

# Welcome to 2022

THOUGHTS FROM Robert Eister . . .February 2022

Dear fellow OSU Master Gardener members,

We are welcoming a new class of Trainees interested in becoming Master Gardener Volunteers this month. I want to encourage you to get to know them and become a mentor for them. We all should remember how overwhelmed we were when presented with that great big manual. We will focus on using technology to continue to expand our program. After much discussion a decision was made to continue to have video recordings for Continuing Education (CE) part of the meeting. We will devote the first hour after the meeting opening to build knowledge and support our CE requirements. This will allow outside speakers to share their knowledge and then go home. Programs will vary to provide classes to increase our knowledge and skills. The committee reports and discussion part of the meeting will not be available as a video recording. You will need to read the meeting minutes normally attached to this newsletter to determine what was discussed and decided during the MGV meeting.

The Executive Team has met and are making plans for events. We desire to increase our participation and impact with the community. We continue to seek out new projects.

Ask yourself what is your primary interest or specialty? How much of your experience and knowledge are you willing to share with others? We all have lessons we have learned that need to be passed along to others. What is your success story?

Hoping you all stay warm and healthy through this winter.

Bob Eister

President

## **Please remember our requirements to be an active member are:**

### **OBTAINING VOLUNTEER HOURS:**

20 documented volunteer hours are required annually to maintain active status. Approved volunteer hours must be MGV related and may include:

- 2 hours must come from Backyard and Local Food events
- 2 hours must come from Environmental Horticulture events
- Approved projects to obtain volunteer hours are committee driven
- If you desire to volunteer for a project not committee driven, you must submit your request in writing for approval from an OSU Educator at the beginning of the year
- Attending monthly meetings will equal one volunteer hour (and one education hour – see below)
- Refer to the committee list and description
- You may NOT record any hours you are paid for

## OBTAINING CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS:

10 documented education hours are required annually to maintain active status. Approved continuing education hours must be MGV related and may include:

- 2 hours must be from integrated pest management classes or presentations
- 2 hours must be from invasive species classes or presentations
- Attending monthly MGV meeting – where a speaker presents a program
- Attend a MGV sponsored field trip with a specialist tour guide

## ~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

2022 Certification for MGVs...The beginning of the year means we need to complete our annual processes for active MGV participation. This includes:

- Dues - \$10.00 – Send check to office, drop off at office, bring to meeting
- Sign up for a committee in 2022
- Remember to maintain active certification for MGV's you need **20 volunteer hours** and **10 education hours** yearly (November 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022).

## COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

We continue to monitor the ongoing pandemic and the effect it has on the health and wellness of our staff and volunteers. At this time, we continue to have air cleaners in our meeting rooms and offices, sanitize on a regular basis, and enforce social distancing at meetings and events. We may institute a mask mandate and other protocols at any time as we see cases increase. Please watch your email and/or text messages for any updates or changes to meeting or event plans.

\*\*\*\*If you do not get text messages from Kristen as a reminder, please call/email her with your cell number to be put into the system.

MGV & OCVN NEW TRAINING CLASSES .... began on February 1, 2022. The detailed agenda for speakers and session topics will be posted soon. Current MGV volunteers and OCVN alumni can attend classes in their respective areas to learn more about a specific topic. Please let us know if you plan to be here for any of the sessions, as space is limited.

FOR ALL MGV HOURS FOR 2021...All MGV's continue putting your hours into Hands on Connect. We will work on setting up quarterly times for you to be able to come into the office for computer resources and help.

OCVN HOURS...please continue to contact Ann Baird at [baird.41@osu.edu](mailto:baird.41@osu.edu) with any questions about the system or inputting hours. OCVN hours are managed by the state.

## ~OPPORTUNITY~

- Diana Mullins from the Flower Show during the Canfield Fair is looking for someone to work with her during the Fair – if interested contact the office for her information.

## ~SPEAKERS NEEDED~ . . .

- Group - St. Michael's Garden Club
  - Contact – Mrs Rehlinger 330-533-5393 or 330-881-1625
  - Date – September 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm for an hour
  - Topic – Any Garden Topic

- Group – Gardeners of Greater Youngstown
  - Contact – Clare Neff [clare\\_neff@me.com](mailto:clare_neff@me.com)
  - Date – February and March
  - Topic – Indoor Plant Care and Garden Prep

## ~ MGv MINUTES ~

January Minutes - <https://u.osu.edu/barrett.90/2022/02/02/mgv-minutes-janaury-2022/>

## ~MEETING CALENDARS~

### 2022 MGv Meetings...

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

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

### 2022 Events for All...

#### Mahoning County Programs

- **February Classes:**
  - Pond Management Workshop
    - Do you have a farm pond or a pond on your property? Then this is the class for you! We will discuss pond management basics, and will have experts Pete Conkle and Blaine Winger, SWCD, available to answer your questions.
    - Date: Thursday, February 10 | 6:30 p.m.
    - Location: Columbiana County Extension Office
    - Cost: \$10 per person
    - Speakers: Pete Conkle and Blaine Winger, NRCS/SWCD
    - For more information: <https://go.osu.edu/pondmgmt22>
  - Naturalist Series: The Return of River Otter to Ohio
    - Date: Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>
    - Time: 6:30 pm
    - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/ohiootters>
  - Horse Hay Management Workshop: "Hay is for Horses"
    - Date: Thursday, February 17 | 6:30 p.m.
    - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
    - Cost: \$10 per person
    - Speaker: Clif Little, OSU Extension Educator
    - For more information: <https://go.osu.edu/horsehay22>

- Ag Policy and Legislative Update
  - Date: Thursday, February 24 | 6:30 p.m.
  - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
  - Cost: \$10 per person
  - Speakers: Jill Ritchie, Farm Service Agency; Jenna Reese, Ohio Farm Bureau Director of State Policy
  - For more information: <https://go.osu.edu/agupdate22>

- **March Classes:**

- Naturalist Series: Beautiful & Bouncing Back: The Return of the Bald Eagle
  - Date: March 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Time: 6:30 pm
  - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/bladeagles>

For a complete and up to date list of events please visit <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](mailto:moff.1@osu.edu) by the 23rd of the month. We welcome articles about you – and your fellow MGVs! It is great to learn even more about our friends and colleagues.

**Enjoy planning your GARDENS!!**