

# Welcome to 2021

THOUGHTS FROM CAROL . . . Happy New Year and Welcome January

It's a brand-new year. Turning the calendar page to January is celebratory. I make a ritualistic trip to Barnes & Noble to purchase a fresh new planner, same style but new color each year. This year the clean, crisp pages for 2021 are enclosed within a pale green cover. This process happens every year and helps me provide structure for the year ahead.

January is reset month. A month devoted to defining new goals and review of previous goals. What worked, what did not, what to keep, what to change.

My trusty planner from last year includes highlights of the successes and failures of my garden season. What lived, what did not. What annuals the deer ate and what they did not touch. The first sighting of Mr. Ground Hog peeking out from under my porch was in early March 18th. By June, my wallet showed a growing relationship with the trapper. (This year's planning will include finding someone to dig down and place physical barriers to block that prime real estate under my deck and porch).

In the past I viewed January as depressing. It felt so long, cold, and dark. I looked forward to February 2<sup>nd</sup>, ground hog day, and the visions of springtime that danced in my head.

Since becoming a Master Gardener, January is no longer depressing, but a month of rest and mental preparation. It is now a fun month to plan, dream and visualize spring activity. I get to start planning in that planner what seeds I want to plant and what plants to try and buy.

I am looking forward to this New Year and all that will unfold.

I am looking forward to our upcoming ZOOM meeting as we begin to plan for our season too.

Stay safe and well everyone. See you soon! CAROL

## ~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

OCVN MEETING.... February 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm Planning meeting for 2021

OCVN NEW TRAINING CLASS .... 2021 TBD

MGV MEETING . . . January 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm

MGV NEW TRAINING CLASS . . . 2021 TBD

MGV TRAINEE HOURS...The class of 2020: Your volunteer hours have changed from 50 to 25 to become certified. You may use webinars as volunteer hours. There is a new entry in the VMS system: Covid 19 continuing Ed in place of Service Hours.

FOR ALL MGV HOURS FOR 2021...All MGV's continue putting your hours into VMS until further notice.

A NEW, BETTER BED BUG FACTSHEET...is now available on Ohioline at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/hyg-2105> This continues to be a big issue in Ohio. We get lots of questions. Share to help explain identification and control with our clientele.

NEW FLOOR & UPGRADES IN BACK ROOM...at the Extension Office is underway. These updates to our newly reclaimed office space will be great for meetings and programs in 2021 and beyond. (This is the old space where the drivers exam was housed.) If you are interested in supporting this effort, you can give online at <http://go.osu.edu/givemahoning>

VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERING...possibilities include

1. Attending the monthly Master Gardener meetings via Zoom
2. Participate in our Zoom programs, they are listed below under EVENTS
3. Writing for the Valley Grows column in the Vindicator, please remember to send Eric your article ideas. We want to ensure two people are not writing on the same topic.
4. 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.
5. 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...

November Minutes - <https://u.osu.edu/barrett.90/2020/11/30/mgv-minutes-november-2020/>

October Minutes - <https://u.osu.edu/barrett.90/2021/01/08/mgv-minutes-october-2020/>

September Minutes - <https://u.osu.edu/barrett.90/2020/11/30/mgv-minutes-september-10-2020/>

MGV Committees. . . an email will be coming out shortly explaining each committee and providing you the opportunity to sign up for a committee of your choice.

WE ARE MONITORING...the changing landscape of the pandemic to determine when we might be able to get back to in person programming. At this time, we do not have an update beyond our office being open for curbside again on Tuesday, January 19. We expect zoom to be our meeting and event location until June-ish. Yes, that is like Blursday. Even after that, we will continue to offer zoom options until we get back to some sort of normalcy. Hang in there. Join zoom meetings for some social time. Call other volunteers to chat about nature/gardening. Learn something new you can share with others in the future. Thanks for all you do!

## ~MEETING CALENDARS~

### 2021 OCVN Meetings –

- February 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm, planning meeting for 2021

### 2021 MGV Meetings...

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

- January 14<sup>th</sup>
- February 11<sup>th</sup>
- March 11<sup>th</sup>
- April 8<sup>th</sup>
- May 13<sup>th</sup>
- June 10<sup>th</sup>
- July 8<sup>th</sup>
- August 12<sup>th</sup>
- September 9<sup>th</sup>
- October 14<sup>th</sup>
- November 4<sup>th</sup>
- December 9<sup>th</sup>

### 2021 Events for All...

#### Mahoning County Programs

- **January Classes:**
  - ***The Dirt on Achieving Gardening Success in 2021***
    - Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/gardeningsuccess>
  - ***Naturalist Series: Weird Things Bugs Do!***
    - Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/weirdbugs>
  - ***Nature- The Free Stress Reliever: 1***
    - Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/stressreliever1>
- **February Classes:**
  - ***Nature- The Free Stress Reliever: 2***
    - Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/stressreliever2>
  - ***Skulls Tell it All – Ohio Mammals***
    - Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/skulls>
  - ***Naturalist Series: How do Animals Survive the Cold***
    - Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/survivethecold>
  - ***Natural Calendar – Growing Degree Days***
    - Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/naturalcalendar>
- **March Classes:**
  - ***Naturalist Series: Tree Communications***
    - Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/treecommunication>

For a complete and up to date list of events please visit <https://mahoning.osu.edu/events>

## Statewide Programs

- **Living Landscape Series**

All sessions are free via Zoom, but preregistration is required. Find registration links and detailed program descriptions here: <https://u.osu.edu/certify/living-landscape-speaker-series/>

- January 15th@10am
  - **Doug Tallamy: Restoring Nature's Relationships at Home**
- January 22nd@1pm
  - **Marne Titchenell: Enhancing Your Landscape for Birds and Other Wildlife**
- January 29th@10am
  - **Debra Knapke: Eco-Conscious Gardening: From Concept to Design**
- February 6th 10am – 12:00pm
  - **Rick Darke: Dynamic Design and The Art of Observation**

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.

Wreaths for Veterans took place on December 12th

