

**Welcome to the Master Gardener Volunteer Newsletter:
News, Events, and Activities for MGVs**

January 2024

January 1, 2024

I'M BACK!!!!

I am looking forward to 2024. Starting with scheduling an executive board meeting to see if there is anything we need to address and brainstorm new ideas for the upcoming year.

Eric and I agreed that we are a well-oiled machine with a dash of herding cats thrown in! As a coordinator and talking to other counties I am proud to say our MGs outshine many with our programs and level of volunteering, so keep up the good work.

We have a good balance of fulfilling our MG job of providing consumer horticulture information and educational programs and services to the public with some time to shake off our teacher side and allow us to have some fun activities.

Hope to see you all at our banquet where we can enjoy each other's company and welcome our 2023 interns who will become certified master gardeners to our crazy family.

Pam



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

5- Eileen Novotny

9- Pam Baytos

11- Paula Kohler

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Please fill out the MGV 2024 survey to give us feedback on our MGV program:
<https://go.osu.edu/mgvsurvey2024>
- ❖ 2024 Class planning is in progress, we are looking for volunteers to teach Garden Art, Morning with the Masters, and during the monthly MGV meetings. Please let Kristen know if you are interested or fill out the two-question survey at <https://go.osu.edu/mgvteachinginterest>.
- ❖ Columbiana County Plant and Pest Clinic needs volunteers for the 2024 season. The clinic is open April-October on Wednesdays from 12-3p. Contact Pinky with any questions at 330-227-9918.
- ❖ Cookies needed for MGV Open House on January 16 and can brought in the day of.
- ❖ MGV Dues of \$10 are due by January 31st. This is a state-required payment for all members.
- ❖ Recertification should be completed by January 15, 2024. If you need assistance, please call the office.

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 for which you are paid.

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 meetings – where a speaker presents a program.
- Attend an MGV-sponsored field trip with a specialist tour guide.

MGV Intern Hours

The class of 2023 has until **April 30, 2024**, to complete 50 volunteer hours and enter into Hands on Connect. Only after the completion of your 50 volunteer hours will you be considered an Active Master Gardener. Please let Kristen know if you have any questions.

Continuing Education Links (Thanks Karen and Pam)

- The Ohio State University IPM program
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzcWaLH3mx7HUKh4OF7bYPA>
- OSU Invasives
<https://beht.osu.edu/video-categories/invasive-trainings>
- Hort Happy Hour and Lunch and Learn Webinars and recordings.
<http://go.osu.edu/MGVlearn>

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested, please contact the office (330-533-5538)

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- Columbiana County Plant and Pest Clinic needs volunteers for the 2024 season. The clinic is open April-October on Wednesdays from 12-3p. Contact Pinky with any questions at 330-227-9918.

MGV MINUTES

December minutes: <https://go.osu.edu/mgvminutes12-14>

MEETING CALENDARS

2024 Meetings: Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at the Mahoning Extension Office, 6 pm garden talk/socializing and meeting at 6:30 pm.

- January 11, 2024 – MGV Recognition Banquet
- February 8th
- March 14th
- April 11th
- May 9th
- June 13th
- July 11th
- August 8th
- September 12th
- October 10th
- November 14th
- December 12th

2024 Events for All Mahoning County Programs

Upcoming Classes:

Naturalist Series:

You Otter Know - Joseph Ferrara, ODNR Division of Wildlife

- Wednesday, February 21st, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/otters02-21>

Skulls Tell It All - Stephanie Hughes, Master Gardener Volunteer and Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist

- Wednesday, March 20th, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/skulls03-20>

Update on Ticks in Ohio - Tim McDermott, Extension Assistant Professor, Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Wednesday, April 17th, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/ticks04-17>

Common Northeast Ohio Birds – Jason Short, Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist

- Wednesday, May 29th, 6:30pm

- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/ohiobirds05-29>

What You Didn't Learn Watching Batman - Marne Titchenell, OSU Program Director, Wildlife

- Wednesday, June 26th, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/bats06-26>

The Magic of Native Plants - Jen White, Portage Parks

- Wednesday, July 17th, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/nativeplants07-17>

Ohio's Native Trees and the Roles They Play - Kathy Smith, OSU Program Director, Forestry

- Wednesday, August 21st, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/trees08-21>

Superheroes of the Bug World - Ashley Kulhanek, OSU Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Wednesday, September 18th, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/beneficialinsects09-18>

Mahoning County Rocks - Diana Alexander, Geologist and YSU Adjunct Faculty, Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geology, & Environmental Sciences (PAGES).

- Wednesday, October 16th, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/rocks10-16>

Weather, Climate, and Climate Change Impacts on the Environment- Aaron Wilson, State Climatologist of Ohio; Assistant Professor - Ag Weather and Climate Field Specialist, Department of Extension

- Wednesday, November 20th, 6:30pm
- Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH
- Questions: 330-533-5538
- Details: <https://go.osu.edu/climate11-20>

Please share!

Master Gardener Volunteer Open House

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 – 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Join us for a drop-in meet and greet with the Mahoning and Columbiana County Master Gardeners to learn how you can become an MGV and share your enthusiasm for gardening with others. Door prizes, refreshments, and open conversation with current Master Gardener Volunteers.

Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH

Details & Reservations: Call 330-533-5538 (Reservations preferred in case of changes, Walk-Ins Welcome)

Master Gardener Volunteer Training

Starts February 20th.

This 12-week course covers everything from fruit to perennials and soils to herbs. Join us to learn all about gardening and our volunteer program that supports horticulture throughout Mahoning and Columbiana Counties.

Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH

Details & Application: <https://go.osu.edu/joinmgv> All applications are due to the Mahoning County Office by **Friday, January 19, 2024.**

Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Training

Starts February 20th.

This 12-week course covers everything nature! Geology, soils, mammals, reptiles, forestry, entomology, ornithology, mammals, and more will be the focus of this certificate course. Participants will hear from local experts and interact with nature. Course is eight Tuesday evenings and four Saturdays.

Location: OSU Extension Office, 490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH – PLUS 4 on-site locations at nature centers and parks

Details & Application: <https://go.osu.edu/joinocvn> All applications are due to the Mahoning County Office by **Friday, January 5, 2024.**

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

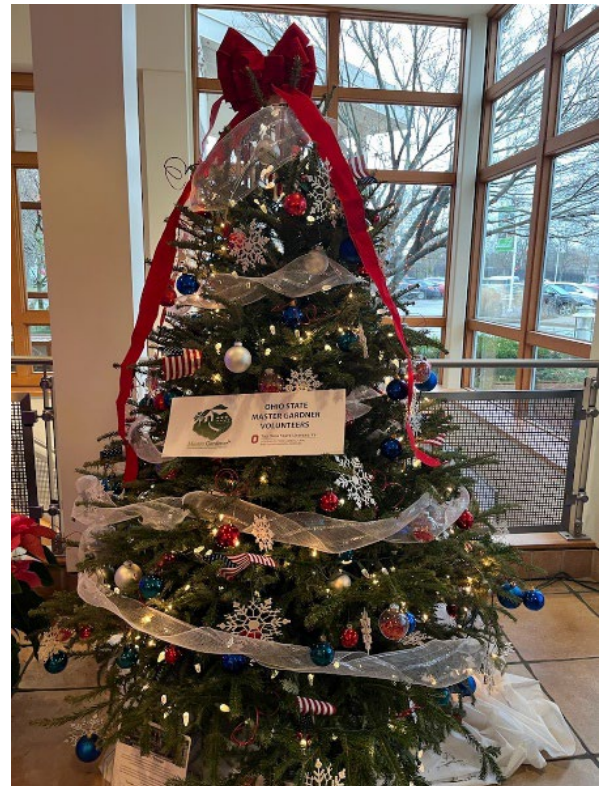
Wreaths for Our Veterans 2023 Thank you for keeping this important event going strong.





Thank you to everyone who helped with our beautiful tree at Fellows Riverside Garden. Great job MGVs!

Happy Holidays!



If you want an announcement or information in the MGV Newsletter, please e-mail Candace at Buonavolonta.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.