MESSAGE FROM CAROL…Hello Everyone! Happy October!

It is hard to wrap my brain around the fact that summer is gone. Leaving home this morning, the chill left no doubt of the season’s change. In springtime our energy and excitement run high as Master Gardeners and gardeners all over, plan and plant crops, gardens and blossoms. The many hours spent on care, maintenance, weeding, mulching and watering have slowed down and now it’s time to enjoy the fruits of the summers labor and the colorful season of fall.

I had occasion to stop by the extension office a couple times recently. On each occasion I sat in my car a few extra minutes to admire the grounds. What a treat. The mature reds and gold of flowering plants and foliage are beautiful. Job well done to everyone who contributed time and labor to beautify the Extension grounds.

The gradual move from outside activities to indoor hibernation can leave a void and a longing for the greenery of the garden season past. Did you know that there is a cure? Keep reading! There is still a lot to do to fill that void.

Thank you, Kristen, and OSU Extension for providing the free cold weather vegetable seed packets to the community. I’ve never planted seeds this time of year. Now there are containers of turnip greens and beet seeds planted and growing well on my porches. The now micro greens are thriving in the crisp cool morning air.

The Monday morning Vindicator and Tribune Chronicle is a plus. Each week the full color page offers a wealth of information. Many have answered the call to write and submit articles. The wealth of MGV wisdom is on full display with each page published; not to mention the listing of educational opportunities offered. The varied topics offer ways to earn education and volunteer hours.

There are countless and easy ways to earn those hours this year. Pam is busy keeping us updated with educational sessions offered around the state giving us even more ways to earn those hours.

Yes, the season has changed but the opportunities for Mahoning and Columbiana county master gardener personal growth and accomplishment are ever growing and continue to thrive.

Thank you for the good work that comes from each of you! Hope to see you on our next Zoom Meeting!

Have a Great Day!

Carol

~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

MGV SOCIAL CHAT . . . The first MGV Social Chat was held on September 22 and was a huge success. The next MGV Chat will be held at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, October 20th. Come join the Zoom Chat at https://osu.zoom.us/j/94552000473?pwd=eitiWmR3ZzRoaGVyOC9OYnZCdWNUT09 (Meeting ID: 945 5200 0473) (Password: social)

Or phone in at 646 876 9923 (Meeting ID: 945 5200 0473) (Password: 440833)
WREATHS for VETERANS. . . . The 2020 Wreaths for our Veteran’s Ceremony will take place Saturday, December 12th at 10:00 am at the Vaugh Cemetery in Milton Township. This will mark the 14th year the OSU Master Gardener Volunteers have placed wreaths at seven different cemeteries. We will purchase the wreaths with bows attached from Tractor Supply Company. They will store the wreaths at their Austintown site where we can pick up the morning of the ceremony. There is a committee of 15 MGV’s who will distribute the wreaths, but all are welcome to participate.

Mike Beaudis, MGV

OCVN TRAINING…. OCVN Training is complete all Quizzes and Final Exams need to be finished and turned in by October 15th. Please reach out to us if you have any questions.

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

MGV NEW Class . . . Reminder that all quizzes, exams, and background checks need to be finished by October 15th. Please reach out to us if you have any questions.

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…All MGV hours need to be added to VMS by October 31st. Please note there is complete flexibility with your hours. If you need help or have questions putting hours in please reach out to Marilyn McKinley at 330-702-1519 or Pam Baytos at 330-547-2126.

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 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
   a. Here are some topics
      • Birds to watch
      • -What you do with leaves
      • -Putting the garden to bed
      • -Preparing for next year
      • -Houseplants to brighten the challenging winter
      • -Mindfulness in the garden
• Kitchen herb gardens
• Overwintering bulbs

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 or https://mastergardener.osu.edu/resources/webinars

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. . . MGV’s 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

~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 7th from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, the MGV Clinic will run every Thursday
http://go.osu.edu/virtualclinic

~MEETING CALENDARS~

2020 OCVN Meetings –
• No meetings for the remainder of the year.

2020 MGV Meetings…
6pm garden talk/socializing. Meeting 6:30pm
• October 8 – MGV Virtual Meeting
• November 12 – MGV Virtual Meeting

2020 Events for All…

October Classes:
- Soil Amendments
  o Tuesday, October 13th @ 10:00 am
  o To register and more info visit: https://go.osu.edu/soilamendments
- **Naturalist Series: An Overview of Deer Management in Ohio**
  - Monday, October 19th at 6:30pm
  - To register and more info visit: [https://go.osu.edu/deermanagement](https://go.osu.edu/deermanagement)

- **Tomatoes: What Went Right and What Can we do Better Next Year**
  - Wednesday, October 21st @ 3:00 pm
  - To register and more info visit: [https://go.osu.edu/tomatooverview](https://go.osu.edu/tomatooverview)

- **The First Season of the Pollinator Garden at Salem’s Waterworth Park**
  - Wednesday, October 28th @ 3:00 pm
  - To register and more info visit: [https://go.osu.edu/salemgarden](https://go.osu.edu/salemgarden)

November Classes:

- **Naturalist Series: Human and Wildlife: Landscape Change, Wildlife Adaptation, and Human Influence**
  - Monday, November 9th @ 6:30 pm
  - To register and more info visit: [https://go.osu.edu/humanandwildlife](https://go.osu.edu/humanandwildlife)

- **Greenhouse Gardening**
  - Thursday, November 12th @ 3:00 pm
  - To register and more info visit: [https://go.osu.edu/greenhouse](https://go.osu.edu/greenhouse)

- **Exploring a Native American Three Sisters Garden**
  - Wednesday, November 18th @ 11:00 am
  - To register and more info visit: [https://go.osu.edu/threesister](https://go.osu.edu/threesister)

- December 3 – AGNR Volunteer Banquet – Virtual Dessert Together

For a complete and up to date list of events please visit [https://mahoning.osu.edu/events](https://mahoning.osu.edu/events)

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

**SAVE THE DATES**
2020 Master Gardener State Conference
Virtual Only
September 11-12, 2020