THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENQUIRER

NEW YEAR, SAME MISSION

By Luke Waugh (Grade 12)

The Edgewood Environmental Club had a successful first year and is now gearing up to pursue new goals with the same mission: to promote environmental awareness within our school and throughout our community. Since becoming an established club for the first time in four years, we have made significant progress in strengthening our relationship with the community and raising environmental awareness among our peers and faculty.



Edgewood High School

As we kick off the new school year, we are excited about the many opportunities it presents. This year's focus is to actively participate in local environmental initiatives and bring in experienced speakers to share their knowledge with our club members. We have a collection of resourceful problem-solvers, so I am incredibly excited about what is in store this year!



Photo from Mrs. Norris

STAFF INTERVIEW

By Gabby Buckley (Grade 12)

To get a more personal connection to National/State parks, Mrs. Norris was interviewed to help students and staff understand their importance. Mrs. Norris has attended 20+ parks and believes these trips help people reconnect with nature, and benefit their mental and physical health. To expand participation, parks have started including activity packets to incorporate the youth and educate them about the natural world. Mrs. Norris notes that since she first began attending parks, participation has increased, which even led to parking spots being difficult to claim! Mrs. Norris says that her favorite park is Bryce Canyon due to the scenery's multiple shades of warm colors and brilliant greens. More specifically, her favorite hiking trail is at Zion Park because of its, "huge towering sandstone orange cliffs" which provide an ideal experience. Mrs Norris ends her interview by prompting students to go outside their comfort zones and explore the many parks and trails offered to the public. People get carried away in their everyday lives and sometimes need a little insight into the beauty that the world has to offer.

MEMBER INTERVIEW

By: Hannah Clark (Grade 11)

To kick things off this week, I interviewed the president of Environmental club, Luke Waugh. "My favorite aspect of the Environmental Club is witnessing my peers develop a passion for environmental concerns and their community. I had the privilege of reviving the Edgewood Environmental Club in August 2023. Though there have been many club triumphs, I am particularly proud of the club's monthly newsletter, raising environmental awareness among the local community. This school year, I am filled with anticipation to see the fruition of the club's labor, especially the upcoming 2024 club projects, and to continue raising awareness among students and families."

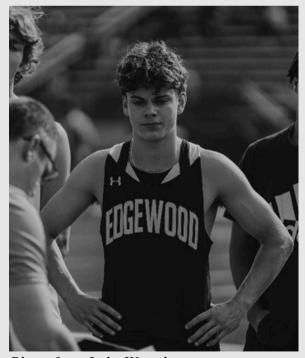


Photo from Luke Waugh

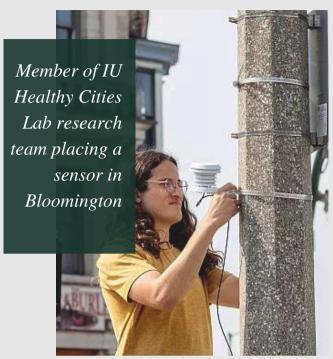


Photo by Chris Meyer, Indiana University

MONROE COUNTY NEWS

By Chrislyn Miller (Grade 12)

During the summer, IU students and faculty worked with the Bloomington officials to put together a plan for the extreme heat that the city faced. Indiana is a state that deals with weather over 90 degrees Fahrenheit on occasion, but the warmer temps are becoming more frequent. Jonathan Hines, the author, said, "The temperatures are projected to triple by mid-century." Dana Habeeb is a professor at IU who is ready to tackle these high temperatures, and her team worked to install a network of sensors throughout the city for tracking purposes. Besides gathering data and setting up sensors, the team has led workshops on heat-management policies. Shawn Miya, the assistant director of sustainability in Bloomington says, "We're going to have a really comprehensive picture of what the city needs and where we should focus in terms of extreme heat."

STATE-WIDE NEWS

By Meri Crowe (Grade 12)

On September 4th Lilly Endowment Inc. approved a \$50 million grant to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This grant will be used to greatly improve the State park system and the experience for future visitors. This investment will help preserve the natural beauty of our parks and keep them around for future generations to come. \$25 million of this grant will go to Indiana's newest state park, Prophetstown State Park. Additionally, the other \$25 million will go to the rest of Indiana's State park projects involving campground improvements, playground replacements, historic structure repairs, and motorized wheelchairs. Ronni Kloth, Lilly Endowment's vice president for community development states, "Indiana's state parks are enjoyed by millions of people each year, and the parks offer affordable recreational and educational opportunities for Hoosiers as well as thousands of visitors who come to Indiana to experience an impressive array of state parks".



DNR



Jo-Carolyn Goode

NATIONAL NEWS

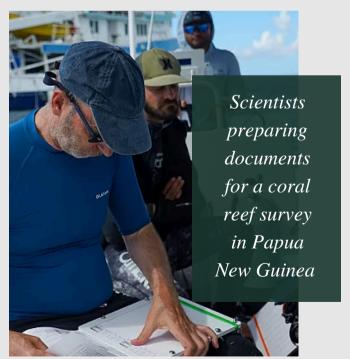
Kylie Miller (Grade 10)

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has chosen the 2024 winners for the Green Power Leadership Award. This award is given to companies that make an effort to reduce environmental harm. The 2024 winners are Microsoft Corporation, MilliporeSigma, Phipps Conservatory, and Botanical Gardens. Together the winners for this year use 14 billion kilowatt-hours of green power annually, which can power 1.3 million average homes in America per year, these companies are also trying to provide more access to green power and accelerate the change to pollution-free energy usage all around the U.S.

GLOBAL NEWS

By: Xander Frye (Grade 12)

For the next three months, scientists will be living at sea in Papua New Guinea, a country lying within the Coral Triangle, an ocean biodiversity hotspot, to survey and study the area. The scientists have cameras and will observe wildlife up to 6,000 meters (19,685 feet) deep, meaning they will spend most of their time in water. They hope the results in their future scientific report will help motivate local governments to recognize problems so they can make efforts to protect and conserve these areas.



Alan Friedlander, National Geographic Pristine Sea

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