturated fatty acids, and other health-promoting compounds than the more common English walnuts, making them useful in reducing the risk of cancer, heart disease, and diabetes.

When a recipe calls for walnuts, you can safely assume they mean English walnuts. You can easily swap them out for Black walnuts; just use a smaller amount to keep the bold, slightly bitter flavor in check. You can order Black Walnuts on-line if you aren't able to find them in the grocery store.

If you would like to try harvesting your own Black Walnuts, the best time is late September through October. However, this task is not for the faint of heart. The fruit consists of three layers: a green, fleshy husk; a black inner shell that is hard, thick and corrugated; and the kernel. Some work is required to extract the edible nut and the crushed black walnut shells can stain fingers, clothing, and concrete – wear gloves!

In addition to human consumption, black walnuts are also a favorite food of squirrels and other animals. And the wood is a favorite among woodworkers and furniture makers because of its

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handsome grain. Native Americans and early settlers used it for food, dyes, ink, medicine, and fence posts.

One of the most interesting things about the walnut tree is how it will defend its turf from other plants that might rob it of nutrients. Alleopathy is the term given to the suppression of growth of one plant species by another due to the release of toxic substances. Black walnut tree roots contain *juglone*, a toxic substance released when the roots of other juglone-sensitive species come in contact with walnut roots. You must keep a wide separation between the black walnut tree and susceptible plants. A partial plant list includes tomatoes, potatoes, peas, peppers, cabbage, alfalfa, serviceberry, chestnut, pine, arborvitae, apples, blueberry, blackberry, cherry, azalea, rhododendron, lilac, hydrangea, privet, members of the heath family. Thankfully, the black walnut's juglone does not affect grass. However, picking up thousands of walnuts while avoiding getting hit by the falling walnuts make them not the most desirable landscaping tree.



To the left is an example of a 40-50 year old black walnut tree on Eastwood Court cul-de-sac. This tree has a bumper crop of walnuts this year.

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## Lost Earbuds

If you have lost a pair of white earbuds near the west trail behind the Daily home, please email the address below and put earbuds in the subject line.

[ben.daily1948@gmail.com](mailto:ben.daily1948@gmail.com)

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## Water Hydrant Flushing Schedule – 2022

The six water hydrants located in Indian Creek subdivision will be flushed on the dates listed below. Water hydrants are flushed in order to reduce the build-up of sediments in our water system. This is an important process for improving water quality. Our water operator will flush one hydrant at a time and allow it to run for 10-15 minutes (the next in line hydrant is opened concurrently for a brief period to keep water flowing through the system). Water pressure in our system's lines is maintained by the 35,000 gallons of water in our tower, however, pressure in home lines will be reduced during flushing much like when multiple faucets are opened in your homes. Flushing the hydrants will also stir up sediments so please follow the procedures listed below:

- Do not run water during the flushing time period.
- Following flushing, run water through faucets until clear. We recommend this be done by-passing any treatment/filtering system in your home because of the increased sediment stirred up during the flushing process.

Please mark your calendars with the dates listed below. Flushing will be done between 5:30 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. weather permitting. **Hydrants will not be flushed in freezing conditions or other inclement weather.**

Monday, August 29

Monday, November 28

Monday, September 26

Monday, December 26

Monday, October 31

### Summer Lawn Watering

Please follow our recommended summer watering schedule by only watering on even or odd days corresponding to your street address number and limit watering to 3-4 hours. This will help ensure our well pump can replace water being used in our tower. Summer water usage typically is much higher than the rest of the year and can strain our water system capabilities.

Jim Larson – ICHWA Water Chairperson



### Local Photo

Look what Robert Hermann found while walking on the trail by the bridge. Yikes!

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# Classified

## Businesses:

**John Hermann**

Financial Advisor

The Greater Illinois Financial Group

**Prudential Advisors**

1907 Jumer Dr, Suite D, Bloomington, IL 61704

T 309 808-5212 F 309 808-5230 C 309 287-5972

john.hermann@prudential.com

**Jerrod Ingram**

Real Estate Agent - eXp Realty

- Thinking about selling your house?
- Considering buying a house?
- Contact me today!
  - Cell - (309) 360-9020
  - Email - jerrod.ingram@exprealty.com
  - Website - jerrodingram.exprealty.com

exp  
REALTY

## For Sale:



Exmark commercial zero turn mower with 44" deck and mulching kit. Mow quicker and don't rake leaves again this fall! Excellent condition. \$2500.

Larry Meyer  
309 824-4350

## For Hire:

Bailee Harmon is available to pet sit, babysit, and to do other household chores such as water plants/flowers and cleaning. Please contact Bailee at (309) 530-8279 or her mom, Hallie Harmon at (309)530-5360.

Aubrey Thomas is available for childcare and pet care. She has taken the Safe Sitter course and is experienced with taking care of several animals. Aubrey is a Junior at NCHS. Please call or text her at 309-532-7522.

Lydia Lueschen is available for babysitting. She is 16 years old and has completed a babysitting course along with being CPR certified. Please call or text her mom - Dallas Lueschen- at 309-826-1868.