

NEWS YOU CAN USE

For Montgomery County Master Gardener Volunteers

May 2018

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

What's the Buzz?

Wow, it's May! What happened to April and March? It seems time moves as effortlessly as the wind moves leaves on the trees. We thought winter would never end, the office move would never be completed, and the sun wouldn't shine. Look, all of those things happened and here we are heading into May at a rapid rate of speed while we desperately try to put on the brakes!

There are numerous new volunteer activities on the horizon. I have some teaching opportunities available for MGVs to work with me in outreach programs. I will train you if you are not feeling 100% comfortable but are very interested. I am offering two training opportunities; one on soil sampling and the second on raised-bed vegetable gardening. If you participate in one or both of these training, you will be teaching with me in the outreach programs. Please contact me if you have interest in raised-bed vegetable gardening. The areas I am interested in using are crop rotation and troubleshooting for insects and diseases. I will help you learn and present if you aren't quite comfortable. I do find the Master Gardeners know more than they think on subjects so take a breath and step forward! I won't let you fall! The soil sampling is full, and I thank you for your enthusiastic response! I will contact those individuals with further information.

In March our quarterly business meeting was cancelled due to weather, so our celebration for the interns who have certified did not happen. I am going to have the certification celebration at the June 19th meeting. Invitations will go out soon!

Tis the season for insect, disease and other home horticulture issues. The forming of the diagnostic team has been delayed due to the move. I am almost ready with office space. I need volunteers. If you have an interest but feel unsure of your ability, contact me. This is a team effort. We will work as a team with at least 3 MGVs working on issues together, learning from me and each other. We will establish days (2-3 times a week for a couple of hours) to tackle the issues and dive into the wonderful world of diagnostics. There will be protocol established by the team and checks in place to help assure we are giving a timely response. More importantly, you will learn the skill of communication and how to say "I'm not sure. Let me get back to you." Please email if you are reading this and you say "Sounds like fun!"

~ Kim

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Wednesday, May 30 – 10 a.m. – 1.5 CEUs
Composting - City of Kettering Leaf Farm
 1801 Spaulding Road, Kettering, OH 45432

May is our Big Planting Month . . . and we have the schedule to prove it!

Information below to sign up to volunteer for the MayFair Plant Sale held at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark.

Also, the VA Grotto and Washington Township project coordinators have worked together to allow our Master Gardeners many volunteer opportunities! The week of May 15th is jam packed!

Check out the schedules and contact information that follow.



MayFair Plant Sale

The MayFair Plant Sale at Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark is here!

Friday, May 4 (Members Only Pre-Sale 5 to 7 p.m.), **Saturday, May 5** (Open to the Public 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and **Sunday, May 6** (Open to the Public 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.). MayFair is one of the largest fundraising events of the year for the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation, and it takes a lot of volunteer support to make this event possible. Please consider signing up for a shift. Volunteers are needed during set-up week to help with the staging and pricing of plants, and during the sale to assist customers.

All proceeds from the MayFair Plant Sale support the Wegerzyn Gardens Foundation.

The MayFair committee is now using **SignUp.com** to schedule all volunteer shifts for MayFair. Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Go to our Sign-up: <http://signup.com/go/DtSVpuJ>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on VolunteerSpot.

Note: *The **SignUp** site does not share your email address with anyone.*

If you have trouble with the site, email our web volunteer, Tammy Braden at tambraden@woh.rr.com.

VA Grotto – Normal Work Days

Tuesday/Wednesday weekly -- **Hours 9:00 am – 12 noon**

VA Grotto and Garden

- **Tuesday, May 15 – BIG Planting Day!** Early start day @ **8 a.m.**
Plants for each garden delivered and need to be distributed and planted. Home Depot will be installing new paver paths in the upper walkway and in between the two ponds. 100 employee/volunteers expected! We have promised to feed them. We will need “lunch ladies and gentlemen” and also work leaders for planting.
- **Thursday, May 17** – NCR Corporate Volunteer Day (20+ expected)
Need work leaders. Will continue our planting and begin mulching.
- **Saturday, May 19** – OSU Alumni from Greene & Montgomery Counties (25 expected)
Will be planting and mulching. Need Grotto Volunteers to be work leaders.
- **Thursday, May 24** – Air Force group returns (15 people)
Will be helping Saturday and Sunday with garden “beautification” before the Patriot Freedom Festival on Memorial Day.
- **Saturday, May 26 & Sunday, May 27**
Need Grotto Volunteers to answer questions about the garden plants and to give short tours (2 hour shifts). Contact Susan Baker.

If interested in volunteering for any of these work days, please contact **Susan Baker** at sbaker5@woh.rr.com.

Washington Township Planting and Monitoring

Your participation in this major fundraiser is crucial. This project provides funding for our Continuing Education Programs and GMCMGA Association activities throughout the year.

You may choose to help all day or only half days. Work hours are **9 a.m. to Noon** and **1 to 4 p.m.**

- **Monday, May 14** – Plants arrive (*some volunteer help needed*)
- **Tuesday, May 15** – Sorting and pre-planting maintenance and cuttings
- **Wednesday, May 16** – 1st full day of planting (*lunch provided*)
- **Thursday, May 17** – 2nd full day of planting
- **Friday, May 18** – 3rd full day of planting
- **Saturday, May 19 and beyond** – Planting continues until finished

To schedule for planting days, please contact **Jan Burke-Brown** at jan-carl@ameritech.net.
If you want to monitor a garden throughout the season, please contact **Vickie Wong** at bvwong48@gmail.com.



Upcoming Events in June



CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Wednesday, June 13 – 10 a.m. to Noon – 1.5 CEUs *and* 1:30 to 3 p.m. – 1.5 CEUs
“The Well Designed Mixed Garden” (Session 1) – “The Art of Pruning Perennials” (Session 2)
Traci DiSabato-Aust – Walnut Grove Country Club, Dayton, OH 45432

Sunday, June 10 – 2 p.m.

Dedication of Memorial to Susan Pearson, OSUE Master Gardener and Grotto Volunteer
VA Grotto and Gardens

Tuesday, June 19 – 10 a.m.

Greater Montgomery County Master Gardener Association
Quarterly General Membership Meeting
TBD

Tuesday, June 26 – 6 p.m.

GMCMA Annual Mixer
Hills & Dales MetroPark, Paw Paw Shelter

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



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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Montgomery Co. Master Gardener Volunteer Program

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9 a.m. to Noon - VA Grotto	2	3	4 MayFair Plant Pre-Sale Members Only 5 to 7 p.m.	5 MayFair Plant Sale Open to Public 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
6 MayFair Plant Sale Open to Public 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.	7	8 9 a.m. to Noon - VA Grotto	9	10	11	12
13 <i>Mother's Day</i>	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>VA Grotto Gardens Planting: Tuesday - Big Planting Day! 8 a.m. - plants arrive, planting begins; Thursday 9 a.m. - continue planting, begin mulching; Saturday 9 a.m. - planting and mulching.</p> <p>Washington Township Project: 9 a.m.-Noon and 1-4:30 p.m. Monday - plants arrive, (some volunteer help needed); Wednesday - 1st full day of planting (lunch provided); Thursday - 2nd full day of planting; Friday - 3rd full day of planting; Saturday and beyond - planting continues until finished.</p>						
		2 p.m. Executive Committee mtg. TBD				
20	21 3 p.m. Outreach Committee mtg. TBD	22 9 a.m. to Noon - VA Grotto 2 p.m. Program Committee mtg. TBD	23	24 VA Grotto Additional Volunteer Work Day 9 a.m. to Noon	25	26 Dayton VA Patriot Freedom Festival
27 Dayton VA Patriot Freedom Festival	28  OSUE office closed	29 9 a.m. to Noon - VA Grotto	30 CONT. EDUC. COMPOSTING 10 a.m. Kettering Leaf Farm	31		