

## **Welcome to the AGNR Volunteer Newsletter September News, Events and Activities for OCVNs and MGVs**

MESSAGE FROM PAM...Hope everyone is still hanging in there (like we have a choice!) I'm trying to make sure everyone is aware of the zoom classes and how to use them. I've had some questions, so we'll talk about these zoom "things" at our Sept. meeting. We're trying to make things available to our master gardeners to get us through these difficult times.

I've also had questions about VMS so we'll cover hours and the VMS again. With everything going on this year our hours are not a top priority to have to worry about. There are some changes in VMS to allow easier time to collect hours. We're also trying to arrange a class, probably zoom, to explain the VMS system to the class of 2020. I have added you to the system and have passwords for each of you. Remember you have a year to collect hours and they have been reduced. Just save any hours you have on paper and we'll eventually get you into the system. Thanks for being patient as this is new for all of us.

Remember – there is lots of flexibility for volunteer hours in 2020. If you have specific questions, please email Eric.

Hope to see you all at the next mg zoom meeting,  
Pam

### **~ANNOUNCEMENTS~**

GNGP..... Good Natured Garden Partners wrapped up on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. Five teams participated in the Garden Party where they displayed their vegetables from their car. Check out the winners and some pictures at <http://go.osu.edu/GNGP2020>

OCVN TRAINING.... Training concluded June 23<sup>rd</sup> with a very informative presentation from Jenny Richards, ODNR. The recording of the training was sent out to all 2020 class participants. The Final Exam has been made available to the current class. All OCN trainees have received a doodle poll to participate in class update and Q and A session.

OCVN MEETING.... No OCVN meetings planned for the rest of the year.

MGV FINAL PRESENTATIONS... Our 2020 MGV Trainees have been busy working towards the conclusion of their training, either through the development of final presentations or preparation for a final exam. We have multiple trainees who have opted to deliver their final presentation via Zoom, and a schedule is currently being developed. We encourage all current and upcoming MGV's to stay tuned for the final lineup and join as many presentations as you can to extend your support and learn more about our 2020 class.

MGV HOURS...The class of 2020: Your volunteer hours have changed from 50 to 25 to become certified. You and all certified master gardeners may use webinars as volunteer hours. There is a new entry in the VMS system: Covid 19 continuing Ed in place of Service Hours. We'll discuss this more at the meeting, just wanted you aware of the new entry in VMS so you can check it out beforehand.

FOR ALL MGV HOURS FOR 2020...please note there is complete flexibility with your hours. If you have questions, please call or email Eric. We do not expect you to go out if you do not want to. We understand the challenges for all of us!

VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERING...many of you have asked about volunteering virtual, as you are taking care of relatives, or have your own personal reasons for not wanting to be on-site for any volunteer activities. This is fine. We hear you and understand. We continue to work on opportunities to volunteer virtually, such as the observation/scouting project for Spotted Lanternfly. Details of this project will be out soon (as soon as we get the exemption approved). Then, this is a big opportunity for everyone to be out and about while still social distancing to get some additional hours.

Attention Volunteers. . . We need you! We are looking for Volunteers to help teach/present topics virtually. Worried about technology? Don't worry Kristen and Haley will help you! Not sure what to present? Don't worry we help with that too! Please contact KRISTEN via email at [eisenhauer.30@osu.edu](mailto:eisenhauer.30@osu.edu) or call the office at 330-533-5538 to talk to her.

The Valley Grows page returned on Wednesday, June 17, in the Vindy edition of the Tribune Chronicle.

So, we need your help in writing articles to get things moving as we return to this 7+ year project! Here's what you can do:

1. Submit calendar items to Eric – local horticulture/nature/local foods events.
2. Write an article
3. Write a Q&A
4. Provide ideas for the top 2 plugs – These are usually short phrases with a link to more information relating to a topic, and sometimes an event.

If you are a current writer, please send Eric your article ideas. We want to ensure two people are not writing on the same topic.

MGV EDUCATIONAL HOURS. . .Upcoming and recorded Horticultural Lunch and Learns and Happy Hour Webinars from the state are available at: <http://go.osu.edu/MGVlearn>

MGV MINUTES...You can view the minutes of our AUGUST meeting at this link:

<https://u.osu.edu/barrett.90/2020/08/28/mgv-minutes-august-13-2020/>

2020 Census is so important, do not forget to respond <https://2020census.gov/en>

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY. . . MGVS and OCVN's who have been out scouting for Spotted Lanternfly here is the link to the video on how to use the GLEDN App for reporting.

<https://woodlandstewards.osu.edu/resources/webinars>

MYSTERY SEEDS...OSU Extension is collecting the mysterious seed packets that some received in the mail (unsolicited). If you have received these, please drop off at our curbside service door Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday between 8:30am and 4:00pm. We will be sending these to ODA/USDA once we have more information. Current USDA information is leaning towards a brushing scam – sending a product so that a fake on-line review can be published as 'verified purchase' on the internet. But, there could be other issues that we are not aware of at this time.

A BIG THANK YOU AGAIN . . . We would like to THANK the Grounds Committee for sprucing up the outside gardens at the Extension Office.

## ~EVENTS~

ALL OSU PUBLIC EVENTS... have been cancelled due to the pandemic. We will keep you posted as more information becomes available.

MGV CLINIC...training has taken place and the VIRTUAL CLINIC opened on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, the MGV Clinic will run every Thursday

<http://go.osu.edu/virtualclinic>

## ~MEETING CALENDARS~

### 2020 OCVN Meetings

- Nature Round Table – Being Rescheduled
- August 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm – Virtual - Zoom meeting was held
  - AUGUST OCVN MEETING – We had great attendance at over 23! Thanks to all who could attend. It was great to hear all of the updates about what is happening at our centers and park during the pandemic. Eric emphasized the flexibility with hours. Simply put details into the state OCVN system. You can lump together hours for research, planning for the future, etc. We talked about the naturalist series. Sara gave an update on the birding program (unusual birds) that will happen in September. We are planning to do these on zoom through May and will reassess plans for the rest of 2021 come March based on the status of the pandemic at that time. We talked about doing some virtual tours with centers and parks as part of that series. The fourth quarter has no meeting, as we usually have the banquet. Watch your emails for updates.

### 2020 MGV Meetings...

6pm garden talk/socializing. Meeting 6:30pm

- September 10 – MGV Virtual Meeting – Link will be sent
- September 15 - Carol Smith, MGV Trip to Ecuador @ 11:00 am (registration below)
- October 8 – MGV Virtual Meeting
- November 12 – Fellows Christmas tree ornament workshop

### 2020 Events for All...

- **September 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Leaf Casting and Birdbaths
  - Garden Art Series with Pam Baytos
  - Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 3:00 pm
  - Info & Registration: <https://go.osu.edu/moregardenart>
- **September 15<sup>th</sup>** – Ecuador Trip Summary
  - Carol Smith will be talking about her Ecuador Trip
  - Tuesday, September 15th @ 11:00 am
  - <https://go.osu.edu/ecuadortrip>
- **September 21** – Herbal Teas
  - Coffee with the Master Gardeners: Herbal Teas with Carol Smith
  - Monday, September 21 at 10:00 am
  - Info & Registration: <https://go.osu.edu/herbalteas>
- **September 24** – Naturalist Series
  - Backyard Beauties: Attracting Uncommon Birds to their Home Habitat - Judy Semroc
  - Thursday, September 24th @ 6:30 pm
  - Info & Registration <https://go.osu.edu/uncommonbirds>

- **September 29 - Water Gardens and Other Water Features**
  - Water Gardens and Other Water Features – Stephanie Hughes
  - Tuesday, September 29th @ 11:00 am
  - Info & Registration <https://go.osu.edu/watergardens>
- December 3 – AGNR Volunteer Banquet – plan will be announced in October

For a complete listing of OSU Extension programs (Ag, 4-H, FCS, MGV, OCVN):  
<http://go.osu.edu/MahoningCalendar>

If you want an announcement or information in the AGNR Newsletter please e-mail to Lori at [moff.1@osu.edu](mailto:moff.1@osu.edu) by the 23rd of the month.

### **SAVE THE DATES**

2020 Master Gardener State Conference  
 Virtual Only  
 September 11-12, 2020

### **POLLINATOR GARDEN - SALEM**

Pictures below were taken at the Salem Pollinator Garden in Waterworth Memorial Park by Photographer Allison Aubele. Several of our Master Gardeners have been working at this site.





## Schoenberg Garden

John Schoeni from the new MGVC Class shared some pictures from his vegetable garden this year. He raised all his plants from seed this year - and could not part with a plant so he planted them all! He has 75 tomato plants and 125 pepper plants in addition to numerous pumpkins and gourds - in his 6000 sq. ft. patch plus 2 raised bed plots.

