

# PRESSRELEASE

Mayor's Office - 100 East Michigan Blvd. - Michigan City, IN 46360 - (219) 873-1400 - Fax: (219) 873-1515  
[www.emichigancity.com](http://www.emichigancity.com)

## For Immediate Release

**Date:** May 12, 2005

## Earth Day - Arbor Day in May

**Michigan City, IN** (May 12, 2005) - In hopes of good weather, Michigan City has scheduled Earth Day and Arbor Day events for May 21 rather than during the previous month.

Michigan City is the first community to hold this unique holiday celebrating both the earth and trees in May with more than 30 earth-friendly exhibitors, each of which will feature hands-on activities, live music, international cuisine and dance demonstrations as well as games.

Youth groups will create Arbor Day and earth-friendly message banners from 9 - 11 a.m. at Krueger Memorial Hall on Liberty Trail. This project is sponsored by NIPSCO which is donating \$50 to the first fifteen groups that register to participate. Don Babcock, director of economic development for NIPSCO, said, "The response to this Arbor Day event has been excellent in the past couple of years, and we have several groups already registered. They will each receive \$50 from NIPSCO to use toward their programming. We will have banner material on hand at Washington Memorial Hall, though, for additional groups if they are able to join us for this project."

A representative from the Lubeznik Center For The Arts will join Don Babcock and Jan Kostielney, marketing and community relations consultant for the City of Michigan City, to judge the completed banners at Noon. Prizes will be awarded by NIPSCO.

To register your church, youth, neighborhood, or scouting group for this exciting project, call Kostielney at 219/873-1400 X350 or send email to [jkostielney@emichigancity.com](mailto:jkostielney@emichigancity.com). Each group will provide their own paint or markers and any other decorative materials their design might include. Kostielney said, "The finished banners will be displayed in several locations in our community over the coming months, including the July 2<sup>nd</sup> parade down Franklin Street and the National Kids Day event scheduled in August. We strongly recommend using water-proof markers to help prolong the life of these beautiful pieces of art. Anything that is attached to the banners should be made wind-proof!"

This is the first year in which the Michigan City Tree Board will celebrate Arbor Day in conjunction with the Save The Dunes Conservation Fund and International Friendship Gardens. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at both Memorial Hall on Liberty Trail and the International Friendship Gardens on Hwy. 12.

The 2005 schedule of events includes a walk-a-thon, drumming, live music, presentations by environmental professionals, demonstrations of watershed function with the Enviroscape, the annual International Friendship Gardens' plant sale, and rides in the human/electric-powered car. Plan to experience kite-making, live minnow races, dance group performances, and delicious food from Eat at Moe's, Michiana Resources, Country Cafi, and Dr. Veggie! A child ID program is on the agenda, and a silent auction is offered. View the complete schedule in "Things To Do In Michigan City" or the Calendar of Events at [www.emichigancity.com](http://www.emichigancity.com).

Tree Board president Bill Bolton said, "Tree Board members will be on hand to answer questions about tree care, urban forestry, pruning and other topics. Everyone who visits the Tree Board during this event will receive a free tree."

Arbor Day is an excellent opportunity to take stock of the trees on your property and plan for the future. Inspect your trees. Note any broken branches or evidence of disease or insect infestation. Think about how planting new trees might improve the look of your property or provide wind or heat protection. Take a trip to your local nursery to see what's available and to get new ideas and plant a tree.

Visit <http://www.emichigancity.com/cityhall/boards/tree/index.htm> to find more information on the Michigan City Tree Board. There you will find links to these online resources provided by the US Forest Service:

- [People Need Trees: Benefits and Values](#)
- [Is All Your Rain Going Down the Drain?](#)
- [Don't Top Trees!](#)
- [How to Select and Plant a Tree](#)
- [How to Prune Young Shade Trees](#)
- [When a Storm Strikes](#)
- [Trees Have Needs - Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place](#)
- [Flooding and its Effect on Trees](#)
- [HOW to Prune Trees](#)
- [HOW to Recognize Hazardous Defects in Trees](#)
- [There's Life in Hazard Trees](#)
- [Urban Forest Management Plan - Pest Management](#)

####

**Contact:** Bill Bolton  
**Phone:** 879-8878

**Janet L. Kostielney**

*Mayor's Office*

*City of Michigan City*

219/873-1400 X350

Fax 219/873-1515

[www.emichigancity.com](http://www.emichigancity.com)

[jkostielney@emichigancity.com](mailto:jkostielney@emichigancity.com)