

2015 State Master Gardener Volunteer Conference



August 28 and 29, 2015
Maumee Bay State Park
1750 Park Road
Oregon, Ohio – Lucas County

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

-  Beautiful location on the water
-  *Friday* – three terrific tour options
-  *Friday Dinner* – MGV awards dinner
-  *Friday Night* – bonfire by the bay
-  *Saturday* – keynote address and concurrent sessions
-  *Vendors, silent auction items, networking, celebrating, and more!*



*Stewards of
the Earth*



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Toledo, Ohio 43615

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2015 State Master Gardener Volunteer Conference

Lucas County Master Gardener Volunteers and the Lucas County Extension Office are thrilled to be hosting this year's State Master Gardener Volunteer Conference in Oregon, Ohio.

We are sure that you will thoroughly enjoy the venue at Maumee Bay State Park and the vistas from every angle. Whether you are driving back and forth, staying in a guest room in the lodge, gathering with a group in one of the many cabins, or roughing it a bit in the campground - you will be in for a special weekend. We have heard that many are bringing their family and staying over on Sunday to really enjoy the entire weekend.

We will see you in Lucas County on August 28 and 29!



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

**2015 OHIO MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER
STATE CONFERENCE –**

STEWARDS OF THE EARTH



MAUMEE BAY STATE PARK – LUCAS COUNTY

Thursday, August 27th

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Welcome – Registration in the Hotel Lobby

Friday, August 28th

7:00 am – 9:00 pm Welcome – Registration in the Hotel Lobby

8:30 am Begin Boarding the Buses In Front of the Main Entrance
of the Maumee Bay State Park Lodge

9:00 am – 4:30 pm Bus Tours (Option Selected in the Registration Process -
See Page 5 for Tour Descriptions)
*Tour One – Abundant Blooms, Algal and All
*Tour Two – Garden Jewels in the Toledo Area
*Tour Three –The Globally Rare Oak Openings Region

4:00pm – 9:00 pm Vendor Area and Silent Auction Open for Shopping
Outside Meeting Rooms

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Social Hour with Hors d'oeuvres and Cash Bar for
Dinner Guests in Bald Eagle/Heron Rooms

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm State MGV Awards Dinner in Bald Eagle/Heron Rooms –
Pam Bennett, State Master Gardener Coordinator

8:00 pm – 11:00 pm Social Time at the Fire Pit by the Bay – S'more Fun!

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 29th

- 7:00 am – 8:30 am Breakfast Buffet in the Water's Edge Dining Room
Buffet includes: scrambled eggs, breakfast potatoes, bacon, fresh fruit, assorted muffins, assorted juices, coffee and assorted hot teas.
- 7:00 am – 2:30pm Welcome – Registration, upstairs near meeting rooms
- 7:30 am – 1:00 pm Vendor area and silent auction open for shopping outside meeting rooms
- 8:30 am – 9:45 am Welcome and Keynote Address by Linda Chalker-Scott, Associate Professor and Extension Urban Horticulturist, University of Washington – ***Garden Myths: Separating Fact from Fiction As University Volunteers***

Master Gardeners must provide science-based information to their clients, but how to tell what's science - and what's pseudoscience? This keynote address will provide Master Gardener Volunteers with some guidelines for evaluating articles, books, and electronic resources objectively. We'll then use those guidelines to evaluate information on several products and practices of interest to gardeners everywhere.

Concurrent Session Themes/Tracks – Our Role As . . . Servants, Educators, Restorers, and Visionaries

- 10:00 am – 10:50 am Break-out Sessions #1 (see pages 6-8)
- 11:00 am – 11:50 am Break-out Sessions #2 (see pages 6-8)
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Boxed Lunch – Enjoy Lunch at the Park
A variety of sandwich options that include lettuce, tomato, and mayonnaise, mustard; assorted Sun Chips; whole fruit; and fresh-baked cookie.
- 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm Break-out Sessions #3 (see pages 6-8)
- 2:00 pm – 2:50 pm Break-out Sessions #4 (see page 6-8)
- 2:50 pm – 3:00 pm Evaluation and Send Off

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Overnight Accommodations Information

Reservations can be made by contacting Maumee Bay State Park at 800-282-7275. A block of rooms is being held through July 26, 2015 under the “Master Gardener Volunteer Conference” name. Be sure to mention that name for the special rate of \$129.00 for a double with a lake view, and \$119.00 for a double with a non-lake view.

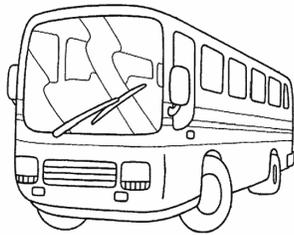
There will be vendors at the conference on Friday evening and Saturday. Be sure to bring some extra spending money!

We will also be selling Pam Bennett’s book, Gardenpedia, and will have scheduled times on Saturday when she will be signing the book. Linda Chalker-Scott, our keynote speaker, will be signing books that she has authored as well.

We are delighted to offer some beautiful silent auction items. These items will be available Friday evening and Saturday until 12:30 pm when winners will be notified. Only cash and check payments will be accepted – no credit cards.



Friday Bus Tours



August 28, 2015

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL TOURS:

1. Registration for the bus tours will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Please register early to ensure your seat.
2. Please plan to board the bus by 8:30 AM as all bus tours will depart promptly at 9:00 AM on Friday, August 28, 2015 and return by 4:30 PM.
3. Please wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes. As always since we can't predict the weather you may want to include an umbrella (just in case).
4. The Tour Buses have storage for all the goodies you want to purchase and take home with you.

Tour One – Abundant Blooms, Algal and All



What the heck is an algal bloom and how does low oxygen affect our drinking water? This awesome tour of The University of **Toledo Lake Erie Center**, Oregon, Ohio, will answer that and much more. Plus a breathtaking experience at **Schedel Arboretum & Gardens**, Elmore, Ohio, with a fabulous 1920's multifaceted garden. For your shopping pleasure, you will enjoy the plant selection at **Bench's Greenhouse & Nursery**, Elmore, Ohio, which includes a bountiful gift shop and farm market. *Participants will begin boarding buses at the main entrance of the Maumee Bay Conference Center at 8:30 AM departing promptly at 9:00 AM. All buses will return by 4:30 PM. Buffet lunch at Schedel Arboretum & Gardens is included as part of this tour.*

Tour Two – Garden Jewels in the Toledo Area



The Toledo Zoo and Aquarium, Toledo, Ohio. In 2014 voted Best Zoo in the USA. The newly renovated aquarium just opened. "The horticultural staff provides a rich diversity of plants and trees for the landscape (and animals) and breathtaking gardens". Also state-of-the-art conservatory with water lily pond and fragrant rose garden display. The **Toledo Botanical Garden**, Toledo, OH, is home of Toledo Grows and Crosby Festival of the Arts. It is truly a beautiful jewel of a garden with Hosta and Daylily National Display Gardens. Enjoy fabulous and unique displays of annual, perennial and herb gardens. **Hoer's Garden Center and Landscaping**, Holland, OH, features rows and rows of beautiful annuals and perennials. Also features abundant fairy garden miniatures and garden art. *Participants will begin boarding buses at the main entrance of the Maumee Bay Conference Center at 8:30 AM departing promptly at 9:00 AM. All buses will return by 4:30 PM. Lunch is included as part of this tour.*

Tour Three – The Globally Rare Oak Openings Region



Our largest Metropark, **Oak Openings Preserve**, Swanton, Ohio, provides a spectacular array of wildflowers, diverse habitats, and is a globally rare ecosystem. **Kitty Todd Nature Preserve**, a 130-square-mile Oak Openings Region, is a complex of oak savanna and restored wet prairie that developed on sand and clay deposited by glacial Lake Warren, the ancient predecessor of present day Lake Erie. The preserve was selected as the first location for the reintroduction of the Karner blue butterfly. Take some ideas to **Oak Park Water Gardens**, Swanton, Ohio, a full-service garden center in a delightful setting. Abundant fairy garden miniatures and garden art are featured. *Participants will begin boarding buses at the main entrance of the Maumee Bay Conference Center at 8:30 AM departing promptly at 9:00 AM. All buses will return by 4:30 PM. Lunch is included as part of this tour.*

SATURDAY SESSIONS BY TRACKS / THEMES

	10 - 10:50	11 - 11:50	1 - 1:50	2 - 2:50
Our Role as SERVANT	Greening the Garden—A Smart Gardener’s Journey; Finneran	AgrAbility—Urban Ag & Gardening-Tools to Promote Independence; Bauer	Top Performing Low Maintenance Annuals; Bennett	Native Trees and Shrubs with Bling!; Wilson
Our Role as EDUCATOR	Food Safety Considerations in the Garden; Kulhanek	Invasives & Early Detection; Smith/Stone	Garden Design; Ansara	Specialty Crops for the Ohio Plate; Kowalski
Our Role as RESTORER	Gardening for Pollinators; Ellsworth	Sustainable Landscaping; Chalker-Scott	Enhancing Landscapes for Beneficial Insects; Gardiner	Warming to Worms; Rogers/Cross
Our Role as VISIONARY	What are Harmful Algal Blooms; Briag	Phosphorus-Knowledge and Sharing Messages; Meyer	Entomophagy: Local Food of the Future; Kulhanek	The Wonders of Wildlife Management; Titchenell

SERVANT THEME

10:00-10:50 am – Rebecca Finneran, Michigan State University: *Greening the Garden--a Smart Gardener's Journey!* If you love plants and garden design, but find yourself making resolutions to “green your garden,” don’t assume that all things beautiful must be put out to pasture. During Finneran’s presentation you will get ideas for plants and design that are water smart, pest-free and low input! Learn how Ohio State University and Michigan State University are collaborating to help gardeners become more earth-friendly, environmentally savvy and "smart"!

11:00-11:50 am – Andy Bauer, Ohio State University: *AgrAbility—Urban Ag & Gardening—Tools to Promote Independence.* The Ohio AgrAbility Program is part of a national program that promotes independence for people in agriculture who want to continue to farm after experiencing a disabling condition. The program’s goal is to provide education, resources, and technical assistance to those individuals and their families so they may continue to be successful in agriculture. Gardeners face many of the same issues that farmers do, on a smaller scale. Due to this and our Aging Farmer program we have put together a program for the Urban Gardener covering areas such as back issues, arthritis and ergonomic tools, and aging.

1:00-1:50 pm – Pamela Bennett, Ohio State University: *Top Performing Low-Maintenance Annuals* These are not your Grandma’s annuals! Pam will share the results of her annual field trials located in Clark County in this fast-paced, colorful presentation. Learn about today’s top performers that require less maintenance than many of the older varieties. Pam works with Master Gardener Volunteers of Clark County who assist with the trials from greenhouse to evaluation.

2:00-2:50 pm – Mary Wilson, Michigan State University: *Native Trees and Shrubs with Bling!* There are many reasons you might want native plants in your garden, yet a common perception is that they are drab and boring. Not so, as we’ll learn from Mary Wilson. Mary will share some of her favorites, both native species and their cultivars, for a bright and colorful garden in various seasons. No longer the stepchildren of the plant world, but those with attitude and bling!

SATURDAY SESSIONS BY TRACKS / THEMES (cont'd)

EDUCATOR THEME

10-10:50 am – Ashley Kulhanek, Ohio State University: *Food Safety Considerations in the Garden: Avoid Contaminating Your Produce* The quality and safety of our produce has become an increasing concern in light of recent deadly outbreaks linked to cantaloupe, spinach, sprouts and other fruits and vegetables. In response, the Food and Drug Administration has set out new regulations for the safe production of fruits and vegetables on large farms; but what about small farms, urban farms, community gardens or even YOUR gardens? This session will discuss some of the food safety practices (known as Good Agricultural Practices or GAPS) that can be implemented on a small scale to help keep produce safe from seed to harvest in gardens you work with, volunteer for, or your own vegetable beds.

11-11:50 am – Kathy Smith & Amy Stone, Ohio State University: *Engaging Through Education and Encouraging Through Actions - The Battle of Invasives & Great Lakes Early Detection Network - Helping Ohioians Track Invasive Species* Invasive species come in variety of sizes and species, are hot topics, and one of the four MGVI initiatives. Come learn how you can help battle these non-native pests as a volunteer and encourage others in your county to be part of the fight. Invasive species identification; how you can monitor and report these pesky plants, insects and diseases; and how you can involve others will be discussed during the session. MGVI's attending this session will receive a variety of invasive species outreach resources that can be used in local programming to continue to spread the word.

1-1:50 pm – Jacqueline Ansara, Master Gardener Volunteer: *Garden Design* All good design begins with the elements of art: line, shape, form space and texture. Learn how to translate these into your garden with plant selection, hardscape materials, water features, and well thought out placement of art. Great design does not require a staff nor an estate size property. Good design allows you to be a good steward of the land and more time to enjoy your garden!

2-2:50 pm – Jacqueline Kowalski, Ohio State University: *Specialty Crops for the Ohio Plate* The interest in backyard and small space vegetable gardening continues to grow. While we continue to enjoy traditional vegetables there are many things that can be successfully grown in our climate. Ginger, Belgian endive, and roselle are just a few of these crops. This session will cover the basics of growing many new and unusual crops, including ethnic vegetables that are making their way into local grocery stores. We'll also discuss basic backyard season extension techniques to help you expand the possibilities of growing specialty crops.

RESTORER THEME

10-10:50 am – Denise Ellsworth, Ohio State University: *Gardening for Pollinators* Gardeners play 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 can take to create or enhance habitat, including plant selection and simple design elements. By creating a patchwork of garden spaces that provide food and shelter for pollinators, gardeners can positively impact the health and survival of these important creatures.

11-11:50 am – Linda Chalker-Scott, University of Washington: *Sustainable Landscaping: Easier on your back, your wallet, and the environment* This seminar will explore why so many ornamental landscapes fail. Three of the proposed reasons are: (1) improper soil management; (2) poor quality roots; and; (3) inadequate root preparation. We will explore how - and if - we should use soil amendments, discuss how to properly prepare and install trees and shrubs, and finally how to care for them over the long term.

1-1:50 pm – Mary Gardiner, Ohio State University: *Enhancing Landscapes for Beneficial Insects* We all like the idea of having beneficial insects in our gardens and landscapes...right!?!? What are some common and not so common beneficial insects that could make their homes outdoors at your home? This session will cover site considerations that will benefit these insects, which ones you may encounter outdoors, and what are they actually doing in the landscape – or what makes them beneficial. This session will leave volunteers excited about beneficial insects and wanting to see them in the landscape.

SATURDAY SESSIONS BY TRACKS / THEMES (cont)

RESTORER THEME (cont'd)

2-2:50 pm – Tammi Rogers & Sarah Cross, Ohio State University: *Warming Up To Worms*

Composting with redworms is ideal for those gardeners with limited space and a few extra kitchen scraps to spare! By letting worms eat your food wastes, you'll end up with one of the most nutrient-rich soil amendments available—worm castings. Sarah and Tammi will discuss their adventures in vermiculture (worm composting), demonstrate how to make your own worm box, and bring you up-to-date on some cool OSU research regarding vermicompost and pest suppression. Come with an open mind and a good sense of humor. No worms will be injured in this presentation.

VISIONARY THEME

10-10:50 am – Eugene Braig, Ohio State University: *What are Harmful Algal Blooms and Why are They Harmful?*

Harmful algal blooms (HABs) are so named because many produce toxins that can cause illness or irritation — sometimes even death — in pets, livestock and humans. An algal bloom is an abundant or excessive growth of algae. Come learn more about HABs on the shore of Lake Erie and what you can do as an MGV to help.

11-11:50 am – Greg Meyer, Ohio State University: *Phosphorus – What Do We Need to Know and How Can We Share Educational Messages to Make a Difference.*

When Toledoans experienced the drinking water ban last summer, there was a lot of speculation and people began pointing fingers. This session will cover possible causes with a focus on phosphorus and how MGVs can help get the word out about how everyone can be part of the solution.

1-1:50 pm – Ashley Kuhlhanek, Ohio State University: *Entomophagy: Local Food of the Future?*

Are insects really a future food? Increasingly we hear about chefs and government agencies looking to insects as a viable source of protein to feed a growing population. Learn how insects are being used as super foods and how they are being considered as more than just a "shock value" opportunity for local, low-impact food options! Great information to take back to your county for local programming.

2-2:50 pm – Marne Titchenell, Ohio State University: *The Wonders of Wildlife* Some people love them, others detest them. Come learn how to deter the ones we don't want, and encourage those who we want to have an open invitation in our garden and landscape. Wildlife questions are common and this session will better prepare you for those questions.



Registration *Please Print*

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street Number and Name _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

County _____ Email _____

Cell Phone _____ (required if participating on Friday Tour)

Emergency Contact Name _____ and Contact # _____

Please indicate any special accommodations including dietary needs required that the planning committee should be aware of: _____

	Early Bird Registration (July 24, 2015)	Regular Registration (August 14, 2015)
_____ Full Conference Registration (includes Friday Tour, Friday MGV Awards Dinner, and Saturday Educational Sessions)	\$195.00	\$220
_____ Ala Carte (if not participating in the full conference, indicate with "X" which portions of the conference you will be participating)		
_____ Friday Tour	\$ 65.00	\$ 70.00
_____ Friday MGV Awards Dinner	\$ 45.00	\$ 55.00
_____ Saturday Educational Sessions	\$110.00	\$125.00
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	\$ _____	

YOU MUST COMPLETE THE BACK OF THIS FORM AS PART OF THE REGISTRATION. To receive the early bird registration, the envelope must be postmarked by July 24, 2015. Registrations will not be accepted after August 14, 2015. Checks should be made payable to OSU Extension and mailed to 5403 Elmer Drive, Toledo, Ohio 43615.

Cancellation/Refund Policy: \$20.00 per registrant cancellation service fee. No refunds for cancellations received after August 14, 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Stone at stone.91@osu.edu or call at 419-213-2029. Registration is also available online at the Lucas County Website at <http://lucas.osu.edu>

I will be participating in the Friday Tours. Indicate your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice. Each tour is limited to 55 participants. Descriptions of each tour is included on page 5.

- _____ Tour One – Abundant Blooms, Algal and All
- _____ Tour Two – Garden Jewels in the Toledo Area
- _____ Tour Three – The Globally Rare Oak Openings Region

Lunch is included as part of each tour. There will be a buffet on Tour One and no selection is needed. Box lunches will be provided as part of Tour Two and Tour Three. Please indicate your lunch choice. Even if your first selection is Tour One, please indicate a boxed lunch choice in case your first choice is full.

- _____ Turkey
- _____ Ham
- _____ Veggie

I will be participating in the Friday MGV Awards Dinner. Indicate your dinner selection.

- _____ **HERB CHICKEN** *Seared Chicken Breast with an Herbed Pan Gravy Served with Rice Pilaf*
- _____ **BLACK & BLEU RIBEYE** *8 oz. Beef Rib Eye Seasoned with a Garlic Peppercorn Crust and Topped with Bleu Cheese Crumbles. Served with Sour Cream and Chive Mashed Potatoes*
- _____ **VEGETABLE WELLINGTON** *Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Sautéed in White Wine Garlic Cream Sauce and Baked in a Puff Pastry*

I will be attending the Saturday program. Indicate your first, second, third and fourth preference.

Saturday, August 29
10-10:50 am

- _____ Greening the Garden – A Smart Gardener’s Journey
- _____ Food Safety Concerns in the Garden
- _____ Gardening for Pollinators
- _____ Harmful Algal Blooms

11-11:50 am

- _____ AgriAbility – Urban Ag and Gardening
- _____ Invasives and Early Detection
- _____ Sustainable Landscaping
- _____ Phosphorus – What We Need to Know and How We Share the Messages

1-1:50 pm

- _____ Top Performing Low Maintenance Annuals
- _____ Garden Design
- _____ Enhancing Landscapes for Beneficial Insects
- _____ Entomophagy: Local Food or the Future

2-2:50 pm

- _____ Native Trees and Shrubs with Bling!
- _____ Specialty Crops for Ohio Plates
- _____ Warming to Worms
- _____ The Wonders of Wildlife

See You In Lucas
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