



Through the Vine

A Quarterly Newsletter of the OSU Extension Fairfield County Master Gardeners

SUMMER 2022

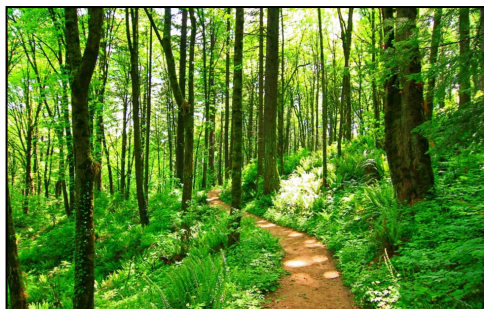
Mission: To make a difference in the community in which you live through gardening education and knowledge.

Inside this issue:

Cover Article Forest Bathing (Shinrin-yoku)	Page 1
Connie's Corner A message from our MG Coordinator, Connie Smith	Page 2
Master Gardener News Help needed in June, Successful DIG, Petunias planted at Ag center, Teaching at 4-H camp, Wagnalls' new gourd tunnel, Helping Hands in the Garden, New LNE project, Plants for Pollinators project	Pages 2-5
This and That Ruth Stout method of planting potatoes, Stopping bagworms, Importance of wetlands, Vinegar as a herbicide, Gardening with allergies	Pages 6-10
Featured Book Silent Sparks: The Wondrous World of Fireflies by Sara Lewis	Page 10
Garden Musings Summer Gardening for Old Folks	Page 11
Special Events Step-by-step painting class, Food preservation classes, Dawes trolley tour	Pages 11-12
In/Around the Garden See what's happening in and around the garden	Page 13

Forest Bathing

by **Barbara Kochick, Master Gardener 2013**

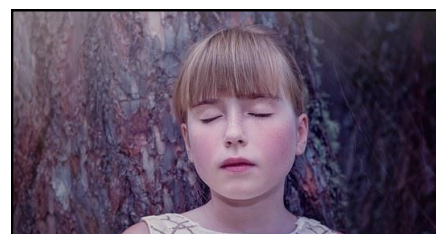


Can't get to the beach this summer or maybe you would like to acquire some of the calm and peace that comes with a visit to the seashore without making the trip. There is no swimsuit involved in this endeavor. You can sit beside a lake, river or creek but you don't get in the water. It's not a hike either but a mindful meandering walk in the woods.

There are now certified Forest Therapy guides. Their aim is to take a group along a trail while immersed in the environment. All senses are on alert. One would be attuned to sounds, smells, textures and sights. Health care providers have been encouraged to promote forest therapy as a stress reduction strategy. There is no question that stress takes a terrible toll in our society. A 2015 study found that work related stress accounts for up to \$160 billion in health care costs and this study was pre-COVID.

The practice began in Japan and is called Shinrin-yoku which roughly translates as "forest bathing." There is a growing body of evidence that the practice can help boost immunity and mood. A walk in the forest compared to a city walk shows a more clinically significant reduction in blood pressure readings. Doctors and therapists consider it a form of medication and it is so accessible for many people. There have also been studies that show phytoncides released by trees can produce a beneficial effect when inhaled by humans.

The idea that spending time in nature is good for our health is certainly not new. The practice of retreating to nature to find stillness and calm is age old. But today many of us spend most of our life indoors and maybe even tethered to our devices. You don't need a guide or a bathing suit to give forest bathing a try. Get a buddy, find a trail and wander slowly and quietly. Stop and rest your hand on the bark of a tree, close your eyes, feel the texture, inhale deeply and listen intently. Finally open your eyes and imagine you are seeing the world for the first time. Isn't it a beautiful place!!!



**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



CONNIE'S CORNER

Greetings Master Gardener Volunteers, Whew!! As I was pulling together articles for this Summer edition of the 2022 Master Gardener Newsletter I realized we have had a busy Spring!

First, congratulations to all of those who have been a part of the 2022 first ever on-line Master Gardener Training. We all learned together and by now I do hope our interns are getting integrated into MGV project work. Please remember you do have access to your on-line scarlet account for one year. We are still looking forward to some of your presentations and working with you on achieving your completed MGV certification, once your 50 hours of service are given back.

I hope you will all take a close look at this newsletter as Lisa, your newsletter editor, and I, tried to give you a quick snippet of some of our MGV project work this spring. Special thanks to all those who snapped a picture or two along the way. Pictures are worth 1,000 words!!

Please do check out the upcoming events calendar and don't forget Tomato Tasting is Back!! It will be on August 23 at the Fairfield County Ag Center!! Mark your calendars now. . .

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Fairfield County Master Gardener Program. Your efforts are invaluable to our success!!

Soak up Summer fun and memories,

Connie Smith
Master Gardener Coordinator
Smith.3204@osu.edu
740-277-4632

Need Assistance with June Activities

by Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator

Good Evening Master Gardeners...

What a great weekend of "good gardening" weather!! I know you are all busy in your project area gardens but I wanted to update you on a couple of June activities that might be of interest and with which we will need assistance.

Friday, June 17—Downtown Lancaster 9 am until noon—Day of Action

We are working with Fairfield 211, United Way and Nationwide Children's Hospital. We will have a tent and will be showing kids how to plant green beans.

I have purchased bulk bean seeds that will grow regular green beans and purple podded green beans. I need to package up about 500 packets of bean seeds.

Wednesday, June 29—Victory Park, Pickerington 10 am until noon—Day of Action repeat

We will be working with all of our same partners above to encourage kids to get up, get outside and get busy!!

We are anticipating 200-250 children at each site . . . I am still pondering if we should make seed necklaces too!!

Please do send me an email:
smith.3204@osu.edu if you can help out!!

Monday, June 27

Please hold this date for a MGV meeting where we will take a look at the Ag Center Project and visit the Learning Never Ends Project in Lancaster. We will begin at 6:30 pm.

Thanks so much for all of your good works! Have a great week ahead!

Dig Into Gardening a Success!

by **Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator**



Pam Bennett, State
MGV Director

On Saturday, April 30, the Fairfield County Master Gardeners hosted the Dig Into Gardening at the Christ United Methodist Church in Baltimore, Ohio. Over 60 gardeners from four Central Ohio counties enjoyed the event and learned more about the Spotted Lantern Fly Identification with OSU Extension Educator, Carrie

Brown. Pam Bennett, State MGV Director shared her presentation on Tried and True Perennials. The event ended with Dr. Tim McDermott encouraging participants to consider Planting an Edible Landscape.

One of the participants shared this, “Every time I attend a Dig Into Gardening Event, I always go home and look at my gardens in a new way, thinking what could I add or how could I include something new like edibles in my gardens.”

Ag Center Planting

by **Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator**



We had a great day of sprucing up and planting at the Fairfield County Ag Center on May 15. Master Gardeners got busy planting those great ‘Bubble Gum’ Petunias at the Ag Center. With a record

amount of rainfall for the month of May, the plants have gotten off to a good start. Thanks to all of the Master Gardeners who spent the day getting so much accomplished!!

If you are interested in learning more about the work at the Fairfield County Ag Center contact Team Leader Nancy Weidman: nlweidman@gmail.com.

Teaching at 4-H Cloverbud Camp

by **Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator**



Special thanks to MGV Intern C. Scott Anderson for assisting MGV Coordinator, Connie Smith, on June 4, in teaching the 66 Cloverbuds at the 2022 4-H Cloverbud Camp at Alley Park about insect mouth parts.



We talked about how insects with chewing mouthparts eat their food using mandibles!! We tried to eat small candies using our mandibles (aka our index fingers). We also learned how butterflies use their proboscis to

find pollen and nectar using sanding sugar and straws!! It was a fun day and we hope those five-eight year old Cloverbuds learned a little something too!!

The Growing of a Gourd Tunnel

by *Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator*



The MGV Wagnall's Garden project team has had a very busy spring with Adult Garden Club classes, Youth Education and maintaining the existing garden areas. One new feature you will see is the Gourd Tunnel . . . yes, that's right, a Gourd Tunnel!! According to Ann Brocker, here's the list of seeds planted: Birdhouse Gourds, Snake Gourds, Bushel Gourds, Ornamental Gourds, Zucca Gourds, Abashi Bitter Melon, Hyacinth Beans and Morning Glories. The seeds will be trained to grow up and over the Gourd tunnel.



If you are interested in learning more about the garden activities at Wagnalls, check out their website at <https://www.wagnallslibrary.org/> or contact our MGV Team Leader, Pam Jarvis at pamelalynnjarvis@gmail.com.



Helping Hands in the Garden

by *Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator*

Helping Hands in the Garden is ready to spring into action! We are actively seeking the following: Fairfield County residents who we can serve with this free, no-strings-attached, support as they battle cancer; volunteers who would like to combine their love of playing in the dirt with brightening the spirits of their fellow humans; and businesses or individuals interested in donating materials or funds to these efforts. Please contact FFCoHHintheGarden@gmail.com for more information on any of these ways to get involved.

I know that several of the new MG interns picked up applications to be HHG volunteers as well. I haven't received any completed applications back yet, but if you know of anyone else that is interested and should be receiving e-mails, please let Linda Knicely, the Fairfield County Helping Hands in the Garden Coordinator know via email: lknicely81@gmail.com.



New Learning Never Ends Project

by **Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator**

Master Gardeners are embarking on a new project adventure at the Learning Never Ends (LNE) site on Hill Road near Pickerington. Raised beds are being constructed and vegetable growing will begin. Master Gardeners will also work with participants in the LNE program to plant and improve the landscape plantings around the building site.

This project is a sister site to the Learning Never Ends site on Union Street in Lancaster. With many of our new MGVI Interns living so close to the Pickerington site it only made sense to include the Pickerington site in our project work!!



Pickerington Learning Never Ends Site



Lancaster Learning Never Ends Site

Plants for Pollinators Research Project Happening NOW at the Fairfield County Ag Center

by **Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator**

species of blooming perennials have been planted at the east side of the Fairfield County Ag Center landscape as a part of a collaborative effort between OSU Buckeye Environmental Horticulture Team, OSU Entomology, OSU Extension and The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden. Additional partners include Secret Arboretum and Dawes Arboretum. Some of the native and introduced perennial plants include Giant Hyssop, Calamint, Willow-leaved sunflower, Nepeta, Beardtongue, Black-eyed Susan, Cutleaf coneflower, Russian sage, May night salvia, Goldenrod, Aster, Vernonia and Ironweed. Pollinator observations will be collected once every two weeks from June to October when one or more plants are in bloom.

Master Gardener Intern Volunteers involved in this project include: Susie Carpenter, Kelly Dewey, Cathy Haemmerle, Pam Hutton, Cheryl A. Knox, Dana Raines, Kay Sargent, and Vicki Tauer. Nancy Weidman designed the beds. For more details, contact OSU Extension Educator, Carrie Brown at brown.2766@osu.edu.



Pam Hutton at the Plants for Pollinators Research Plot at the Ag Center

Planting Potatoes the Ruth Stout Way

by Mary Kessler, Master Gardener 2019

The **Learning Never Ends** gardeners planted potatoes April 7, 2022 using the **Ruth Stout** method. It was a typical day at the garden. All of the gardeners pitched in and helped with any and all of the chores, considering their individual abilities. Some helped with laying out the bed, others with fertilizing, others with watering and of course, some helped with the hay.

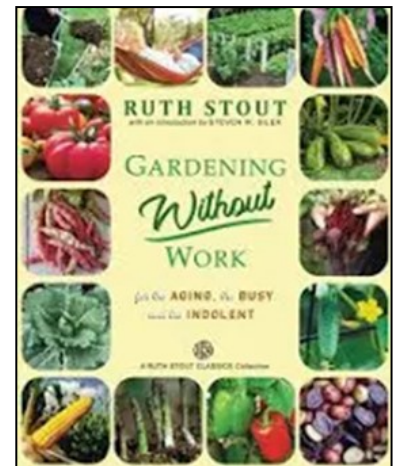
For those of you who are not familiar with the Ruth Stout method of gardening, I will explain. Ruth gardened for many years and she was always waiting on a farmer to come plow her ground. She was getting on in years, and she needed to garden with less work, but she still wanted good results. One year, she got impatient, and threw her potatoes on the ground, covered them with about eight inches of hay, and forgot about them until they were ready to harvest. She then just pulled back the hay and picked up the potatoes. Ruth found the potatoes grew fine. The hay held in the moisture, and as it decomposed, it added nutrients to the soil. It was also too deep for weeds to germinate well. If Ruth saw a weed, she just added more hay to smother it.

In 2020, we were going to use the Ruth Stout method of planting potatoes, but Covid stepped in and squelched that idea. We had turned over

the ground, and put a portable fence around the area to keep out critters, but since then, the ground had just sat there. In 2021, we added about four inches of compost to the bed. We raked it evenly, and then laid out one-foot squares. We put one whole seed potato in each square, sprinkled each square with about a quarter cup of Azomite, and one quarter cup of dry organic fertilizer. (My favorites are Mlgardener's Trifecta Plus and Espoma Garden Tone). We then watered well and broke up a bale of hay and scattered it at least eight inches deep. We planned to water only when necessary, but as the pandemic rules came into play, I would venture to say they never got hand watered, only watered with normal rain. As the hay deteriorated, we added more to keep it at about eight inches. When the plants flowered and then died, the gardeners simply rolled back the hay and picked up the potatoes. No digging! Yayyyyyyy!

I know, I know, it sounds too good to be true, but we decided we wouldn't be out much even if we had a total failure. As it turns out, I wasn't able to be at the garden when the potatoes were harvested, but the gardeners said they did very well.

So, if you are interested in using the Ruth Stout method, check out the various videos on YouTube or her books at the Library. She, herself, can alleviate your fears about all that you think can go wrong.



Monitor Now to Stop Bagworms!

source: *TowneCrier June 2, 2022*; author: *Joe Boggs*



Overwintered bagworm eggs are hatching in southwest Ohio meaning the “bagworm season” is now underway. The 1st instar caterpillars of this native moth are very small with their bags measuring around 1/8" in length. The 1st instar bags are constructed with pieces of tan to reddish-brown sawdust-like

frass (excrement) stuck to the outside of silk and looking like "dunce caps."

As the caterpillars mature, they begin weaving host plant debris into the silk which provides structural stability as well as camouflage. Indeed, this behavior makes bagworms one of the sneakiest general defoliators found in Ohio landscapes. Heavy infestations are commonly overlooked until the caterpillars have produced substantial feeding injury.

The overwintered eggs hatch within the female bags from last season. A percentage of the 1st instar caterpillars will crawl from the old bags and produce



a strand of silk to catch the wind and "balloon" the tiny caterpillars to new locations. This behavior is one of the reasons bagworms often appear on hosts that were not infested last season. However, heavy rain and high winds quickly destroy the delicate silk strands.

Although bagworm caterpillars may waft in on the wind to establish new bagworm beachheads, looking closely at trees and shrubs with last season's bags is a good way to detect this

season's crop of bagworms. A single female can produce 500-1000 eggs meaning that populations can climb rapidly. Just a few females from last season can spawn damaging numbers of caterpillars this season.

Pay close attention to deciduous trees and shrubs as well as evergreens. It is a common misconception that bagworms only eat evergreens. However, the caterpillars may be found feeding on over 130 different species of deciduous trees and shrubs. Overlooking deciduous trees and shrubs during bagworm inspections allow infested plants to become reservoirs for infestations to spread to neighboring host plants.

Bagworm eggs may hatch over an extended period and eggs on the south side of an infested plant usually hatch earlier than those that are shaded on the north side. Consequently, it's common for 1st, 2nd, and sometimes 3rd instars to be present at the same time; bagworm caterpillars develop through seven instar stages. This needs to be taken into account in planning management strategies.

For example, early instar bagworms are highly susceptible to the naturally occurring biological insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Btk) (e.g. Dipel, Thuricide, etc.). Caterpillars are much less susceptible once bags surpass 2/3" in length. It's appealing to use Btk products because they do not kill bio-allies such as predators and parasitoids that help provide natural control of bagworm populations.

However, Btk products have two limitations. The active ingredient must be consumed to kill caterpillars and the products have relatively short residual activity. Thus, timing is critical; products should not be applied before the eggs hatch. Even with proper timing, two or more applications may be required to cover the extended egg hatch. Of course, once bags exceed 2/3" in length, standard insecticides will need to be used to suppress heavy infestations.

Donate a Kidney to Nature

source: Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District; submitted by Dianna Wears, Master Gardener 2011



“I thought this was a very interesting article that explains the importance of wetlands by using common analogies.” —Dianna Wears

Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems in the world, comparable to rain forests and coral reefs. There are many kinds of wetlands and all are chock full of microbes, plants, insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds, fish, and mammals.

To understand how vital wetlands are, imagine a mystery box with the following items inside: a sponge, a small pillow, a small doll crib, a bottle of antacid tablets, a box of cereal, and a strainer.

A wetland is a sponge, absorbing excess water caused by stormwater runoff. Some wetlands, particularly those on floodplains and in coastal areas, function as flood control by storing excess water during storm events. The loss of wetlands along the Gulf Coast contributed to the horrific devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The small pillow signifies that a wetland is a resting place. Migratory birds depend on wetlands to survive their flights between their breeding grounds and their winter habitats. It is estimated that some 75 percent of all waterfowl breed exclusively in wetlands.

The small doll crib explains that a wetland serves as a nursery, providing shelter, protection, and food for young wildlife. Many species of fish that are important for commercial and personal use

spend part, or all, of their life cycles in fertile wetlands adjacent to larger, more open bodies of water. This includes bass, salmon, walleye, perch, and pickerel. Coastal wetlands are essential habitats for fish, shellfish, blue crabs, and shrimp. Frogs, toads, turtles, salamanders, snakes, dragonflies, water striders, clams, and crayfish flourish in wetland habitats. Many mammals such as deer, beaver, otter, black bear, and others depend on wetlands too.

The bottle of antacid demonstrates that wetlands eliminate toxic substances by trapping and neutralizing pollutants. This natural filtering system is similar to the work that kidneys do for our bodies, keeping our blood clean and chemically balanced.

The box of cereal represents food provided by wetlands for people and for wildlife, Mother Nature’s biological supermarket. In addition to fish and shellfish, wetlands grow rice and cranberries. The list grows when we consider recreational hunting for ducks, deer, and other wildlife that are harvested for the dinner table.

Lastly, the strainer symbolizes that wetlands hold back sediment and debris so that clean water can flow into our rivers, streams, lakes, and oceans.

These are just a few excellent examples of the importance of wetlands to water quality, locally and around the world. Unfortunately, a huge percentage of our nation’s wetlands have been lost or degraded due to human impacts such as drainage, dredging, deposition of fill material, diking, damming, and mining.

Because we have lost so many of our original wetlands, it is critically important to protect and restore what remains. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, in partnership with farmers and private landowners, has enhanced and preserved 25,000 acres of Ohio’s wetlands since 2005. In addition, the H2Ohio program is creating, restoring, and improving wetlands to capture excess nutrients, store carbon, and expand habitat for a diverse array of wildlife.

You can be the change for clean water by learning more about wetlands and their unique qualities. Discover their wonders firsthand by visiting one near you.

Vinegar: Is it a “Safer” Herbicide?

by Stan Smith, OSU Extension PA, Fairfield County



This year’s frequent spring rains have created lots of very healthy, rapidly growing weeds in the landscape. Along with those weeds come calls from homeowners asking for ‘safe’

ways to control them. One product that is frequently asked about for control of landscape weeds is vinegar. A simple question regarding vinegar commonly evolves into a conversation about toxins, pesticides, the legality of its use, and exactly what ‘safer’ means.

Let’s begin by saying that vinegar does have some weed control properties, and presently there are three vinegar products labeled in Ohio. “Labeled” means they are legal for use to control weeds, but only one of the three in Ohio is labeled as an herbicide. For some it may be hard to imagine, but common household vinegar is not “labeled” or legal for use as an herbicide in Ohio.

Regardless, when we take a look at what happens when vinegar is applied to a weed, we realize the acetic acid in the vinegar ‘burns’ through the wax coating of the weed’s leaf surface and destroys those leaves. If the weeds are annuals – like foxtail, crabgrass or ragweed – and are small at the time of application, perhaps one treatment with the 20% acetic acid vinegar that’s labeled will kill the weed (note that household vinegar is only 5% acetic acid). If the annuals become larger before treatment, it could take more than one application. It should be noted that when sprayed on perennial weeds such as ground ivy, vinegar will burn the leaves and then the plant will likely grow new leaf . . . vinegar may ‘control’ but seldom kills a perennial.

To this point we’ve talked about acetic ‘acid’ in vinegar and the plants that it ‘kills.’ It’s important to point out here that if a product – in this case, what some would call a ‘natural’ herbicide such as vinegar – kills a plant, it obviously has some toxic properties! So, is it safe . . . or, can it be ‘safer’ than a synthetically manufactured commercial herbicide? I’ll let you decide as we continue.

As we consider that question, we need to understand toxicity. The EPA conducts studies that determine the toxicity, or Lethal Dosage (LD50) Values of all pesticides and many other products we commonly use, including what many like to call ‘natural’ products like vinegar. An LD50 is the standard measurement of acute toxicity used for comparison of all the products tested. The LD50 is stated in milligrams (mg) of pesticide per kilogram (kg) of body weight and represents the individual dose required to kill 50 percent of a population of test animals (e.g., rats, fish, mice, cockroaches).

Most callers who ask about the use of vinegar as an herbicide are wanting a comparison to glyphosate – commonly sold by the trade name Roundup. Like all pesticides, the EPA has tested glyphosate and given it an LD50 value. Likewise, acetic acid that’s exactly the same as that in vinegar has been tested by EPA and given an LD50. When rats were used in the test procedure, the LD50 value for glyphosate was 5600, and the LD50 value for acetic acid was 3310.

If we keep in mind that an LD50 value represents the amount of individual dose required to kill 50 percent of a population in the test, we realize the lower the number, the more toxic the material. When equal amounts were given orally and compared, it took less acetic acid to kill rats in the laboratory test than it did glyphosate. The acetic acid in even household vinegar was MORE toxic than Roundup!

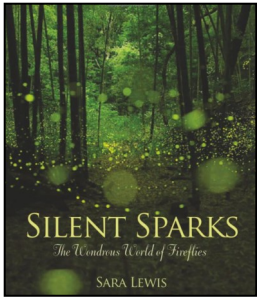
Going one step further, in this case a comparison of rate of application is a moot point. A 1% solution of glyphosate will kill most any annual weed listed on the label, and also the majority of perennial weeds. It may take more than one application of a 20% acetic acid product to kill, at best, only a portion of the annual weeds we see in the landscape.

This discussion isn’t meant to suggest vinegar is not an acceptable herbicide. The intent is to create awareness that regardless the origination of a material – be it considered ‘natural’ or a synthetically manufactured product – if it has the ability to kill plants or insects, it is a toxin. All toxins should be handled with care, in accordance with the label and their intended purpose, and at the rate of application that has been determined to be acceptable. When used properly, both natural and synthetic herbicides can be safe and effective.

FEATURED BOOK

Silent Sparks: The Wondrous World of Fireflies by Sara Lewis

reviewer: Barbara Kochick, Master Gardener 2013



I hope that you were able to watch Dr Sara Lewis' wonderful presentation, Fluctuations in Firefly Populations, on our Lunch and Learn series. If not, the recording is available on the Master Gardener site. If you are interested into delving

further into this fascinating subject, Dr. Lewis has written *Silent Sparks: The Wondrous World of Fireflies*. She is a member of The Fireflies International Network and has devoted years to the study of and advocacy for these wondrous insects.

In this volume she examines in understandable text and illustrations the evolution, lifecycle and habits of "lighting bugs." This leads the reader to an examination of the multiple reasons their populations are declining. She does, however, end on a hopeful note with suggestions each of us can use individually to help to preserve these wonders of the night.

On Gardening with Allergies

by Dianna Wears, Master Gardener 2011



Recently, I attended a Landscape Design program given by our fearless leader, Connie Smith. One of the participants asked about any resources for landscaping for people who have allergies. I have previously checked out two different books from the Columbus Metropolitan Library on the subject. They are both by Thomas Leo Ogren:

Allergy-free Gardening - The Revolutionary Guide to Healthy Landscaping

The Allergy-fighting Garden - Stop Asthma and Allergies With Smart Landscaping

Both of these titles are also available on Amazon. Even if you are not interested in these titles, they would be a good resource in case you get asked the question as Connie did.

Newsletter Deadlines

Do you have an article, garden musing, photo from an MGV project, calendar event or other idea you'd like to submit for the MGV newsletter? Articles and information are welcome at any time! Material not used in the current newsletter will be saved for a later edition. Newsletters are published quarterly with the following submission deadlines:

Spring Newsletter—submit by **February 1**

Summer Newsletter—submit by **May 1**

Autumn Newsletter—submit by **August 1**

Winter Newsletter—submit by **November 1**

Please email articles and information to Lisa Stoklosa at lmstoklos@gmail.com.



GARDEN MUSINGS

Summer Gardening for Old Folks

by Chuck Zurhorst, Master Gardener 2019



As some of us may remember from our childhood, Victory Gardens were common during the Second World War. And, there were no packets of sunflower seeds provided by Master Gardeners to be planted. :) Families had less money and there was a food crisis. A Victory Garden was a way to support our troops overseas by ensuring that more food reached the troops while sustaining family needs domestically. Victory Gardens were initially a military effort started during World War One that really caught on during the Second World War. Our government wanted to ensure that all the bases were covered and no one went hungry. The effort paid off. Not only were the families at home able to meet their nutritional needs, but extra food was available to be sent to the troops overseas.

Victory Gardens were no minor effort. During World War Two, American Victory Gardens supplied one third of the food for our country. In 1943, there were 18 million Victory Gardens in our country with 12 million in our cities. Civic groups taught classes and distributed seeds. The most abundant crops were beans, beets, cabbage, carrots, kale, peas, tomatoes, turnips, squash and lettuce. Many of these crops were easy to store or preserve.

While they go by different names today, Victory Gardens help us to be more self sufficient and provide a more nutritious pallet for our families. Getting started with a Victory Garden is also a wonderful way to enjoy fresh air, exercise and relaxation.

Ask your family what their favorite foods are. Do they like salsa? Grow tomatoes, peppers, onions and cilantro. Are they salad eaters? Plant a garden with lots of different kinds of lettuce, kale and spinach. Pick high quality seeds and plants. Buy your seeds and plants from a reputable nursery so that they are ready to grow. Choose ones that when on sale fit neatly in their containers to be sure that they won't have tangled roots that will stunt their growth after planting. Also, look for plants with nice green leaves and look under the leaves for insects. You don't want to bring any nasty critters home to your garden.

Now, put on your garden gloves and enjoy the fresh air!

SPECIAL EVENTS

Adult Step-by-Step Painting Class Offered

source: **Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator**



This Adult Garden Program will take place at Wagnalls on Thursday, June 23, from 6-8 pm. Patty Sykes will be leading a step-by-step painting class.

A picture of the finished project appears here. The cost is \$25, \$12.50 for Wagnalls volunteers. Preregister and prepay at Wagnalls check out desk. This is not considered work hours toward MG volunteering.

SPECIAL EVENTS (CONTINUED)

2022 Food Preservation Classes Offered in Person and Online

source: **Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator**



ONLINE CLASSES

Are you planning to preserve summer produce? The Ohio State University is offering several opportunities to Savor Ohio Produce. Join the Food Preservation Team on Tuesdays from 4-5 pm. EST for a free webinar series.

Register at: <https://go.osu.edu/2022foodpreservationwebinarseries>.

Topics and dates:

- June 14: Greens
- June 28: Beans
- July 26: Peaches
- Aug. 9: Corn
- Aug. 23: Melon
- Sept. 6: Broccoli, Brussel sprouts, Cauliflower
- Sept. 20: Potatoes

IN PERSON WORKSHOPS

For in-person workshops, please join Shannon Carter, Family and Consumer Sciences Educator, and Sandy Bohl, Instructor, with Ohio State University Extension Fairfield County. Classes will

be offered at both the Wagnalls Memorial Library and Fairfield County District Library, Main Branch. There is no cost for attendance, but registration is requested to reserve your space.

Register at:
<https://go.osu.edu/FCFoodPreservation>.

Canning Basics:

Wagnalls Library: Tuesday, June 14th, 6-7 pm
Fairfield County Main Library, June 16th, 1-2 pm

Freezing:

Wagnalls Library: Tuesday, June 21st, 6-7 pm
Fairfield County Main Library, June 23rd, 1-2 pm

Fairfield County Main Library is located at 219 N. Broad St, Lancaster, OH. Classes on 3rd floor.

Wagnalls Sponsoring Trolley Tour of Dawes Arboretum

source: **Connie Smith, MGV Coordinator**

On Thursday, July 7, Wagnalls will be sponsoring a tour of Dawes Arboretum via trolley. This is will be a one hour non-stop tour with tour guide of the north loop (Dawes museum/the old vacation home) and the south loop (all the collections and Dawes letters). After the tour, you will be free to explore on your own.

The entrance fee is \$10 or less, depending on the number of people who participate. Wagnalls is picking up the cost of the trolley. Those who are participating will need to call in to Dawes by July 5 at noon with their names: 720.323.2355.



Please Keep us Updated

If you have updates to your email or mailing address, please contact Lisa Stoklosa, lmstoklos@gmail.com.

In and Around the Garden—You Won't Want to Miss It!

Mark your calendars with these important dates and upcoming activities and events!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact: Connie Smith smith.3204@osu.edu

Food Preservation Classes—Online and In Person

June 14—Sept. 20 (for more info, see page 12)

Days of Action United Way/Nationwide Children's

1) June 17 (Friday), 9 am-12 pm

Downtown Lancaster

2) June 29 (Wed.), 10 am-12 pm

Victory Park, Pickerington

Help is needed for the above events. For more information, please refer to page two of this newsletter.

Honeyfest

September 10 (Sat.)

MGV display at Wagnalls

Wagnall's Garden Tour

July 18 (Sat.), 6:30 pm

Ag Center Garden Tour/Learning Never Ends Tour

June 27 (Mon.), 6:30 pm

Tomato Tasting (Ag Center)

August 23 (Tues.), 6:30 pm—MGV volunteers arrive earlier

OSU Regional Diagnostic Workshop

August 29 (Mon.), 9 pm

Christ United Methodist Church, Baltimore

Master Gardener Meeting—Plan for Fair (Ag Center)

Sept. 12 (Mon.), 3 pm-5 pm

Project Tours

June—August, Dates to be determined

Fairfield County Fair

October 9-15, Fairfield County Fair grounds

SAVE THE DATE

WAGNELLS

Contact: Pam Jarvis pamelalynnjarvis@gmail.com

Adult Garden Program (Step-by-Step Painting Class)

June 23 (Thurs.), 6 pm-8 pm (for more info, see page 11)

Work Session: June 24 (Fri.), 9:30 am-11:30 am

Work Session: June 28 (Tues.), 9:30 am-11:30 am

Trolley Tour of Dawes Arboretum

July 7 (Thurs.), 11 am (for more info, see page 12)

AG CENTER

Contact: Nancy Weidman nlwiedman@gmail.com

Pollinator Research Plot—Contact: Carrie Brown

brown.2766@osu.edu

Ag Center Mulching— if it ever dries up!!

Watering Schedule— when needed

LEARNING NEVER ENDS

Contact: Patty Turner: pturner001@columbus.rr.com

Work Sessions—Contact Patty

Through the Vine is a publication of the Ohio State University Extension Office in Fairfield County

Lisa Stoklosa, Fairfield Master Gardener Volunteer Editor

For more information contact:

Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator and OSU Extension ANR Program Assistant

smith.3204@osu.edu — 740.652.7267

For the latest information and news about OSU Extension in Fairfield County, including the Master Gardeners of Fairfield County, visit <http://fairfield.osu.edu/>



Ohio Master Gardener Program Mission

We are Ohio State University Extension trained volunteers empowered to educate others with timely research-based gardening information.