

# *Flora and Fauna*

OCVN & MGV Activities & Events  
Ohio State University Extension – Mahoning County  
490 South Broad Street  
Canfield, Ohio 44406  
330-533-5538  
<http://mahoning.osu.edu>



THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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Our tree at Fellows this year



Holiday Pots and Centerpieces



Some MGV December Activities

# **2020 Volunteer Training Programs**

Our training programs begin soon! We are still open for applications. We can select up to 24 for each program. Please share this information by sharing flyers, sharing this info on social media and more!

## **As of January 14, we have 10 OCVN Trainees**

CONSIDER TAKING...the 2020 Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN) training class. We have over 40 hours of classroom and field experienced offered through the course on everything from basic botany to geology, nature interpretation and more. Take the class, then decided on a volunteer site in the area (a nature center or park) where you can make an impact on the natural areas in your community. Details:

PROGRAM TIMELINE: Tuesdays and a few Saturdays, January 25—April 14

INFO & APPLICATION: <http://go.osu.edu/joinnature>

Applications Accepted until class is full.

QUESTIONS & ASSISTANCE: 330-533-5538

## **As of January 14, we have 14 MGV Trainees**

MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER TRAINING...will be offered on Tuesdays, February-May 2020. The program trains individuals in the art and science of gardening through an in-depth training program. Those taking the class are not required to have gardening skills or knowledge; we only require a passion for learning about gardening and sharing this knowledge with others! This training covers everything from herbs and vegetables to insects and plant botany. Master Gardener Volunteers provide educational services to the community, including: answering gardening questions in the plant and pest clinic; monthly gardening programs; gardening activities with children; urban/community garden projects; a demonstration/pollinator garden; and other horticultural activities.

PROGRAM TIMELINE: Tuesdays, 9am-3:30pm, February 4-early May

DETAILS & APPLICATIONS: <http://go.osu.edu/joinmgv>

QUESTIONS & ASSISTANCE: 330-533-5538

## Impacts & Successes—2019

The OCVN program emphasizes hands-on natural resource and environmental education coupled with volunteer service

- 471 attended the Naturalist Series
- Trained 17 new volunteers.
- 30 volunteers reported volunteer time in 2019.
- Documented volunteer hours were 1,477.65. The value of those services provided \$36,483.18 to the local economy in support of our natural resources, parks and nature centers.

The MGVS Program empowered to educate others with timely research-based gardening information.

- 423 attended Spring Workshop, MGVS Coffee Series and Garden Art Series
- 71 MGVSs reported volunteer hours in 2019
- Documented 2019 hours were 6,737.85. The value of those services provided \$166,357.52 to the local economy in support of improving lives, public spaces and private properties throughout Mahoning County.

### *What Works for Me*

If you would like to share something that works for you as an OCVN or MGVS—send an email to [moff.1@osu.edu](mailto:moff.1@osu.edu) with 100 words and a photo. We'll post to the blog and link in the monthly newsletters.

### What Works for Me

#### Using Fall Leaves for Winter Mulch

Fall leaves are too valuable just to throw away, so I've been using them as winter mulch for my flower beds for the last couple of years. I mow the yard with my lawn tractor when the leaves are down and collect the leaves in the bagger.

When the bagger is full I empty it on the flower beds. I then spread the leaves over the flower beds until they are a couple of inches thick. The leaf mulch protects the soil against temperature and moisture fluctuations over the winter. And during the winter the leaves will begin to decompose into the soil. Next spring I'll add an inch or two of shredded bark mulch on top of what remains of the leaves, which gives the beds a more finished look for the summer.

The leaves in the bagger have been chopped up by the lawn mower. I've found that chopped leaves work better as a mulch than whole leaves. If you have mulching blades on your mower, that works even better.

You can also compost the leaves. But it takes a year or more for the leaves to completely compost. Using them as mulch is what works for me.

David Sprague



## MGV Meeting Minutes: November 14, 2019

The meeting was opened by Vice President Pinky Steffens at 6:30 P.M. Al Leonhart led us in the Pledge. Kristen Eisenhauer gave the report from Eric Barrett.

Today is last day to sign up and pay for the Banquet; has hours sheets available; form for donations to OSU; and 1.5 form to sign. The office is going through "the process" for the back room.

Pinky read the announcements from Pam Baytos. The open house is Monday at 1:00 P.M.; the Banquet is 11/20 (84 signed up to come to date); container class is 12/2 and materials can be left outside the building; 11/27 greens will be cut at the Fairgrounds; and on 12/9 a holiday centerpiece class will be held from 1 to 3 P.M.

**Wreaths for Vets** will be 12/14 at 1:00 P.M. at Vaughn Cemetery in Lake Milton. (Directions are take Rt. 18, cross bridge, take Grandview 1/4 mile to Pine Road. The program will be at the eastern end of the cemetery). The wreaths are from Tractor Supply and have bows attached (cost \$7.50 each) Three trucks are needed to transport them.

The January meeting is important as this is when we sign up for committees. There is an open date for a presenter for Coffee with Master Gardeners. Marilyn McKinley will help with a presentation.

**STATE CONFERENCE:** Marilyn McKinley attended the one day conference. She attended several interesting workshops: Plank Propagation (plugs); Bees, Butterflies; and Perennials. There are 62 counties with Master Gardeners programs. 21 won a PLATINUM award including US. Congratulations to all for making this possible. The conference is in Beechwood for 2020 and Green County for 2021. Eric is thinking maybe we should hold it in 2022. The State would like to do more on line. Marilyn is on the State Advisory Board. She would like to see monitors, each helping 2 new class members. She would also like to do videos of members to show new members.

**CHRISTMAS TREE:** Theresa Harris said the Mill Creek MetroPark Christmas Tree will be decorated at 10:00 A.M. on 11/25. Decorations will be made at the end of this meeting.

**GROUNDS CLEANUP:** Mile Beaudis said the final clean-up of the year will be 11/19 from 3 to 6 P.M.

**ELECTION:** Peg Zeleznik and Marilyn McKinley an-

nounced the slate of officers for 2020. For Co-Presidents,

Carol Smith and Pam Baytos, Vice-President, Kary Shively, and Secretary Rick Patterson. There were no nominations from the floor and Barb Loewit moved the state be accepted, seconded by Stephanie Hughes. It was passed unanimously.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M. Following the meeting, tree decorations were made.

Nancy Brundage, Co-Secretary

### It's Good Luck, not Good Bye!

The MGVs enjoyed fine chocolates from our friends Ralph & Toni Beard. They are moving to Georgia—and will be missed!

**Their new address  
5052 Sussex Drive  
Evans, Georgia 30809**

#### OSU Extension Grounds Committee 2019

On Tuesday, November 19th the grounds committee performed its eighth and final cleanup for the year. We had seven MGV committee members who worked very effectively to carefully trim the hydrangeas along the front of the building—four of these will be transplanted next spring. We also trimmed down the elderberry bushes behind the building also in preparation for moving to the rear of the property next year. Before we finished we collected most of the fallen leaves.

I want to thank the members who were present at the cleanup. They are: Natalie Fraser, Tom Petrilla, Chester Kaschak, Rick Patterson, Ed Lewis and Danita Davis.

Mike Beaudis, Chair

**Thanks!**

## 2020 MGV Meeting Schedule

**Reminder: Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. for socializing. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.**

- **January 9** – Committee sign-ups
- **February 13** - Dr. Meredith Konya will speak on aging in the garden
- **March 12** – Corrie Adams, an arborist, from Adams Tree Preservation
- **April 9** – TBA
- **May 14** – Plant swap
- **June 11** – TBA
- **July 9** – Flower show/competition
- **August 13** – Home of Cathryn Jacobs to finalize plans for Canfield Fair
- **September 10** – Carol Smith will speak about her trip to Ecuador
- **October 8** – TBA
- **November 12** – Fellows Christmas tree ornament workshop
- **December** – Banquet – Date TBA

## 2020 OCVN Meeting Schedule

January 27—2020 OCVN Organizational Meeting, 6:30pm, OSU Extension Office

## Naturalist Series - RAPTORS

The OCVN-Mill Creek MetroPark Naturalist Series last program of the year was held on November 6th at the MetroPark Farm. It was a full house with over 150 in attendance for a program on Raptors by Heather Merritt from Birds in Flight Sanctuary.

Heather began by explaining that the organization is all volunteer with no government assistance. They have recently purchased property in Vienna to develop a new Sanctuary. They hope to open in the Spring. Heather stated that she has 14 permits that cost over \$1,000 a year. Over 3000 birds and animals have been taken in this year with between 90% to 95 % being released. 8000 phone calls are received a year.

Did you know it is illegal to possess a feather of a bird covered under the Migratory Bird Act? Well, it is. This includes a feather you may find in your yard from the molting of a Blue Jay or a Crow or anything else connected to these birds. Lead is causing a problem by ingestion by birds from lead shot used in shooting.

Heather's area where she is authorized to rescue covers 33 counties in Ohio. A major cause of bird injuries is fishing line. Another is if you put out rat or mouse poison, it does not kill the mouse right away. The mouse can they be eaten by a small bird and then that one mouse can be responsible for the death of up to 15 birds.

Last year she lost 170 birds to West Nile disease. Heather answered many questions. She then brought out live birds that have been unable to be released : a Red-tailed Hawk; a Harris's Hawk (a bird of the Southwest) and a Screech Owl.

After the program, there was a opportunity to take pictures of the birds.

Nancy Brundage

## Important MGV Reminders:

- Dues - \$10.00
- Read and sign 1.50 form
- Sign up for a committee in 2020
- Remember to maintain active certification for MGV's you need **20 volunteer hours** and **10 education hours** yearly (November 1—October 31st).

Information on hours can be found in the

Mahoning County Master Gardener Handbook. [go.osu.edu/MGVHandbook](http://go.osu.edu/MGVHandbook)

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## EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER 2018 NATIONAL REPORT

- **EXTENSION MASTER GARDENERS:** 86,076, One of largest Volunteer organizations in the country.
- **VOLUNTEER HOURS:** 5.6 Million; active certified volunteers average 60 hours a year.
- **VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS:** \$140 Million based on \$24.69 an hour
- **NEWLY TRAINED EMG'S:** 13,879, on average each state trains 302 every year
- **TRAINING HOURS:** 638,556, on average have over 40 hours
- **CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS:** 901,246, many also continue education
- **DIRECT CONTACTS:** 8.6 Million, through clinics, presentations and more
- **YEARLY MEDIA REACH:** 4.5 Million, websites, radio, tv, newspapers, publication

## OHIO REPORT FOR 2017

- **VALUE OF SERVICES:** \$4.03 Million, using \$24.14 per hour
- **HOURS:** 167,100 plus hours to OSUE and their communities
- **ADVANCED TRAINING:** 46,178 plus hours
- **MGV's CERTIFIED IN 2017:** 3,033
- **NEW MGV'S TRAINED IN 2017:** 394
- **FRESH PRODUCE DONATED TO FOOD DESERTS,ETC:** 63,466 plus pounds

*Marilyn McKinley gave this report at the 11/14 monthly meeting. She received it at the State Conference.*

- The first meeting of the year took place in the spacious meeting room at the north end of the OSU Extension Office building formerly occupied by OBMV. Mr. Carl Harris from the United States Census Bureau addressed the volunteers by asking for help with census taking. The job will pay \$16 @ hour and start April 1st and last until the end of July. Mr. Harris passed out information and encouraged all who are interested to apply using the website in the brochure.
- Newly elected Co President Carol Smith kicked off the business portion of the meeting by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Next, endearing stories of Master Gardener Carol Swartz who passed away in December were shared amongst the group. Pam Baytos said that Carol's name was added to the MGCV Memory Bench positioned in the main foyer of the building.
- Reminder to members of the annual \$10 dues to be paid, sign the 1.5 acknowledgment letter, and to redo your certification on the VMS website by January 24th.
- Discussion about Coffee with Master Gardeners open dates were filled: July 20th by Stephanie Hughes; August 17th by Lil Quaranta; September 21st by Carol Smith. Ideas about topics were also discussed.
- A program on house plants by Stephanie Hughes with help from Rhonda Harris to be presented at June 11th MGCV meeting.
- Pam will chair the Spring Seminar. The tentative date will be April 25th.
- Peg Zeleznik volunteered to chair the Garden Art Series. Need ideas for garden art.
- New MGCV class begins training on February 4th. Have 12 applicants signed up at this time. We would like to have 12 more. Need help in signing up more interested members.
- Eric is working on getting back a section of the Vindicator dedicated to MGCV and OCVN articles.
- New OCVN class begins training on January 25th. There are only 6 applicants signed up at this time. We need at least 10 trainees in order to have the class. Eric led a discussion on ideas for getting the word out about the training classes.
- Marilyn McKinley volunteered to put on a display about the good works of MGCV at Green Star Cooperative Turf Open House on April 3rd
- We will no longer publish a monthly AGNR newsletter, links to information will to be sent out to the master email list.
- Sign up sheets for all committee work are now available at the OSU Extension Office.
- Mike Beaudis thanked all the volunteers at the Wreaths for Veterans Program on December 14th. Special thanks to John Biroshak for making the (3) flag holders and to Chester Kaschak for being the MC.
- Theresa Harris thanked all who volunteered and came to see the Christmas trees at Fellows Riverside Gardens.
- Marilyn McKinley said we are looking for mentors for the new MGCV class trainees.
- Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm. Minutes submitted by: Rick Patterson Secretary MGCV Secretary.



**Standards of Behavior for Employees and  
Volunteers Working in  
Activities and Programs with Minor  
Participants**

*This Standards of Behavior is an agreement accepted by employees/volunteers who work in an activity or program with minor participants. The primary purpose of these standards is to promote the safety and wellbeing of all activity/program participants. Employees/volunteers are expected to function within these standards.*

**I will:**

- Accept supervision and support from professional staff while involved in the activity/program.
- Accept the responsibility to professionally represent the activity/program and The Ohio State University.
- Conduct myself in a courteous and respectful manner, exhibit good sportsmanship and be a positive role model for minors.
- Respect, adhere to and enforce the rules, policies and guidelines established by the activity or program and the university.
- Refrain from engaging in any criminal conduct.
- Comply with all applicable civil rights laws and policies, including and not limited to Ohio State equal opportunity and nondiscrimination policies.

**Activities and Programs with Minor Participants  
Office of Human Resources – Policy 1.50**

- Perform duties in a responsible and timely manner as outlined in the position description.
- Report any child abuse or neglect in accordance with university policy.
- Self-disclose felony or misdemeanor convictions that occur within three days of pleading guilty or being convicted.

- If I have been background checked and have had a break of service for less than 12 months, I will disclose any convictions that occurred during the break within three business days of commencement of participation in activities and programs with minors. If the break in service is longer than 12 months, I must be background checked again.

- Not intentionally or purposefully place myself in a situation where I am alone with a minor unless authorized by the dean/vice president (or designee). Approved one-on-one interactions may only take place in open, well-illuminated spaces or rooms observable by other adults from the activity or program. If the dean/vice president (or designee) determines that meeting in this manner is not practicable and approves other arrangements, an exemption request form must be submitted following the exemption process outlined in the policy.

- Not, under any circumstances, physically, sexually, verbally, or emotionally abuse or fail to provide the basic necessities of care applicable to the activity/program, such as food or shelter, to participants.
- Endeavor to provide a safe and healthy experience for all participants.

I have read and understand the standards of behavior outlined above. I understand and agree that any act or omission on my part that contradicts any portion of these standards may be grounds for immediate suspension and/or termination of my employee/volunteer status with The Ohio State University.

Employee/volunteer printed name

Date

Employee/volunteer signature

Date

Activity or program director signature

Date

*Please submit this form to activity or program director to retain for their records.*





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# INVOICE

October 15, 2019

**Please pay the 2020 Support Fee by Friday, January 24th.**

2020 Master Gardener Volunteer Support Fee

State dues must be paid to be reactivated in the VMS System.

	Cost Per	Total
2020 State Dues for Active Service in OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program	\$10	\$10
Total		\$10

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE:**

**Ohio State University Extension**

Mahoning County

490 S. Broad Street

Canfield, OH 44406-1604



# DAY OF EDUCATION

Sponsored by Franklin County Master Gardener Volunteers  
& Chadwick Arboretum

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2020**

8:30A.M. – 3:00 P.M. – Registration begins at 7:30 A.M.

Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center (Parking is free in lot across the street)

2201 Fred Taylor Dr

Columbus, OH 43210

Topics include:

- Beneficial Insects: Pollinators & Predators
- Climate Adaptation & Effects on Ohio Landscapes
- Ohio Geo-Regions & Native Plants in Your Landscape
- Gardening in Small Spaces
- Chadwick Arboretum Updates

Registration is \$30, which includes breakfast and lunch.

Register online by January 26 at [go.osu.edu/dayofeducation2020](https://go.osu.edu/dayofeducation2020)

[franklin.osu.edu](https://franklin.osu.edu)



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
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For an accessible format of this publication, visit [cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility](https://cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility).

## New Look for the Newsletter for 2020

Without a chair for the newsletter, it is difficult to get information together, formatted and sent out in a timely manner.

Thus, we will go with a format that is similar to the horticulture newsletter Eric sends out to the public. If you have information to send to MGVs, please put it in this format (examples)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED...for Wreaths for Veterans for 2021. If you are interested in helping with the committee, please call Mike Beaudis at 330-793-2062.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY...is having a great winter seminar on climate change and gardening. If you are interested, please go to: [www.cuyahogamg.org/](http://www.cuyahogamg.org/)

SOME MGVS NEED TO PAY....their 2020 dues. Please call Kathy at 330-533-5538 if you are unsure if you have paid or not.

THE NEXT OCVN MEETING...is Monday, January 27, at 6:30pm at the OSU Extension Office. We will plan out volunteer opportunities for the training this winter and plan the rest of the year.

Please send items for the AGNR  
Newsletter

*to moff.1@osu.edu* , all items intended for  
publication MUST be submitted by the  
20th of each month so we can send it on  
the 1st of the next month.