

# E-GeoNews

News from the Indiana Geological Survey

October 2013

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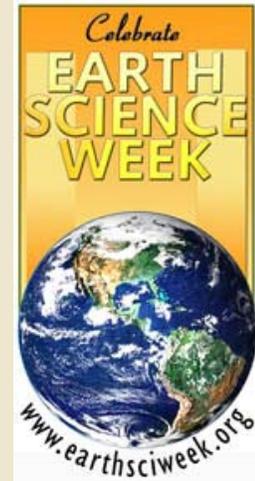
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## Earth Science Week

By proclamation of the Governor, Indiana has named October 13-19 "Earth Science Week."

This year's theme is *Mapping Our World* and its aim is to engage young people and the public in learning how geoscientists, geographers, and other mapping professionals use maps to represent land formations, natural resource deposits, bodies of water, fault lines, volcanic activity, weather patterns, travel routes, parks, businesses, population distribution, our shared geologic heritage, and more. Check out the [American Geosciences Institute website](#) for more information.



## Events Showcase Earth Science

Tuesday, October 15 is **National Fossil Day**. Join us at the Monroe County History Museum in Bloomington for "*What Is and What Is Not a Fossil*," a presentation by Dr. David Polly of the IU Department of Geosciences at 6:30 pm. This event is free and is open to all ages. Special fossil exhibits will also be open for viewing.

For the past three years, Indiana has been a regional leader in citizen participation in the **Great Central U.S. ShakeOut**. This year, more than 500,000 Hoosiers have registered to take part in the drill on October 17. Visit the [website](#) to find out more information and to register.

**Geologic Map Day** is October 18, and this year's theme is "Mapping Geologic Hazards." As an extension of the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program, Geologic Map Day focuses the attention of students, teachers, and the general public on the study, uses, and significance of geologic maps for education, science, business, and a variety of public policy concerns. The IGS has a new publication about an often overlooked geologic hazard---landslides; see the next story below. And visit the [IGS website](#) to learn more about geologic hazards in Indiana.

On November 5, the IGS will be at the Indiana Government Center in Indianapolis for **GIS Day Indiana**. A geographic information system (GIS) is a collection of computer hardware, software, and geographic data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information and is used for creating maps. A day-long conference features speakers about using GIS in innovative ways in government operations. The Quake Cottage will also be available to experience and learn about earthquakes in Indiana. Find out more information and register for this event [here](#).

**GIS Day at Indiana University** in Bloomington, November 20, offers a host of informational booths and activities to showcase the exciting work that the Indiana community is doing with geographic information systems. One of the leaders in GIS in the state, the Survey will be on hand to demonstrate how we use this technology to benefit Indiana's citizens. The Quake Cottage will also be available to learn more about midwestern earthquakes. Find out more about it [here](#).



## Landslides and Your Property

Are you interested in a house with a view? Are you considering building along the banks of a stream or river? Landslides are geologic hazards that occur in Indiana, and they can be costly to remediate. A new [brochure](#) explains the different types of landslides and suggests ways to avoid problems.

Published by the Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio Geological Surveys, and the University of Cincinnati, the brochure focuses on the tri-state region around Cincinnati. But the information is applicable to any slopes underlain by thick shales, which can be present in many places in southern Indiana. The brochure outlines what to look for when inspecting a property, how to avoid problems when building on landslide-prone ground, and how to remediate the problem if a landslide does occur.

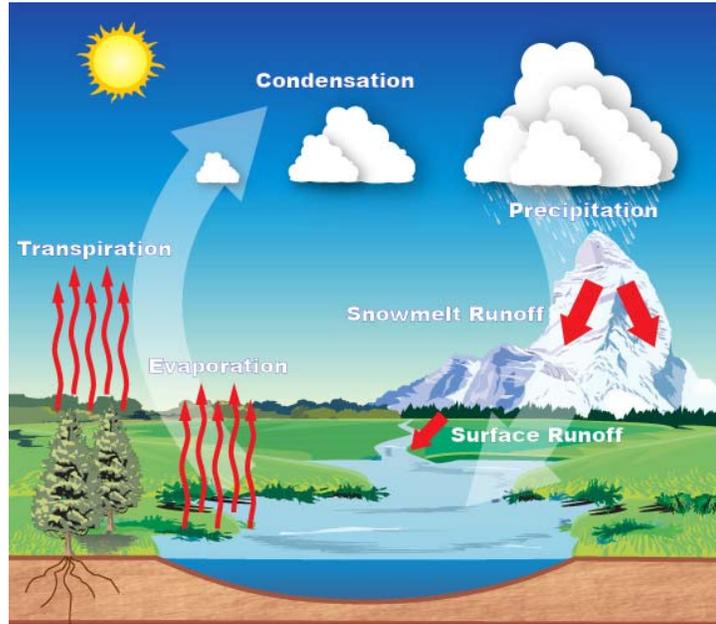
Order the brochure or download a free digital copy from the [IGS Bookstore](#).

## The Indiana Water Balance Network

The Indiana Geological Survey's Center for Geospatial Data Analysis (CGDA) conducts research on many aspects of geology, but specializes in hydrogeology---the study of groundwater and surface water and their interrelationships with geologic materials

One of the CDGA's projects involves setting up data collection sites across Indiana---the Indiana Water Balance Network---to monitor trends in water loss and gain for different components of the hydrologic cycle. This work is being conducted in collaboration with other academic research centers (Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab at Marian University and Ball State University), land conservation and outdoor education groups (ACRES Land Trust and Bradford Woods), and Indiana farmers (Yoder Farm and Aurora Vista Farms).

You can read more about the project on the [IGS Website](#).



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**Sincerely,**

Deborah DeChurch, Editor  
Indiana Geological Survey

