

NEWS YOU CAN USE

For Montgomery County Master Gardener Volunteers

March 2019

We are Ohio State University Extension trained volunteers empowered to educate others with timely research-based gardening information.

What's the Buzz?

Winter Weather and the Insect Population

Will a warmer winter mean a higher insect population? Will a colder winter lessen the insect population?

The warmer or colder average winters often bring predictions of higher or lower than normal insect population in the coming spring/summer. Whether this is true or not is a topic of much confusion among people and one I am often asked to answer.

For some insects, this prediction does hold true; for others, a complex of environmental factors dictates the population size and winter survival of insects. Many insects over-winter as eggs, like the praying mantis (*Manti religiosa*) and bagworms (*Psychidea* spp.), are generally on branches in higher exposed places and are sensitive to warmer temperatures, causing premature hatching and use of resources, in the case of the mantis. The bagworm hatches based on other environmental triggers, making any winter a suitable over-wintering environment.

Insects that over-winter above the ground in the adult stage, like the bean leaf beetle (*Cerotoma trifurcate*), are more susceptible to below-freezing temperatures without snow cover. More will survive during years with heavy snows to insulate them.

Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) over-winter below the ground where the soil temperature is more consistent. They may not be affected by the mild winter, although an argument can be made that the lack of snow insulating them could lessen their chances of survival. However, the temperature may not have been cold enough, long enough to penetrate very deeply into the soil; so, insulating snow would not be needed.

Remember, all of the conditions discussed above also affect the population of beneficial insects, diseases, and parasites. This, in turn, will influence the pest population during the summer time.

When spring does arrive, the weather conditions then can have the greatest effect on the insect population. Insects need food to survive when they emerge, and any delay of their food source will have more of an effect on the population than the weather conditions during the dormant winter months.

When everything is considered, winter temperatures are not the only factor influencing the insect population for the upcoming summer. It is more complicated and inter-dependent on many factors. So, in the end, we will have to wait to see.

~ Kim

Submit information for "News You Can Use" to Gail Carone: getcarone@hotmail.com



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Pure programming time will count as Continuing Education.

Do Not Count drive time, sign-in, breaks or lunch time as Continuing Education.

CFAES Pollinator Education Series -- All Programs are FREE and Open to the Public

Hosted by Clermont and Brown County Master Gardener Volunteers and Brown County Beekeepers Association

- Tuesday, March 12th and Wednesday, March 13th - 1 to 3 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. - Self-track CEUs

March 12 - Pollinator Advocate Certification* - 1 to 3 p.m.

Clermont County Fairgrounds, 4-H Hall, 1000 Locust Street, Owensville, OH 45160

***This class Requires Registration - To register, contact: Clermont Co. Ext. office 513-732-7070**

Phenology for Beekeepers - 7 to 8 p.m.

Western Brown High School, Community Room (*back of the school*)

476 West Main Street, Mt. Orab, OH 45154

Hosted by the Brown County Beekeepers Association

March 13 - Gardening for Pollinators - 7 to 8 p.m.

Brown County Fairgrounds, Rhonemus Hall/Carpeted Room

325 West State Street, Georgetown, OH 45121

- Wednesday, March 13 - 8 to 11 a.m. - Self-track CEUs

Young Tree Training Workshop - Wright Patterson Air Force Base (*Location Follows*)

Wright Brothers Memorial Hill, NPS Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center

2380 Memorial Rd., Dayton, OH

While this is a **free event**, an **RSVP IS REQUIRED!**

This allows our hosts to plan for the number of people who will be attending. You can make your reservation by calling

Wendi Van Buren at 614-670-2653 and leaving a voice mail, or you can email wendi.vanburen@dnr.state.oh.us

Remember to dress for the weather!

- Saturday, March 16 - 10 a.m. to Noon - Self-track CEUs

Union County Monarch Workshop

OSU Extension Buckeye Room, 18000 State Route 4, Marysville, OH 43040

Cost is \$5 at the door. Please call to register - Union Co. Extension office 937-644-8117. Snacks and door prizes provided.

- Saturday, March 23 - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Self-track CEUs

Four Seasons of Gardening Conference "The Art of Gardening"

Featured Speakers: Tom Wood, Bobbie Schwartz, Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp and Gale Martin

Community Wesleyan Church, 161 Myrtle Avenue, Newark, OH 43055

Early Ticket Price \$40.00

Ticket Price at the Door \$50.00

For more information and to purchase tickets, go to: www.fourseasonsofgardening.com or mail check to:

Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers, 711 West Main Street, Hebron, OH 43025

- Saturday, April 13 - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Self-track CEUs

Third Annual Garden Expo

Della Selsor Bldg., Madison County Fairgrounds, 205 Elm Street, London, OH 43140

The event is FREE and open to the public, and includes local vendors, educational talks, and activities for children.

The 2019 International Master Gardener Conference

Penn's Woods: Digging into our Roots

June 17-21, 2019

Valley Forge Casino Resort, Valley Forge, PA

Register at: www.event.com/d/hgaxlp

More News . . .

Monday, March 18, 2019 – 6 to 7 p.m.
Quarterly General Membership Meeting
Dayton Metro Library – West Carrollton Branch, 300 E. Central Ave., West Carrollton, OH 45449

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, April 11 - 9 to 10 a.m. and 10 to 11 a.m. - Self-track CEUs

Ephemerals

Thurs., April 11..... 9 a.m. Tour - 10 a.m. Lecture (Limit 10) - Mount St. John (Bergamo)..... 1.5 CEU

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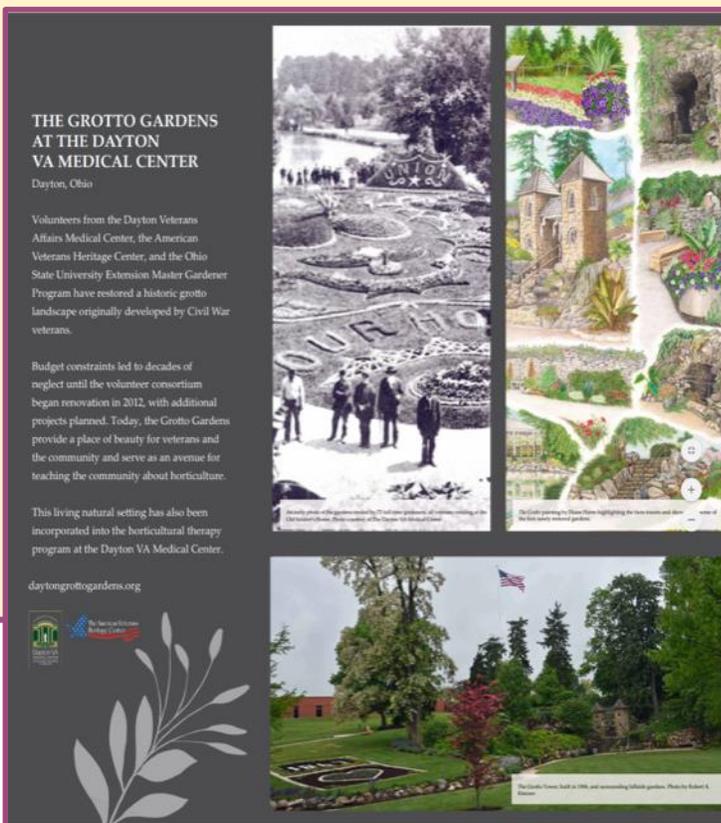
Thurs., April 11..... 9 a.m. Tour - 10 a.m. Lecture (Limit 10) - Cox Arboretum MetroPark 1.5 CEU

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(The Backup Date for the above classes is Tuesday, April 16)

The Grotto Gardens, one of the Ohio State University Extension Master Gardener Program projects, has been chosen by the United States Botanic Garden in Washington, D.C. to have a display in their exhibit entitled, **Celebrating New American Gardens**. This display of 21 gardens includes Longwood, the Chicago Botanic Garden, the Denver Botanic Garden and the Dayton VA Grotto Gardens! The display consists of a watercolor illustration by Diane Harm of several garden vignettes, a black and white photo from the past, a current photo and descriptive text.

The exhibit will run from **January 27 through October 15, 2019**.



The United States Botanic Garden is one of the oldest gardens and institutions at our capitol and has a fascinating history of its own. Thousands of visitors to the United States Botanic Garden will be seeing the Grotto Gardens of Dayton, Ohio, which is amazing to consider.

As with all of our MG volunteer projects, it takes many hands to maintain our efforts. We hope you might join us for our 6th year. We will have an informational season kickoff meeting in mid-April. Information on that meeting will be released closer to the date.

*Thank you Master Gardeners!
Susan Baker, OSUE MGV*

*The photo on the right is of
"The Grotto Gardens" exhibit at
The United States Botanic Garden.*

For more information about the U.S. Botanic Garden, please visit www.USBG.gov.

Volunteer Opportunities

The MGV 2019 intern class has begun, and our **Volunteer Support Committee** is looking for members to mentor the new interns. A few of our master gardeners have already volunteered to help out, but if you are interested in mentoring, please contact Jane Falck at janeFalck@gmail.com, or Joan Lumpkin at joan.lumpkin@gmail.com.

Do you have an idea for an educational program? Want to share that idea? . . . *Now's your Chance!*

There are a few committee member openings if you are interested in volunteering on the **Program Committee**. Please contact Pam Tilton at ptil10@earthlink.net, or Judy Steiger at jts121572@gmail.com for further information.

When you are out and about this year, take photographs of OSU Extension MGVs participating on projects, attending continuing education, and attending local or state events . . . **so we can share with our members!**

Send to Yvonne Dunphe to share on our **Facebook** page at infomastergardeners@gmail.com, and/or you can send your photos or articles to Gail Carone, "**News You Can Use**," at getcarone@hotmail.com.

(The deadline is the 10th of each month. Example: For the April "News" issue, Gail will need your article/photos by March 10th.) If your photos are used in the newsletter, she will send you a copy of the photo/photographer release form.*

OSU Extension MGVs have a signed photo release on file.

***Non-OSU Extension people must sign a release and all photographers must sign a release.**

We should all be familiar with the VMS system and *we should be* recording our volunteer and continuing education hours in a timely manner. Also, all of the project sites have been updated, and you will find contact information and regularly scheduled work days at the volunteer project sites. The calendar on VMS will be regularly maintained with continuing education programs available and other special events listed. If you haven't browsed VMS lately, I encourage you to do so.

Going forward, the "News You Can Use" calendar page will highlight specifically scheduled volunteer work days at project sites, such as: Washington Township spring planting/fall plant removal schedules, VA Grotto Gardens spring planting/fall plant removal schedules, MetroParks, other project sites and the occasional, special volunteer project(s) that may arise. Meetings, continuing education, holidays, etc. will continue to be listed on the "News" calendar.

Our main goal with the "News You Can Use" is to provide as many outlets for master gardeners for continuing education and volunteer opportunities, along with highlighting what we've done, where we've been and where we're going in the future.

~ Gail Carone,
Editor, "News You Can Use"



Photo courtesy of Gail Carone

What is the Name of that Perennial?

Chionodoxa luciliae

Common Name: glory of the snow
Type: Bulb
Family: Asparagaceae
Native Range: Western Turkey
Zone: 3 to 8
Height: 3-6" tall
Spread: 3-6"
Bloom Time: March to April
Bloom Description: Lilac blue with white center
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Medium
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Naturalize
Flower: Showy, Good Cut
Tolerate: Deer, Black Walnut



Photo courtesy of Gail Carone

Culture: Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Plant bulbs 3" deep and 2-3" apart in fall. Plants naturalize easily by bulb offsets and self-seeding to form a spreading carpet of early spring bloom. Foliage begins to fade shortly after bloom and generally disappears by late spring as plants go into dormancy until the following spring.

Noteworthy Characteristics: *Chionodoxa luciliae*, commonly called glory-of-the-snow, is a bulbous perennial that is native to mountainsides in western Turkey. It is among the first bulbs to bloom in the spring, often poking its flowering stalks up through melting snows, hence its common name of glory-of-the-snow. In the St. Louis area plants typically bloom from mid-March to mid-April. Each bulb produces 2-3 narrow, basal leaves and an upright flower stalk (to 6" tall) which is topped in very early spring by a loose raceme of 2-3 star-like, upward facing, six-petal, lilac blue to soft violet blue flowers with small white centers.

Chionodoxa luciliae is very similar in appearance to *Chionodoxa forbesii* (native to southwestern Turkey). The primary differences are that *C. luciliae* has slightly larger flowers with less pointed tepals on shorter stems rising to as much as 6" tall with fewer flowers per stem.

Plants in the genus *Chionodoxa* are very similar to plants in the genus *Scilla*, the main differences being in tepal arrangement. Some experts have merged *Chionodoxa* into the genus *Scilla* under the belief that the differences are not significant enough to warrant separate genus status.

Genus name comes from the Greek words *chion* meaning snow and *doxa* meaning glory for its very early flowering when snow is still on the ground.

Problems: No serious insect or disease problems. Nematodes are an infrequent but potentially serious problem in some areas.

Garden Uses: Provides late winter to early spring color to the garden. Best when massed and naturalized in rock gardens, sunny woodland areas, slopes or in lawns under large deciduous trees. Mixes well with other early spring bulbs such as daffodils, species tulips and snowdrops.

Resource - www.missouribotanicalgarden.org

**** Check out our Facebook page ****

Go to www.facebook.com/gmcmga to view the latest posts, and if you have photos or information to share, please email to infomastergardeners@gmail.com.

Montgomery Co. Master Gardener Volunteer Program

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		CONT. ED. POLLINATOR ADVOCATE CERTIFICATION 1 - 3 p.m. CONT. ED. PHENOLOGY FOR BEEKEEPERS 7 - 8 p.m.	CONT. ED. YOUNG TREE TRAINING WORKSHOP 8 - 11 a.m. WPAFB CONT. ED. GARDENING FOR POLLINATORS 7 - 8 p.m.			CONT. ED. UNION CO. MONARCH WORKSHOP 10 a.m. - Noon OSUE Buckeye Room Marysville, OH
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	6 p.m. Exec. Committee mtg. West Carrollton Library Quarterly Membership Meeting 7 p.m. West Carrollton Library					CONT. ED. FOUR SEASONS OF GARDENING CONF. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Community Wesleyan Church Newark, OH
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						