

Indy Urban BioBlitz

September 17th, 2016

Hello Everyone,

This year the Indiana Academy of Science, through the Biodiversity and Natural Areas Committee, is going to Indianapolis to help sponsor a 24 hour bioblitz in Marion County, Indiana. The primary aim of the bioblitz is to gather baseline information concerning the flora and fauna along urban waterways and greenspaces which are the focus of ecological restoration efforts by Reconnecting to Our Waterways (<http://reconnectingtoourwaterways.org/>) and other groups.

A map of the focus areas is attached, along with a paper by Rebecca Dolan and others that details the restoration efforts. The focus areas are city-owned property that was part of the historic Kessler Plan for linear parkways in the city developed in the early 1900s.

Similar urban bioblitzes have been held in Central Park in New York City and in Washington D.C. Surprising numbers of taxa have been documented during these studies, with significant media coverage and citizen volunteer involvement. Please join our effort to catalog taxa in the Hoosier capital in advance of the city's bicentennial in 2020.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to participate in the bioblitz. You have been contacted because you have specific expertise in biodiversity sampling, have participated in similar events in the past, or are a member of the Academy. This year I will organize the bioblitz participants with the assistance of our local coordinator Rebecca Dolan (rdolan@butler.edu).

Details of the event, including lodging, are currently being worked out but it will be similar to past bioblitz events.

If you plan to attend the event, please send me (druch@bsu.edu) and Rebecca Dolan (rdolan@butler.edu) the following information:

- 1. Name**
- 2. Names of other people in your group, if appropriate**
- 3. Email address[es]**
- 4. Taxonomic group of your expertise**

Please consider joining the bioblitz team for an enjoyable 24 hour event! Also – pass this announcement along to anyone who should be asked to be involved.

IAS Contact:

**Bioblitz Participant Coordinator:
Don Ruch, PhD**

Department of Biology
Ball State University
Muncie, IN 47306
765.285-8820
druch@bsu.edu

Sincerely,
Don

Local Coordinator:
Rebecca Dolan, PhD
Friesner Herbarium, Butler University
4600 Sunset Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46208
317.940-9413
rdolan@butler.edu
