



Through the Vine

A Quarterly Newsletter of the OSU Extension Fairfield County Master Gardeners

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

Fall 2023

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Is Trying to Save an Evergreen Worthwhile?



by Thomas deHaas, OSU Extension – Lake County

Evergreens serve a great purpose in the landscape. They provide a year-round green backdrop for other landscaping plants or feature. They also provide an evergreen screen. When evergreens show signs of decline, people want to save them. But is this even practical? In most cases, an evergreen that shows serious decline has reached the point of no return.

In that case, it is probably better to cut down the trees, or if small, just pull them out. So why do evergreens die? Evergreens by nature prefer a moist, well-drained soil. If planted in a high mound lacking moisture, they will die from drought stress.

If planted in a low area, they will decline due to excessive moisture. Transplant stress can also be an issue. Most evergreens should not be transplanted mid-summer. The exception is container grown stock. But in this case, watering is extremely critical and should be done daily. Balled and Burlap evergreens do best when dug in the spring while still dormant and planted before the heat of the summer. They can also be dug successfully in the fall after the new

foliage hardens off. But if you disturb the root system during peak growing season, death will be sure to follow.

Another question is when an evergreen is blown over during a storm. If I stand the tree up and stake it, will it survive? In most cases, for larger trees, the answer is no. It is better to remove. In the case of younger or newly planted trees, they should always be staked until roots develop and knit into the soil.

Finally, why do some evergreens die and not others? In the case of Colorado Blue Spruce, trees can suffer drought stress. They are also prone to a fungal infection call Rhizosphera. Infected trees will begin to decline from the ground up. Aeration is helpful by removing lower branches. In addition, fungicides can be sprayed in the spring to protect new growth. But in most cases, treating a 30' tree can be difficult and costly.

In the case of Austrian Pine, they can suffer from two fungal diseases, Diplodia Tip Blight which affects whole branches and Dothistroma needle blight which can cause tip death. So, can my evergreen be saved? In most cases, it is an uphill battle. But if you do remove an evergreen, determine the cause of death and refrain from planting the same Genus and species in the same location.



CONNIE'S CORNER

Dear Master Gardeners,

How did we slide right into Fall already!! What a great year of public engagement activities and fun we have had thus far! If you are missing the monthly Master Gardener meetings, you are missing some great speakers and good information for continued learning and information about the community we live in. Please see the calendar of Upcoming Events for detailed information about our upcoming events.

Make note of the September 28 meeting that will be open to the public with Ohio Tree MD, Andrew Freeman, in which we will discuss common tree problems. This meeting will be held at the Ag Center beginning at 1:00 p.m. Feel free to invite a friend or a neighbor to come and join you!!

Please note, we will be having a Master Gardener Meeting in October due to the County Fair. Due to the popularity of our coloring activities for kids at the events, I have found we can engage with parents about Spotted Lantern Fly or other questions while the children color. So, we have ordered wooden cut-out leaves for the Fair. Sign up sheets will be available at the Master Gardener Meeting on September 28.

Thanks for all your enthusiasm and support of the Fairfield County Master Gardener Program and all our activities. It is truly a joy to be engaged with the Master Gardener Program in Fairfield County and our great volunteers.

Enjoy the colors of Fall,

Connie Smith
Master Gardener Coordinator
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MASTER GARDENER NEWS

Wagnall's Garden Wins Award at Fall Home and Garden Show

Congratulations... to the Wagnall's Gardeners for winning 2nd place in the Columbus Dispatch Fall Home & Garden Show Community Garden Contest.



The Wagnall's community gardens are tended by 16 Master Gardeners, 12 community volunteers, Teen Garden Club, Bloom Carroll High School football team and Key Club, and the local Boy scouts. Because of these combined efforts, the gardens have increased in number of beds and variety of plants. Many thanks goes to Thrivent Financial

for their continuing monetary contributions, as well as the contributions by the gardeners who plant in their adopted beds. The gardens feature five historical stone features, two pollinator gardens, a trellis, many shade beds, an amphitheater, toddlers' play area, plants identified by tags, seasonal plants, and feature fairy gardens during the warm months. Wagnalls may be the only library with three children's books in which the setting for the books is located within various areas of the Garden.

Additionally here is a link to the a Spectrum News Story about the Wagnalls Memorial Library Gardens featuring the Master Gardeners at Wagnall's: https://spectrumnews1.com/oh/columbus/news/2023/09/07/exploring-ohio--master-gardeners?cid=share_sms&fbclid=IwAR2t8IHWGtNHORt-bCPHqL_nKNjOUTgKpSdziReouGhuJgLX-UzYzEV8F0c?cid=share_clip

MASTER GARDENER NEWS

Extension Connection

by *Connie Smith, Master Gardener Coordinator*

Master Gardeners Out and About Lithopolis Honey Fest!!



Eight Master Gardeners enjoyed the day talking about all things Spotted Lantern Fly and Master Gardener works at the Lithopolis Honey Fest in early September.

The children loved

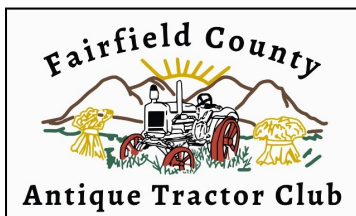
coloring over 75 wooden cut out flowers in their favorite pollinator colors. The weather was perfect and it was a great day to engage with folks “in the garden” at Wagnall’s.

Smeck Farm Harvest Festival



Lots of questions and good conversation at the first ever Master Gardener Outing at the Smeck Farm Harvest Festival on September 16 and 17. We loved

watching the children engage in our Sunflower coloring activity.



Members of the Fairfield County Antique Tractor Club had families in the field harvesting potatoes, pumpkins, Indian Corn, Popcorn

and Sweet Corn plus Sunflowers!! It was a fun 2-day event in the Fetter Hood Barn located at Smeck Park with 4-H members talking about their Alpaca projects, Fairfield SWCD and their wildlife hide collection and local Beekeepers!

The Making of a Scarecrow!!



The Master Gardeners have been busy creating Scarecrows for the Fairfield County Trail of Scarecrows. The Fairfield County Ag Center Scarecrows are entitled Matilda and Marvin, The Mentors!! Finishing touches will be added prior to the October 1 debut.

Pam Hutton and Karen Gottleib have been busy creating a Cinderella themed display at the Georgian. It is a family fun event that gives everyone a good excuse to drive around the county and enjoy the Fall Color! Maybe even stop by one of the local orchards for an apple slushie!!

FAIRFIELD COUNTY FAIR – YES, Master Gardeners will be there!!!



Due to the popularity of the coloring of Pollinator flowers and such at the recent public engagement events we had at the MGV table, I have decided we should have a Master Gardener Table at the Fairfield

County Fair. The plan will be to have the booth staffed Sunday, October 8 through Friday, October 13 with one or two Master Gardeners per shift beginning from 1:00 until 3:30 p.m. or until traffic dies down.

This year we will be in the Ed Sands Farm Bureau Building on the North Side the racetrack. Our focus will be Spotted Lantern Fly, Master Gardener Training plus pollinator education. We will also be having a coloring station for the kids with a variety of tree leaves and do a bit of tree leaf ID while the kids are coloring. This coloring activity continues to amaze me. From Wands and Wizards to HoneyFest to this past weekend, we have run out of all our wooden ornament supplies. If you are available to work at the Fairfield County Fair, I will have a sign-up sheet at our September 28 meeting and for those Master Gardeners who are working I will provide admission tickets which do include parking on the grounds. You will receive working hours for assisting with the Fairfield County Fair Booth.

Unwanted Visitors Will Enter Your Home in the Fall

source: Buckeye Yard and Garden Line; author Joe Boggs



'Tis the season for homeowners to begin noticing that there seems to be more insects coming into the home. Many insects overwinter as adults and need to find shelter to survive through the winter. Adult insects

are often drawn to the warm south/southwest side of a home and make their way into cracks between siding, shingles, doors, windows and roof eaves. They can go undetected within wall voids, attics, and unseen parts of the home, but when the insect makes its way into the living space, homeowners take notice. Many insects find their way into the corners of homes or become active during a warm, sunny winter's day and fly around the house.

Most notable may be the MULTICOLORED ASIAN LADY BEETLE, which becomes a nuisance when they stain walls or fabric when crushed or aggravated. While an annoyance, homeowners should not fear because the beetle does not damage or chew on wood or other home materials, does not lay eggs in the home and does not spread disease.

Other increasingly common invaders include the stink bugs and leaf-footed bugs. Like the multicolored Asian lady beetle, the BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG (BMSB) overwinters as an adult and seeks out warm shelter for winter. As its name implies, these insects emit unpleasant odors that are not welcome in the home. Leaf-footed bugs are also common sights on siding and windows this time of year. These insects are also true bugs like the BMSB but are more elongated and have distinctive leaf-shaped feet on their rear legs.

SPIDERS may also be unwelcome guests in fall. The cold weather may drive some spiders into homes seeking shelter. However, spiders are beneficial organisms which help control pest populations. Very few are problematic to humans.

To prevent home invaders, the best management is prevention. Inspecting the home for cracks and sealing openings will not only help prevent insect invaders, but will also help prepare your house for heating in the winter. Using a power washer or powerful stream from a hose can dislodge insects that are gathering on your home's exterior but this is not a permanent solution. Insects found indoors can be vacuumed up. Vacuums should be emptied immediately to prevent insects from escaping and smell from accumulating in the home.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pollarding

source: Garden-pedia by Pamela Bennett and Maria Zampini

A pruning technique in which you remove the upper branches of a tree back to its trunk in order to encourage a dense growth of foliage close to the trunk.

For centuries, this was a common practice in Great Britain and Europe and you will still see it in some cities as a way to maintain trees at a certain height. Pollarding was used to encourage new growth each year in order to supply new wood for various purposes such as for fuel, stored as winter fodder for stock, as well as used for making baskets.

Pollarding is different from topping trees. When pollarding is done the right way, the branches cut are only one or two years old. When trees are topped, the branches cut are usually large and don't have the tendency to naturally seal off the wound. The remaining branch decays, leading to a weakened branch structure for supporting any new growth.

Bye...Bye...Birdie

by Edna Wilson, Master Gardener 2017



Where did the Summer go?

Autumn is coming soon and the Hummingbirds (Hummers) will soon prepare for their fall migration flight back to Mexico and South America. This flight will take approximately two weeks allowing for weather, etc. Most birds will stop along the way to rest and feed. The Hummer's flying speed averages 27 miles per hour. If the hummer is flying across the Gulf of Mexico it can take 18 to 24 hours of nonstop flying. Once a hummer leaves shore it must continue until it finds dry ground again. The migration is triggered by the amount of daylight, not the amount of available food. It is important to leave some of your feeders up and filled with fresh nectar for two weeks after you see your last hummingbird visitor. This will allow for other migrating hummers to stop and eat on their journey. At this time of the season there may not be enough wildflowers/flowers for the hummers to eat. Leaving your feeders up will not cause the hummers to remain too long before they migrate.

Instinct will prevail. The hummers migrate because they can't withstand freezing temperatures for long periods of time. If cold weather comes early or an unexpected cold period hits the hummers put their body in a state of torpor where they can shut down their functions and drop their body temperature and slow their heartbeat to almost nothing. In the torpor state the hummers often hang upside down. Don't disturb them. When it warms up they wake their body up and continue on their journey. Before migrating the hummers double their body

weight before they take off to allow for their long flight. The average weight of a hummer is three grams which is in comparison the weight of a penny.

During September it is good to increase the sugar nectar using a formula of three parts water to one part sugar. This will allow them to increase their calorie intake. (Normal sugar nectar formula is four to one.)

The male hummers will migrate first followed by the females and then the younger birds. The hummers do not migrate in masses. They take on their own journey individually. It is a legend/myth that the hummers hitchhike on the back of geese or other large birds!

Once hummers are gone it's important to clean up all the feeders, inspect for any for damage, and have them ready for next April when the scout male hummers will migrate back and be ready to fight for their territory again. The hummers do remember their good food sources from the previous season and will return to those feeder locations and be ready to amaze you with their daily aerial displays.



Lucy in the Sky With... FERNS?

by **Carrie Brown, ANR Extension Educator**



I recently had the opportunity to spend time in the Atlantic Forest, a South American moist tropical forest that is one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems in the world. Covering parts of Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina, there are many endemic species of flora and fauna that call the forest home. Over 20,000 species of plants are found in the Atlantic Forest, which makes it equivalent to Disney World for a plant lover like me.

While hiking the forests, I relished the sight of epiphytes (air plants that live on other plants) thriving on just about any inhabitable surface, along with an abundance of mosses, orchids, bamboos, and bromeliads.

However, my favorite experience – my once-in-a-blue-moon-moment – my bucket list item – that one thing I could not wait to see – was a fern. But not just any fern. A fern in the air. With a *trunk. And one heck of a story to tell. A Tree Fern.



*Resembling an arborescent trunk, a tree fern is actually supported by an upright, tightly packed accumulation of rhizomes. Functionally, this stem provides structure and transports water and nutrients, not unlike the trunks of woody plants.

In that serendipitous moment, I spotted them in the sky. Towering upwards of thirty feet and sporting graceful fronds that go on for days, I can personally guarantee you that tree ferns do not disappoint. I would have been no more impressed had a pterodactyl soared through the tree tops (and immersed in this ancient, lush landscape, it seemed like a distinct possibility).

Belonging to the genus *Cyathea*, there are over 500 scaly tree fern species that can be found growing in tropical areas around the world. Seedless and spore-bearing like their crouched relatives, tree ferns have an arborescent trunk-like stem and have been known to reach over sixty feet in height. They are commonly found in wet lowlands to mid elevations and are known for their pronounced local endemism – species tend to be specialized and limited to a small geographic area.



Tree ferns have quite a story to tell, as rich fossil deposits have been found containing their ancient relatives, dating back to the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods. Though they have some short roots that are used to anchor them to the soil, many of their roots aren't in the ground at all and instead cover the trunk. These aerial roots descend from the crown of leaves, capturing the moisture in the air. I think you'll agree that plants don't get nearly enough credit for their creativity and resourcefulness.



Most tree ferns are listed under Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), requiring a permit for international commerce involving these plants. Unfortunately, this protection doesn't extend to threats brought from forest destruction and fragmentation. As a result, many tree ferns are considered threatened in their home range and can benefit from conservation measures in their native habitats.

Dodder's Many Wonders (Wanders?)

source: Buckeye Yard and Garden Line; author: Joe Boggs



Dodders are parasitic plants belonging to the morning glory family, Convolvulaceae. The hallmark of all dodders found in Ohio is their thin, tendril-like stems that encircle the stems of their

host plants. Dodder stems range in color from yellow to orange to red depending on the species and age. Some species, but not all, have tiny scale-like leaves. Although most dodders have some chlorophyll, it's insufficient to photosynthesize enough sugar to support a singular lifestyle. Mature dodder plants also lack roots.

Dodders are obligate parasites; they can't make a living without their plant hosts. They invade their hosts using specialized, peg-like structures called haustoria (singular haustorium). The dodder's haustoria are considered modified roots and are used to extract water, carbohydrates, and nutrients from their host's vascular bundles.

The dodder had connected its twining stems to plant hosts representing three plant orders. Tendrils were wrapped around the stems of goldenrod (*Solidago* sp., order Asterales), Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*, order Rosales), and poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*, order Sapindales). The capacity to exploit a wide range of hosts across multiple taxonomic categories has been cited as an important survival mechanism for many dodder species.

Dodders are annual flowering plants with each flower producing 2–4 large seeds. The large dodder seeds are loaded with carbohydrates to support the frail seedlings until they can locate a plant victim. The seedlings produce a rudimentary root system; however, they die if they don't sniff out a host to latch onto within 10–15 days.

The sensory mechanism used by dodder is not known, nor are the exact chemicals or mixture of chemicals that send an "eat here" message. However, it was shown that dodder can distinguish between odors emitted by good hosts like tomato and bad hosts like wheat. As an obligate parasite, a dodder plant would be in trouble if it attached itself to a summer annual host that flowered, produced seed, and died before the dodder plant was able to flower and produce seed. Dodders have evolved a workaround to the problem by producing flowers when they intercept the same chemical message used by its plant host to trigger blooming.

It is estimated that dodders cause annual crop losses worldwide that are measured in tens of millions of dollars. These parasitic plants have been found sucking the life out of over 100 species of plants including alfalfa, clover, soybeans, and even solanaceous plants in home gardens such as petunias and tomatoes.

Management of Dodder - The annual life cycle of dodder starting with seed germination in the spring means dodder can be effectively managed using a range of preemergent herbicides. This approach is commonly used to suppress dodder in field crops, ornamental nurseries, and landscapes.

Hand-pulling is problematic. While ripping away the threadlike dodder may be satisfying, it is not effective once the dodder attaches to a host. New strands can regenerate from the haustoria left embedded in the host. One challenge with using preemergent herbicides is the possibility that dodders may occasionally act like a perennial by spending the winter inside their host plant.

Dodders are notorious for being prolific seed producers and the seed may find its way into crop seed. So, a primary dodder management strategy targets contaminated crop seed to reduce the introduction of dodder into new sites.

Consequently, dodder appears on the "Prohibited and restricted noxious weed seeds list" in the Ohio Administrative Code, Rule 901:5-27-06

Hold the Latte and Pass Me a Mate

Part 1

by Carrie Brown, ANR Extension Educator



When you think of the genus *Ilex*, what comes to mind? Chances are it's the brilliant gleam of red berry-like drupes and glossy green foliage of the evergreen American holly

(*Ilex opaca*) against the blinding whiteness of freshly fallen snow. Or, perhaps, you prefer the deciduous winterberry holly (*Ilex verticillate*), naked throughout the winter but with fruit that is equally appealing to the eye (human and bird alike). Usually associated with the holiday season, hollies are often a key component of wreathes, garlands, and Aunt Marty's Christmas cards, but their ornamental uses stretch throughout every season. With a large range and long lifespan (over 100 years for some species), members of *Ilex* have been treasured for centuries and continue to play a key role in landscapes throughout much of the United States.

You may also be thinking, "Carrie, what the heck does this have to do with your Starbucks order?" That's a valid question, but I ask that you stick with me. (The answer is that the relevance is fairly skewed, but we will get there eventually.)

It Takes Two

Hollies have the great honor of being from a monotypic family, meaning that of the family, Aquifoliaceae, *Ilex* is the only living genus. And the fact that *Ilex* has the most species of any woody *dioecious angiosperm genus is just another feather in its cap. Though there are over a dozen species of *Ilex* that are indigenous to North America (and quite a few non-native species represented in the nursery industry), it turns out that there are about 400 species distributed worldwide. In fact, the holly family is well represented in most temperate and tropical regions across the globe.

*Dioecious reproduction, from the Ancient Greek word *dioikía* for "two households," refers to plant species that have distinct unisexual individuals. While the plants that make male flowers only produce sperm-packed pollen, the plants that produce female flowers only produce blooms equipped with ovaries that develop into fruit upon fertilization. Only about 6% of flowering plant species are thought to use this reproductive strategy. Ever wonder why your holly doesn't produce fruit.... perhaps, it's a boy!

Yerba Mate



In the central to southern parts of South America, you will find a unique *Ilex* species that not only grows wild as an understory shrub in the Atlantic Forest - a

biodiversity hotspot you may recall mentioned in my article on Tree Ferns - but also has a large economic impact on countries in its native region: Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Argentina. *Ilex paraguariensis*, commonly referred to as yerba mate (mate for short), is prized not primarily for ornamental reasons but as a caffeinated refreshment! Its leaves and stems are dried and chopped to create a tea that is consumed by millions in the region. The region's indigenous Guaraní people were the first consumers of mate, and its consumption became widespread following European colonization in the late 16th century. Yerba mate remains a popular tradition to this day.

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**

Species Tulips

by **Barbara Kochick, Master Gardener 2013**



Tulipa Humilis Alba Coerula Oculata

Always forward thinking, fall is the time for gardeners to contemplate spring flowers. Native to the mountain regions of Central Asia, species tulips are natural beauties, a far cry from their more formal cousins and blend well with naturalistic settings. Like other tulips, species bulbs need to be planted in the fall.

Wild species tulips made their way to Holland in the hands of bulb collectors and breeders centuries ago, becoming the ancestors of today's flashy hybrid tulips. But species with more delicate looks remain popular. Today there are about 100 types of bulbs. In their natural environment, species tulips often grow in cracks between rocks, so they're well-suited to the gritty porous soil in home rock gardens. But they thrive in any well-drained soil.

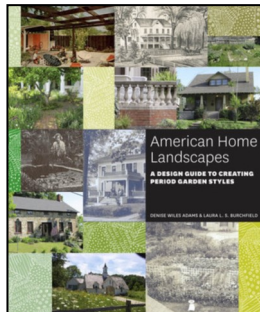
They need sun in spring and hot dry conditions through summer. The bulbs will rot if the soil is kept moist so keep out of the range of irrigation systems. These little bulbs are available from garden shops and mail order specialists. Plant any time from September until the ground freezes. Plant the pointed ends up in a 4-5 inch hole and then water well. Most species tulips bloom mid-to-late spring usually for about two weeks. To encourage them to bloom again allow the flowers and foliage to fade naturally.

Deer eat tulips like candy. As soon as you see buds use a deer repellent. Where conditions are ideal, species tulips naturalize spreading by seed or offsets. They typically return for three or four years. Some in my garden have reappeared for several years. In the wild they grow in barren soil. They do not need fertilizer. The parents of modern day hybrids, these bulbs have a lithe and cheerful beauty all their own. Consider some in your planning for spring.

FEATURED BOOK

American Home Landscapes

by **Denise Wills Adams & Laura L.S. Burchfield**
Reviewer: Barbara Kochick, Master Gardener 2013



After hearing Connie and a few of the members of our historic projects mention this book, I decided to investigate it. I found that it is out of print but available on used book sites. I got a copy at Thrift Books for eight dollars including the shipping, a real bargain as this is a delightful book. It's

a great resource for those interested in historical accuracy but also an interesting history of American landscape design.

In six chapters the authors cover the time period from 1620 to 2000 including a basic overview of architectural styles, history of landscape design in the period, and the landscape features, plants, and accessories in use at the time. Each chapter includes a few case studies of houses needing landscape updates with before and after details. Each time period includes a list of specific plant cultivars. For me, one of the best parts of this book was the wonderful photographs that will appeal to gardeners, home decorators and historians. This book is a gem and would be a valuable addition to any home library.

GARDEN DESTINATIONS

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Gardens

by Melinda Lee Adkins, Master Gardener 2015



Architectural Digest named the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden, “One of the most breathtaking gardens in the World.” This sixty-six acre property is on the shores of White Rock Lake and contains nineteen established gardens. My words cannot describe the beauty of the gardens. Mere words would be an injustice. I created a video of my recent trip for you to view, but only by visiting can you truly appreciate the amazing oasis. Click the following link:
<https://youtu.be/YCwiAVNdqeo>

As visitors meander the walkways and paths that lead from one garden to the next, they will experience diverse varieties of plant collections. Within the gardens are streams, ponds, waterfalls and other water features that create a relaxing atmosphere. And naturally, there are plenty of places to sit and enjoy the scenery or have a picnic. So, when is the best time to visit the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden? Anytime! The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden is open year round.

From one season to the next the gardens have their changing plant elements. Each season has special events to showcase the blooming beauties and coinciding holiday. For instance, each spring, from mid-February to mid-April is the Dallas Blooms Festival. The Southern Living magazine, called the festival “One of the Best Places to See

Stunning Spring Blooms Across the South.” Every year, the arboretum plants a combined total of approximately 500,000 daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, azaleas and other varieties. The Dallas Blooms Festival has been ranked as one of the top 14 places to see spring flowers in the world. But, spring is not the only time to enjoy the Arboretum and Gardens. In the summer there are outdoor concerts with stunning floral displays and in the autumn a Pumpkin Village display with over 90,000 pumpkins and gourds. For Northerners, a winter visit away from our winters would be a perfect retreat.

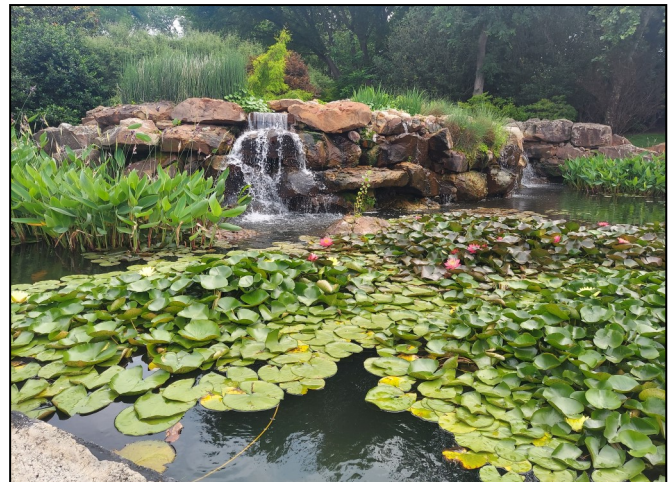
Go to The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden website for upcoming events, admission, directions and more:

<https://www.dallasarboretum.org/>

To learn more about the acquisition history of the property, go to the link below:

<https://www.tclf.org/landscapes/dallas-arboretum-and-botanical-garden>

If you enjoy the video I created, please give it a thumbs up on YouTube. And leave a comment too.



References used for this article include:

- Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden website
- Trip Ideas (Article) - This Texas Flower Festival may be the Most Beautiful Springtime Destination in the U.S.
- Travel Begins at 40 (Article) – Dallas Blooms 2023
- Rove.me (Article) – Dallas Blooms in Dallas, Texas
- D Magazine (Article) – Dallas Blooms is back at the Arboretum

GARDEN DESTINATIONS

Another Great Reciprocal Garden Associated with Franklin Park Conservatory

by Pam Jarvis, Master Gardener 2005



Neil and I enjoyed the Norfolk Botanical Gardens (NBG) this summer on our way to the Outer Banks. It was free to get in with our Franklin Park Conservatory membership. NBG covers 175 acres and has 16 miles of paved and mulched plants to explore. This welcome stop broke up our ride so we could stretch our legs.

The Enchanted Forest was the highlight. The area is used to seasonally showcase artists' work. The display we saw was birdhouses. Not only were the birdhouses unique and creative, but the titles given to the birdhouses were witty.

For those who have a hard time getting around, there is a free trolley and a boat ride for \$10 that travels canals through the garden. We were trying to get our Fitbit steps and there was a time crunch so we will check those out next time.

For those with children, the WOW Garden provided many colorful and joyful things for kids to play and learn about gardens.

For those who love to learn, there were gardens for learning, including butterfly, hops, kitchen, VA native plants, conifers and wildflower gardens. The visitor center had two classrooms where interesting topics are featured.

Neil and I spent most of our time in the beautiful Japanese Garden and the Sarah Lee Baker Perennial Garden.

There were many places to sit and reflect. Food trucks are available. Bike Nights are daily from 4-7. I can't wait to go back and see The Garden of Tomorrow under construction opening spring, 2025.

Favorite Garden Tool

by Katherine Cassidy, Master Gardener 2022



Do you ever wonder what is the best tool to use in the garden? After a few years of gardening with a few nasty cuts, blisters, hard to remove soil on my skin and allergic reactions, I decided to start wearing gloves. Which ones to use? After several pairs that ended up with holes in finger tips or thorns that pricked my hands, I decided to try different pairs. Which gloves would help protect my hands & get the job done?

Leather gloves are useful for pruning thorny plants, cutting branches or moving raspberry canes. Nylon gloves are lightweight and helpful for planting seeds or planting new plants. Rubber gloves work best in wet or moist soil. Cotton gloves are also useful for many tasks. Which glove is best? Try different kinds of gloves and see what's best for your garden task. Choose gloves that fit your hands, are durable and able to handle your garden project. There are many styles and brands of gloves. Find gloves that work for you and enjoy your garden.

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 SUMMER EVENTS

Clean up Day at the Ag Center with Pizza Lunch and Planning for Next Year

September 28 (Thurs.), 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Please email smith.3204@osu.edu if you can come and work so we will have plenty of pizza

Master Gardener Meeting

Topic: Tree Care with Ohio Tree MD, Andrew Freeman

September 28 (Thurs.), 1 p.m.

Ag Center

Fairfield County Fair

October 8-14

Fairfield County Fairgrounds

Master Gardener Meeting

Topic: Responsible "Recycling" Holiday Shopping with Keri Murphy, Environmental Education Specialist from Fairfield Recycling and Litter Prevention

November 9 (Thurs.), 1 p.m.

Ag Center

Please bring Thanksgiving cards

Winter Bird Feeding

November 14 (Tues.), 6:30 p.m.

Wagnalls

Master Gardener Holiday Gathering

December 14 (Thurs.), 1 p.m.

Ag Center

Please bring Christmas Cards

Fairfield County OSU Extension will be closed for:

Veterans Day—November 10

Thanksgiving Holiday—November 23-24

Christmas Holiday—December 25-26

2024

Master Gardener Training Begins

April 5, 2024 (Fri.)



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

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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.