

Flora and Fauna

The Mahoning County ANR Volunteer Newsletter
Ohio State University Extension – Mahoning County
490 South Broad Street
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-5538
<http://mahoning.osu.edu>



August 2016

Volume 15 Issue 8

Marilyn's Musings

Rambling Thoughts

Seems like only yesterday I was dreaming of spring! Now it's August already. It's been a summer of some frustration for me. Flowers have been gorgeous, I have, and am still, enjoying the magnificent colors and textures, but... Having to water so much, so often has been a real chore. I just cannot keep up with the needs of all my pretties. However, the weeds continue to flourish! I was sidelined for a while with a flare of aching joints, came down with a fairly light case of shingles that really zapped my energy, not to mention how crummy hot weather makes me feel. It wears me out! I know I am complaining, but I know so many of you share my frustrations. It's this 'maturity' that does this to most of us.



I am taking a long hard look at my yard. Where can I reduce the workload? How can I make this less of a chore and more enjoyable? I thought perennials were the answer. They are, but I need more carefree flora! By the way, any suggestions and ideas are certainly welcome!

Why is it when you have the energy you don't have the time, experience, or finances to devote to the things you love. Gee, I guess you do, it's called raising a family for most of us. That's just how life works!

Bill, David, Pam and I ventured out on a field trip to Hiram College's Field Station, just outside of Garrettsville recently. Our mission was to view a phenology garden, in search of ideas for



our new phenology garden at the OSU Extension office. What we got was that and so much more. What a hidden treasure we found. This nature center, for lack of a better term, is just amazing.



Natives, plants for pollinators, wild animal rehab, trails, ponds, research, wildlife, classes, displays, education, etc. are among the attractions. Put this place on your 'visit' list. Address: 11305 Wheeler Rd., Garrettsville, OH – 330-527-2141. Garrettsville is a charming little town, filled with places to eat and quint little shops.

Three years ago I was introduced to a gem, a flower gardeners dream. It's the Perennial Post, located in Middlefield, OH. The address: 7751 St. Rt. 534. (FYI: there is a detour on 534). If you are a perennial fan, put this place on your 'must visit' list. This is a garden like no other. The owner, Clara, is a friendly, petite Amish lady who really knows her perennials. She has been in business 18 years and is an official garden on the American Daylily Society Display Gardens list. She specializes in daylilies and hostas, but has a nice variety of other perennials. She carries a wide selection of potted perennials, but the main attraction here is most of the perennials are in the ground.

When you arrive you are given a list of day lilies (approx. 700 and hostas – hundreds of varieties), their location in the field and the price. As you wonder down the rows you check off what you want, present the list to Clara and she digs it for you. She is very generous with her plants. The prices are right! At the end of the blooming year you are likely to get a two for one. Her front yard is gorgeous; you walk around behind the house and do a wow! What is before you is a field of color, amazing! It takes some time to take it all in. So if you go plan to stay a while. She is open April – Sept. on Friday, Saturday, and Mon. only. Her hours can vary, but 9 – 5 is a good bet. Remember, she is Amish, so no phone, no e-mail, no website, just go. She gives classes; sign up for her newsletter, via snail mail. If you spot a

perennial that you like but is not the right time for digging, Clara will tell you to come back at a better time. If you go out for a visit venture on up the road a ways to the general store in Mesopotamia. It's an old time store; you can have lunch there. Don't pass up the salt-water taffy.

Before the summer slips away, I encourage you to go visit any botanical garden, go to Mill Creek, go to Hippleys in Columbiana, go see a fellow MG/OCVN's garden, take the tour of Metro Farms, visit a garden center you have never been to before, take a ride out in the country, soak up the memories, take in as much as you can! Before long autumn will be upon us and you know what comes after that. I love the changing of the seasons, but have to admit; green is probably my favorite color...even if it's brown as in most lawns these days.

BOTO is our next event. If you haven't done so already, get your plants ready – now. This year we offer something different. In addition to the BOTO of plants and garden stuff we are going to offer some garden art for sale. A few of us have been making some pretty cool, stuff. If you are looking for some whimsy for your gardens, we have something for you and for the public. Prices will be reasonable; so don't forget to bring some cash. If you are interested in contributing to making some garden crafts please contact Pam or Marilyn. We are wrapping up our crafty sessions but if you have a really neat and inexpensive craft idea let us know. For the most part we are making use of craft items we had tucked away boxes or in our garage. It's all about being cheap, creative – and having fun!

The Canfield Fair will be here before we know it. We need everyone's

participation! Even if you just stop by to help answer questions, or greet visitors, or show your support by attending one of the talks MGVs / OCVNs are giving. How about entering a flower or vegetable for judging? The fair is a chance for us to present ourselves to our community. We all know what wonderful services The Ohio State Extension provides; too many do not. Help spread the word.

Our INTERNS. The amazing class of 2016 continues to shine. Some have already surpassed the 50 volunteer hours of their internship. They are an active bunch and we are so very fortunate that they are joining our ranks.

This newsletter is only as good as MGVs /OCVNs are willing to make it. PLEASE consider writing articles of your choice. Share your expertise, experience, thoughts, and suggestions. Share a cartoon, a garden quote, an article about your favorite animal, veggie, flower, etc. Articles should be submitted via e-mail to me or to Bill before the first day of the month. We look forward to hearing from you.

Marilyn McKinley
OSUE MGv and OCVN

August MGv Meeting

Our next MGv meeting will be held on Thursday, August 11th at 6:30 pm at Eric's home (325 Deer Trail Avenue, Canfield).



This will be our 2016 Canfield Fair planning meeting. Eric suggests that we park at the CH Campbell Elementary School (4 doors down) and walk or car pool to his house. Eric asks volunteers to bring snacks, "things that can be eaten with hands and on napkins."

August OCVN Meeting

Because our Canfield Fair displays are so closely related, OCVNs are invited and encouraged to attend the fair planning meeting at Eric's home on **Thursday, August 11th at 6:30 pm** as described above.

September MGv Meeting

Pam has graciously set up Kim Lewis from the Mahoning County Green Team to do the composting program for our September meeting.

As part of the meeting, each participant will receive a compost bin for just \$10! (This is a \$40 value!!)

In order to do this, the Green Team needs you to complete a registration form and make the check payable to them. The flyer/registration form and details are located at: <http://go.osu.edu/compostmeeting>

The program flyer is also attached to this newsletter.

If you are NOT a resident of Mahoning County, the cost is \$40 for the compost bin. We need registrations by Friday, August 19, to give Kim the needed time to get the materials together.

July MGv Meeting

Our July meeting featured our first MGv Flower Show. It was a fun event with

people's choice-like judging. It was an enjoyable and well-attended meeting with many spectacular entries.



July Diagnostic Workshop

The diagnostic workshop morning session focused on the top pest problems observed in 2015 as well as an update on invasive insects and diseases such as *Impatiens* downy mildew, and boxwood blight and more. In the afternoon, MGVs were given the opportunity to practice identification and diagnostic skills. There were hands-on samples giving us an opportunity to practice the diagnostic process.



Instructors included Nancy Taylor and Erik Draper.

MGV Class of 2016 In Their Own Words

Marilee Pikington

I was born and raised in Lowellville, OH, into a very large Italian family. We always had a large vegetable garden where my dad grew tomatoes and many other vegetables. It was always a spring

ritual to prepare the garden, then plant and weed the vegetables, then reap and can them. My brothers, I had four of them, usually helped my dad with the garden and I helped mom can all those tomatoes.



After my family moved to another home in Lowellville, we had a lawn and landscaping instead of a garden. My dad took his gardening skills to Cleveland, OH where he was in charge of the summer gardening project for the Cleveland Public Schools for many years.

After I married my husband, Tom Pilkington, I lived in Michigan, New York, and Missouri. I loved sparking my home's curb appeal with colorful annuals. It always felt good to see all those flowers grow and grow because I planted them and took care of them.

In 2001, I retired and Tom and I moved back to Lowellville. I began to realize it was a better idea to plant more perennials, so I did. Love those hostas. But, I still love to use colorful annuals for their showiness. I have also dabbled in growing herbs, container vegetables, and hanging plants.

My brothers, who still live in Lowellville, keep me supplied with a wonderful array of vegetables because they kept up my dad's love of the big home vegetable garden.

Because I am a person who loves to keep learning, my brother, John Perry, and I decided it would be a great experience to become Master Gardener Volunteers. This program did not disappoint. I have learned so much from the class and from other Master Gardeners. I hope I can take all this knowledge and help others learn the joy of growing and reaping the gifts from the soil.

Marilee Pikinton
MGV Intern

MGV Class of 2016 In Their Own Words

John Perry

I was born and raised in Lowellville, OH into a large Italian family. We were taught at an early age that we were required to help my dad in our large garden that he planted every year. Every house on the south side of Lowellville had a large vegetable garden, and it was a point of pride for those who harvested the first ripe tomato.



When I married my wife, Michele Millilo, we purchased 2.5 acres on the north side of Lowellville where we made our home. Following my dad's legacy and with the help of my twin brother, Jim, I planted my own large vegetable garden, a very large vegetable garden. In the early years of the garden we planted 100 tomato plants, 1500 pepper plants (all varieties), 5 beds of garlic, as well as eggplant, cukes, lettuce, zucchini, potatoes, spices, pumpkins, an asparagus bed, and a small apple orchard.

I took great pleasure in growing all of these vegetables and even greater pleasure in the fact I gave most of it to my friends, neighbors, and to those in need.

Now that I have retired and am much older, my garden has shrunk in size. Since I now have the time, I joined the OSU Master Gardeners Volunteers with my sister Marilee Pilkington. I have not been disappointed in how much I have learned. I knew a lot coming in but this program and the people I have met opened my eyes to how much more there is to learn. My sister and I especially like working in the plant clinic. It is rewarding to be able to help others

by answering their questions.

My father and late brother, Jim, would be very happy to be in the program with me. My brothers, Dom and Joe have acknowledged me by asking for my advice, hopefully I have the right answers.

John Perry
MGV Intern

Notice: 2016 Recognition Banquet

The 2016 ANR Volunteer Recognition Banquet will be held on Wednesday, November 30th at A La Cart Catering (429 Lisbon Street, Canfield). We will begin promptly at 6:00 pm. Banquet details will be forthcoming. -M.M.

Upcoming Events

August and September **Events at the Huston – Brumbaugh Nature Center** can be found in the Summer 2016 newsletter at <http://go.osu.edu/HB-Sum16>

August **Events at the Mill Creek Metroparks** can be found at <http://www.millcreekmetroparks.org/events/2016-08/>

August 8 and 15 - **Our Urban Farm & Gardens**, Summer Tour Series called "**Local Flavor**" continues throughout the summer. Join us on a site visit to ask questions and learn about growing vegetables. You'll get personal answers and gain new skills through hands-on demonstrations. Details: <http://go.osu.edu/localflavor2016> or call 330-533-3338 Cost: FREE! The program flyer can be found attached to this newsletter.

August 9 - **Pollinator Certification**, This program will feature Denise Ellsworth and will be held at the OSU Extension Office in Canfield. Come learn about native Ohio pollinators, their importance to our natural areas and your yard/farm! To register, visit <http://go.osu.edu/pollinatorclass> The program flyer can be found attached to this newsletter.

August 10 - **Preserving The Harvest - Canning Basics**, Home Canning & Food Safety Series, OSU Extension – Mahoning County office, Wednesday, 10 - 11:30

am. Join Beth Stefura to learn about the best and most safe methods for canning the fruits of your labor this summer. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Contact: 330-533-5538. Details: <http://go.osu.edu/canning2016> The program flyer can be found attached to this newsletter.

September Events at the Mill Creek Metroparks can be found at <http://www.millcreekmetroparks.org/events/2016-09/>

August 17 – **Propagation**, Agriculture and Family Center (520 W. Main St., Cortland), Wednesday, 6 pm. Part of the Trumbull County Master Gardeners 2016 Free Garden Programs.

August 20 – **Bring One Take One (BOTO) Flower and Seed Exchange**, Canfield Fairgrounds, Saturday, 10 am – 11:30 am. For additional details visit <http://go.osu.edu/2016exchange> The program flyer can be found attached to this newsletter.

August 20 - **Our Garden Art Sale**, Saturday, 10 – 11:30 am. A sale will be held in conjunction with the plant exchange at the pumpkin building at the Canfield Fairgrounds. Handmade hypertufas, concrete accents for your garden, whimsical and colorful items will highlight the selection! Check out our <http://go.osu.edu/gardenartsale> The program flyer can be found attached to this newsletter.

August 31 – **Grasses**, Agriculture and Family Center (520 W. Main St., Cortland), Wednesday, 6 pm. Part of the Trumbull County Master Gardeners 2016 Free Garden Programs.

September 10 – **Putting the Garden to Bed**, 4-H Building, Lake County Fairgrounds, Saturday, 10 am. Part of the Lake County MGVS' Meet Us in the Garden discussion and interactive demonstration series. Free Event, but registration required. Phone 440-350-2206 or email MGAdmin@lakecountyohio.gov

September 16 & 17 - **2016 Ohio MGVS State MGVS Conference**, Cuyahoga Falls, Friday and Saturday. The "Cultivating Passion" conference will feature two keynote speakers: Michael Dirr, author of "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants", will present "In Praise of Noble Trees" and "Flowering and

Evergreen Shrubs: An Alphabet Soup." Doug Tallamy, author of "Bringing Nature Home," will present "Treasures Among our Natives." Visit <http://u.osu.edu/mgv2016/> for more information.

September 21 - **Preserving The Harvest – Dehydrating Fruits and Vegetables**, Home Canning & Food Safety Series, OSU Extension – Mahoning County office, Wednesday, 10 - 11:30 am. Join Beth Stefura to learn about the best and most safe methods for canning the fruits of your labor this summer. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Contact: 330-533-5538. Details: <http://go.osu.edu/canning2016> The program flyer can be found attached to this newsletter.



Beauty from the Baytos Backyard

MGV 2016 Meeting Schedule

August 11 - A Home Garden Tour to be held at Eric's where we will also hold our Fair Planning meeting. 6:30 pm.

September 8 – *Green Team Composting Class*, OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

October 13 - TBA

November 10 - We will work on the Fellows Christmas Tree decorations OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

November 30 - *Annual Recognition Banquet*, A La Carte, 6:00 pm.

OCVN 2016 Meeting Schedule

August 11 – *Fair Preparation at Eric's* (see **MGV 2016 Meeting Schedule**). 6:30 pm.

September 21 – *Beaver Township Nature Preserve Field Trip*, Scott Conway

October 19 – *Amphibians*, Gregory Lipps

November 16 – *Deer*, Marne Titchenell

November 30 - *Annual Recognition Banquet*, A La Carte, 6:00 pm.

CFAES provides research and related education programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: <http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity>

Local Flavor

Growing Local Foods: Urban Farms & Gardens Summer Tour Series Mondays at 6pm, Youngstown, Ohio

June 13	Iron Roots Urban Farm	Park at: 822 Billingsgate Ave
June 20	Mineral Springs Community Garden	723 Mineral Springs Ave (near Glenwood)
June 27	Fairgreen Neighborhood Garden	230 Fairgreen Ave (on corner)
July 11	St. Pat's Community Garden-	1420 Oak Hill Ave
July 18	Jubilee Garden	150 Lafayette
July 25	Hope for Newport Community Garden	420 Clearmount
Aug. 1	Pointview Children & Families Garden	1903 S. Heights Ave SE Corner of Sheridan and S. Heights
Aug. 8	Youngstown Inner City Garden Youngstown Food Forest & Steel Valley Vineyard	3411 Idlewood Ave
Aug. 15	Flying High Urban Farm & GROW	100 Broadway Enter Broadway & Bryson, drive to end

Join OSU Extension staff and trained Master Gardener Volunteers this summer to learn about growing practices, helpful tips, soils, organics and more. Bring a lawn chair for seating and a notepad. Don't forget your weeds, disease and insects—we'll diagnose what's going on in your own garden.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

OSU Extension, Mahoning County
QUESTIONS? OSU Extension 330-533-5538 or
<http://mahoning.osu.edu>

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Pollinators Workshop & Certification

August 9, 2016
7-9pm

Are you Gardening (and Farming) for Pollinators?

We depend on pollinators for much of what we eat and drink. Pollinators are essential for more than just the food they help provide. Pollinating animals play a vital role in native plant reproduction. They ensure food sources (think seeds, fruit) for wildlife and are vital members of the food web. Pollinators are essential to ecological health.

Everyone plays a vital role in the development and conservation of habitat that benefits pollinators, including bees, birds and butterflies. This session will focus on the practical steps gardeners and urban farmers can take to create or enhance habitat, including plant selection and simple design elements. Participants will receive pollinator certification.



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Registration required. Mail in registrations preferred. Call ins accepted 330-533-5538
The \$20 registration fee (pay to OSU Extension) includes handouts and certificate.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Detach registration and return with \$20 check.

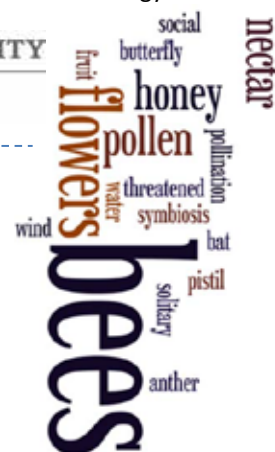
Make check payable to OSU Extension Mahoning County and mail to:
OSU Extension Mahoning County, 490 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH 44406



Featured
Presenter:

Denise Ellsworth

Honey Bee &
Native Pollinator
Program Director
OSU Department of
Entomology



mahoning.osu.edu

BRING ONE...TAKE ONE

FLOWER AND SEED EXCHANGE



August 20, 2016
10:00 am - 11:30 am
Canfield Fairgrounds
(next to Pumpkin Bldg)

Bring plants @ 10:00 am for ID and to view selection
Exchange starts promptly @ 11:00 am

Bring plants, seeds, or bulbs to share...

Label each plant so the new owner will know the name, planting instructions, color, bloom, seasons, ect. Houseplants are welcome! Rules on back.

Containers, Tools, and Garden Art Exchange...

If you have extra shovels, gardening tools, aprons, pots, unopened soil & fertilizer and garden decorations, bring them along and see what you can exchange them for! These items must be in good condition, clean, and useable.

Name that Plant!

Master Gardener Volunteers and staff will help you with plant ID and labeling. We'll get you the common and botanical name. No invasive plants permitted.

Bring your Gardening Questions

Have your gardening questions answered by Master Gardener Volunteers at the event.



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OSU Extension - Mahoning County
Master Gardener Volunteer Program
490 S. Broad Street | Canfield, OH 44406 |
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For more information: <http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity>

RULES FOR EXCHANGE:

1. Each person bringing an item will be asked to obtain one plant, bulb, or seed package at the ringing of the bell;
2. If additional items remain, each person will be asked to obtain a second item at the next ringing of the bell;
3. If additional items still remain, each person will be asked to obtain a third item at the next ringing of the bell;
4. And so on until all items have been distributed fairly.

Come enjoy the morning with fellow gardeners
in and around the Mahoning Valley!

PLANT TIP: Transplant perennials in early spring just after growth starts or in early September. To relocate perennials during the main growing season, remove all flowers and cut back foliage. Water frequently as needed for good establishment.

PLANT TIP: Avoid selecting plants in bloom unless you must be assured of specific color. Remove any flowers at planting time to promote root establishment.

Bring One...Take One
August 20, 2016 - Saturday
CANFIELD FAIRGOUNDS @ 10 AM

South of Canfield on SR 46
Plant Exchange starts promptly @ 11 am



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Garden Art Sale



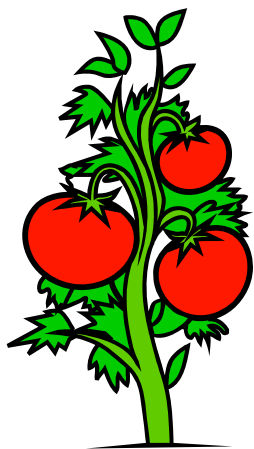
Join the OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers for a sale of the unusual and whimsical for your garden! Handmade hypertufa pots, concrete accents for your garden, whimsical and colorful items will highlight the selection! This event will be held in conjunction with the plant exchange at the Pumpkin Building at the Canfield Fairgrounds on Saturday, August 20.



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OSU Extension, Mahoning County
QUESTIONS? OSU Extension 330-533-5538
<http://mahoning.osu.edu>



Green Team Compost Seminars for OSU Extension Master Gardener Program



Date:
Thursday, Sept. 8

Time:
6:30 pm

Place:
OSU Extension Office

Cost:
\$10 Mahoning County
residents,
\$40 non-residents

You Receive:

- ✧ Compost Bin
(40.00) value
- ✧ Informational Booklet
- ✧ 1 Hr. Training Session

Master Gardener Compost Seminar Registration Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Complete form and attach check made payable to the Recycling Division of Mahoning County (RDMC) - Registration is limited to one per household/family. Also, remember to leave enough room in your vehicle to transport the materials home (approx. 40" diameter when assembled).



This seminar is being funded by the Green Team's Rural Recycling Education & Awareness Program (RREAP) through a grant from the USDA Office of Rural Development, an equal opportunity employer.

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Preserving the Harvest



A Monthly "How To" Home Canning Series
July-September 2016

Many new research-based recommendations for canning safer and better quality food at home are available today. It is critical that home canners, beginners and experienced, are aware of and follow the latest USDA guidelines. The advantages of home canning are lost when inappropriate and unsafe procedures are used. Armed with sound information and safe equipment, the harvest of the season is yours to enjoy long into the winter season.

If you're the type of person that likes to develop new recipes this is NOT the time to do it! Canning is not the place for experiments. Always use a tested recipe and we have plenty of them to share. Another thing to remember is that dial gauges on pressure canners should be tested yearly for accuracy.

*Join us for one
or all three of
the Food
Preservation
Programs!*



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Fax: 330-533-2424

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CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: <http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity>.

Home Canning & Food Safety Series

It's home canning time again! For those planning to preserve food at home this summer season, it's also time to check out your equipment. Canning can be a safe and economical way to "put food by" as well as a source of enjoyment and pride for many.

But, there are some basic rules of thumb worth remembering that will help ensure a safe, quality preserved product. When canning low acid vegetables, meat or a combination of vegetables (like spaghetti sauce), a pressure canner is the only way to preserve these foods safely. High-acid foods such as fruits, pickles, salsa, jams and jellies can be safely processed using a boiling water bath canner. It is also recommended that the acidity level of low-acid foods such as tomatoes be raised by adding an acid to the product. This can be accomplished by adding lemon juice or citric acid to the jars.

Learn about how to safely home preserve food using a boiling water bath and a pressure canner. This class is geared to teach those who are new to home canning the basics and provide a refresher to experienced home canners. Participants may also have their pressure canners tested for safety and dial gauge pressure canners tested for accuracy before the programs.

Program Series Details

Date/ Topic:

Monday, July 18– Canning Tomatoes 1:30-3:00 pm

Wednesday, August 10– Canning Basics 10:00-11:30 am

Wednesday September 21– Dehydrating Fruits & Veg. 10:00-11:30 am

**** Cost is \$15.00 per session. Classes are open to the public.**

Location: OSU Extension Office
490 S. Broad St., Canfield, Ohio 44406
Phone: 330.533.5538



Registration Form

Classes held at OSU Extension Office
490 S. Broad St.
Canfield, OH 44406
Canner testing is available. Call to schedule. No charge for canner testing.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

I plan on attending:

July 18

August 10

September 21

Canning Tomatoes

Canning Basics

Drying Fruits and Vegetables

Drop off or mail registration to:

OSU Extension- Mahoning County, 490 S Broad St. Canfield, OH 44406

Or call 330-533-5538

OSU Extension: Empowerment Through Education

Sponsored by OSU Extension- Mahoning County
Taught by Beth Stefura, OSU Extension Mahoning Co.
Family & Consumer Sciences Educator