

Earth briefs

9/26/2008

Rally supports green jobs, green economy

Show your support for a green, sustainable economy by attending a rally at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Sample Gates of Indiana University.

Participants will have an opportunity to sign petitions, videotape personal statements and write letters to the presidential candidates, urging public officials to invest in green jobs and clean energy.

The event is being organized by 1Sky, Greenpeace, Bloomington Peace Alliance, the Indiana Public Interest Research Group and the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability.

Plant invaders target of walking workshop

Learn what invasive plants lurk around Bloomington's downtown during a walking workshop scheduled for 1-3 p.m. Oct. 4 by the staff of the Indiana University Research and Teaching Preserve.

Keith Clay, IU professor of biology, will identify invasive species and provide basic information about the biology and ecological impact of the unwelcome plants.

Meet on the steps of the Showers Building just north of the Bloomington farmer's market location. Space is limited to 25 persons. To reserve a spot, e-mail preserve@indiana.edu or call 855-8742.

Conservation biologist to present free lecture

Daniel H. Janzen, a conservation biologist and the first recipient of the prestigious Crafoord Prize for biosciences, presented by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, will present a public lecture Monday at Indiana University.

Janzen teaches at the University of Pennsylvania and is technical adviser to the Guanacaste Conservation Area in northwestern Costa Rica.

Specializing in research on the co-evolution of plants and animals, he is the author of more than 400 scientific articles.

His lecture in Bloomington will discuss DNA bar coding and its potential to "democratize" environmental science, according to an IU news release.

The lecture will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m. Monday in the Frangipani Room of the Indiana Memorial Union.

Janzen's lecture is part of the fall 2008 colloquium of the Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, an IU research center.

Solar tour will provide close look at systems

Get an up-close look at solar energy systems during a National Solar Tour event hosted by Mann Plumbing of Bloomington, a local dealer and installer of solar systems for home or business.

The Bloomington tour is scheduled for 2-4 p.m. Oct. 4. It will begin at Mann Plumbing, 1750 W. 17th St., where participants will receive literature on solar energy and see a solar system that is being used to supply hot water for radiant floor heating at the plumbing company offices.

From there, the tour will go to locations in Bloomington where solar collectors have been installed and are providing energy for residential or commercial needs.

For more information, contact Amie McCarty at 812-327-8476. The National Solar Tour is a grassroots public education program of the American Solar Energy Society.