1. **SPRING BREAK SCHEDULE**

EACS central administrative offices will be open to the public during Spring Break on April 2, 3, 4, and 5 from 9:00 – 12:00 each of these days. If you need to contact administrative services, human resources, or any other central office department, someone will be available to take your call during these hours. Please contact the switchboard at 446-0100 to be directed to the appropriate personnel. **ALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, APRIL 6.**

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

2. **FREE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFERED THROUGH IUPUI**

Graduate students in the Master’s in Education with a Focus on Technology program are pleased to offer free professional development opportunities for K-12 educators via the 2nd Annual “Education in an Evolving World: Technology Infusion in Educational Settings.” This cyber-summit, consisting of 26 webinars from student presenters will take place between April 30th - May 3rd, 2012. Themes will include online and blending designs, project-based learning, teaching with devices, 21st century skills, social media, and more! Educators and pre-service educators are encouraged to attend. PGPs are also available through the IU School of Education at IUPUI.

For details visit [Education in an Evolving World](http://evolvingeducation.tumblr.com/post/17273186049/save-the-date)

Bill Diehl, ext. 3125

3. **INFORMATIVE WEBINARS BY SUBJECT MATTER**

You now have ONE place where you can go to get EVERYTHING you need... online interactive training, informative webinars by subject matter experts, support from your peers, ideas for lesson plans, resources from other teachers, new tools to engage your students, peer encouragement, coaching, and the ability to reach out to a colleague!

*Go to*

[http://community.simplek12.com](http://community.simplek12.com)

Email: Your school email address
Password: password

Do not forget to check the little box that says “I certify that I am the owner of this account”
You will be asked to confirm your email. Please pay close attention to the instructions given and make sure you enter your valid email address. You will then be asked to select a display name.

Once you have gone through these steps, you will be directed to the Community, where you will need to set up your Profile. You can also change your password if you want. Now you are ready to get started …If you have any questions, please contact Cindy @ X3131.

Bill Diehl, ext. 3125

4. **NOTICE: USED SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AUCTIONS COMING UP**

EACS will be holding a public auction for surplus used items currently in storage. A Public Auction is open to EACS staff as well as the general public. The Public Auction for miscellaneous/classroom furniture and equipment is March 17, 2012 at 10 a.m. The auction will be held at New Haven Elementary School.

Lois Goeglein, ext. 1006

5. **TORNADO/HAZARDOUS WEATHER PROCEDURES**

In light of recent hazardous weather in our state, please take a few minutes to review your building’s tornado/hazardous weather emergency procedures. Even if you have performed a tornado drill this semester, we suggest that you take time to practice one again. If you need clarifications on your building's specific emergency procedures, please contact Jeff Studebaker, ext. 3206.

As a reminder you have NOAA weather radios that sound when weather watches and warnings in surrounding and local areas are in effect. In addition you have a Federal Informer notification device that only sounds warning alerts.

If the NOAA or Federal Informer radio sounds a warning for Allen County or your locality, immediately place your building in tornado/hazardous weather emergency procedures.

Please be vigilant about the potential for dangerous weather. Watch the sky; listen to the NOAA radio and Federal Informer; monitor weather maps via cable, internet etc; have a weather alert "app" on your cell phone.

**Always err on the side of caution.** If you feel conditions are not safe, terminate outside activities and bring everyone inside. Watch/listen and make decisions to keep everyone safe.

Britt Magneson, ext. 3143

6. **ATTENTION TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS**

Please check out the programming opportunities from the Allen County Parks Department listed in **Enclosure #1**.

Britt Magneson, ext. 3143
7. **INDIANA ARBOR DAY 5TH GRADE POSTER CONTEST**

The *Indiana Urban Forest Council (IUFC)* is proud to host our 1st annual Indiana Arbor Day Tree Poster Contest for all 5th grade students. See *Enclosure #2* for more details.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

8. **BOWL FOR KIDS SAKE**

In honor of the 40th anniversary of Big Brother Big Sisters they are calling for volunteers to support the 2012 Bowl for Kids’ Sake Campaign. Show support by starting a Bowl for Kids’ Sake team, Sponsor a team, or pledge to a team. For more information go to [www.bbbbsnei.org](http://www.bbbbsnei.org).

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

9. **EACS SCHOOL CHOICE FAIR 2013**

EACS will host its first annual Choice Fair on Sunday, February 3, 2013 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. The Fair will be held at New Haven High School. We will begin planning for this huge event and if you would like to serve on the planning committee please contact Tamyra Kelly.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

10. **ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN NOTICE**

The last Administrative Bulletin prior to spring break will be March 23rd. There will not be a bulletin on March 30th. The next bulletin after spring break will be April 13th.

Tamyra Kelly, ext. 1050

11. **HEALTH INSURANCE**

All employees of East Allen County Schools who carry the health insurance, please be advised that Signature Care PPO has a new website. To obtain a list of current PPO providers please visit their new website at [www.parkviewtotalhealth.com](http://www.parkviewtotalhealth.com). As a reminder, all providers of dental and vision are not part of a network, therefore, you may go to whom you choose. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Leslie Reisgies at 260-446-0100 ext. 1051.

Peggy Rohrbacher, ext. 1009

Positive Praise:

"What ideas are you finding successful with your students? Can you share with your colleagues?

*Sharing the best means everyone succeeds!*

*Remember….RESPECT IS THE ‘BUZZ’ WORD FOR 2012!*
Allen County Parks

We can design programs to meet your curriculum needs and help you meet Indiana State Standards!

Outdoor Laboratory and field learning utilizing the natural environment to teach the following and more:
* Pond life with macro-invertebrate and amphibian identification using pond nets, dippers and field microscopes.
* Animal classification
* Plant, fungi and tree identification
* Ecological relationships
* Bird identification and observation with binoculars
* Herbivore vs. carnivore vs. omnivore
* Mammal skins, skulls, scat and tracks
* Reptile program with live animals
* Evening programs on bats, astronomy and owls
* Outdoor survival skills and orienteering, shelters, and fire
* Geology with fossil pile and geo-garden
* Insect, honeybee hive and butterfly identification
* Habitat studies of forest, prairie, wetland, marsh, vernal pools, pond, and creek
* Water cycle and health
* Using your senses to explore the natural world
* Winter programming (open year-round!)
* Microscopes and dissections
* Team Building Activities

Our Two Main Parks with full facilities:

Fox Island County Park
Contains 605 acres, including the 270 acre Fox Island State Nature Preserve, windblown sand dunes, marsh (with overlook) remnant of the Little Wabash River, wetland forests, restored prairie, geo-garden, fossil pile, seven miles of hiking trails, three picnic shelters, cross-country skiing, hayrides, bird observatory building, Nature Center, and sandy beach at Bowman Lake.

Metea County Park
Contains 250, acres including the 120 acre Meno-aki State Nature Preserve, Cedar Creek State Scenic River, four miles of hiking trails, prairie, picnic shelter, sandy beach with pond, cross-country skiing, hayrides, sledding hill, bird viewing room, open field for recreational activities and the Goeglein Nature Center.

Allen County Parks Mission

“To establish and manage a permanent park system incorporating conservation, education, outdoor values and nature preservation, and to provide recreational opportunities for the people of Allen County within this structure.”
Off-Site Programs at your school...

* Pond Life with live turtles and amphibians
* Rockin’ Reptiles
* Creepy Crawlies (insect program)
* Meet the Mammals (skins, skulls, scat and tracks)
* Cultural History (Civil War, Canal Days, Early Settler)
* Team-building Skills
* Biology 101 (microscopes and dissections)
* Backpacking Basics and/or Wilderness Survival
* Life Cycles
* Natural History of Allen County
* Macro-invertebrates relating to water quality
* The Sensory Experience
* Birds (will coordinate visit with live birds of prey with Soarin’ Hawk rehabilitation center)

...we can also custom-design a program for your particular classroom topic

Facilities and Fees (Financial aid available upon request)

Nature Centers at both Fox Island and Metea County Parks are open daily from 9:00AM-6:00PM with full bathrooms, large classrooms, gifts shops, library and nature exhibits.

NO NEED TO CANCEL due to bad weather: We have indoor space for up to 120 students.

“There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothes!”

Program Fee is $2.00 per student / parent chaperone for a 1.5 hour standard field trip program (on or off-site). $1.00/student/additional 1/2 hour.

Paid school staff and bus drivers are free.

Hayrides are $3.00 per student. A themed craft or snack may be added to your program for an additional $1.00 each per student.

Cross-Country Ski programs for 4th and 5th grade classes are $5.00 per student, $6.00 per adult, and include park entry fee and ski rental for one hour.

Self-Guided entry fee is $2.00 per person for the entire day. Let us know you are coming.

We may also serve as your teacher workshop/training facility.

Fox Island County Park
7324 Yohne Rd. Fort Wayne, IN 46809
260-449-3180 Fax 260-449-3181
foxisland@allencountyparks.org

Metea County Park
8401 Union Chapel Rd. Fort Wayne, IN 46845
260-449-3777 Fax 260-627-5314
metea@allencountyparks.org

Visit our website: www.allencountyparks.org
The Indiana Urban Forest Council (IUFC) is proud to host our 1st annual Indiana Arbor Day Tree Poster Contest for all 5th grade students in the State of Indiana. IUFC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting public awareness regarding urban forest issues within our state and nation. We are proud of the efforts of our Tree City USA cities and many tree boards.

We hope to inspire you to encourage your local elementary schools to participate in this fun learning experience. In today's world, video games seem to occupy the thoughts and time of many kids and outdoor play seems old-fashioned. Truth is, kids love trees when given the opportunity and the encouragement to play in their shade, safely climb them, and enjoy collecting their bright fall leaves! This poster contest is a beneficial diversion aimed at stirring up creative talent, while awing young minds with a closer look at the wonders of Earth's largest plants. This basic appreciation will follow them as they mature so that, as future leaders, they will value and protect our co-existence with them.

The IUFC Indiana Arbor Day Poster Contest began in January and is open to all pre-registered Indiana 5th graders (including home-schoolers). Teacher, parent, or guardian sponsorship, via registration, is required for student eligibility.

For registration forms, lesson plans*, complete contest rules, and prize offerings, please download the poster contest guide book** at www.iufc.org or www.arborrangers.com.

There's still plenty of time, but Poster Contest Entry Deadline is: MARCH 30, 2012

*Lesson plans correlate with Indiana Academic Standards for 5th grade Science and Fine Arts.
**Use Adobe Acrobat Reader or similar PDF viewer to open and print the guide book. Two versions: color and b&w.

Thank you for supporting education about our Indiana urban forests!

Arbor Day in Indiana is celebrated on the last Friday in April. This year it falls on April 27, 2012
1. EACS SCHOOLS WITH EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE

The following schools had excellent teacher attendance the week of March 3 - 9, 2012:

- New Haven Middle School - 98%
- Prince Chapman Academy - 97%
- Woodlan Jr./Sr. - 96%

Classified Staff Attendance - February 27 – March 9, 2012

- Leo Elementary - 100%
- New Haven High - 98%
- Heritage Elementary - 97%
- Leo Jr./Sr. - 97%
- Highland Terrace Elem. - 96%
- Prince Chapman Academy - 96%
- New Haven Middle - 96%
- Heritage Jr./Sr. - 96%
- Woodlan Jr./Sr. - 96%
- Park Hill - 96%
- Cedarville - 95%

WONDERFUL JOB TEACHERS & CLASSIFIED STAFF!