



**IN-20-3021**

# **How to SURVIVE the Future**

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## **EPISODE 3: MCCORMICK'S CREEK STATE PARK**

BY: ALEX CHAMBERS AND ALLISON QUANTZ

A SHOW ABOUT TODAY FROM AN IMAGINED TOMORROW

# INFO

**Title:** McCormick's Creek State Park

**Episode Description:**

Ellen retired from her work as an ecologist decades ago, but she still walks in her favorite state park. One spring day, she takes Alex along trails that keep getting wider to search for disappearing spring ephemerals: among others, Guyandotte beauty, great waterleaf, and the puttyroot orchid, which can be hard to find.

**Interviewee(s):** Ellen Jacquart

**Groups/Orgs mentioned:** The Nature Conservancy

**Episode Link:** [IndianaHumanities.org/future/](https://IndianaHumanities.org/future/)

**Other links:** [nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/indiana/in.gov/dnr/state-parks/parks-lakes/mccormicks-creek-state-park/](https://nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/indiana/in.gov/dnr/state-parks/parks-lakes/mccormicks-creek-state-park/)

# QUOTES

- “And when we see things that are flowering a full month earlier before they used to. It’s hard not to see that and realize that has implications.” – [1:28](#)
- “For the first time, it was truly clear how landscaping with invasive plants was really decimating our nature preserves.” – [4:36](#)
- “Where we had invasions, they continued to spread.” – [18:55](#)
- “By pulling out an individual species, it changes all of the connections.” – [26:32](#)
- “These systems support us... if we’re basically tearing it apart to the point that it no longer functions, we are harming ourselves.” – [27:09](#)

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Ellen talks about how invasive shrubs lead to an increase in ticks, which leads to an increase in tick-borne illnesses. What other chains of impact do you see with invasive plant species in your environment?
- Are there invasive species in your yard or neighborhood? How do you feel about them?