

News You Can Use!

July 2024

Hello Shoshana,

Here is the July 2024 News You Can Use featuring:

- Update from your Advisory Council Chair
- Request for volunteers for the Cuyahoga County Fair
- News from Jen Andon, OSUE MGV State Program Manager
- Guidelines on how to protect yourself during this heat
- Information about Spotted Lanternfly workshops
- New Ben Franklin Saturday dates for 2024
- MGCC CE opportunity about supporting biodiversity in your own backyard
- and More...

***NYCU is published once a month October - April; twice a month May - September.**

If you have any questions on information found in News You Can Use - contact Tammy L. Currier at currier.37@osu.edu.

Help us build our social media presence by following the [Master Gardener Volunteers of Cuyahoga County Facebook page](#) and by sharing it with your friends. If they share, we will expand our reach!

If you have information to share in the next News You Can Use contact Tammy L. Currier at currier.37@osu.edu.



Update from Ellen Comeau, Advisory Council Chair

Hello fellow MGV's,

Hope you all had a safe, enjoyable July 4th holiday. And, ba-dum-bump, the heat is back. We just need the rain!

I have some unfortunate news to share concerning the Summer Sprouts Program. The program has been suspended since July 1st. Below is a message from Nicole Debose, Cuyahoga County Extension Area Director:

"OSUE has not had an agreement with the City of Cleveland since 2022 to coordinate and implement the Summer Sprout program. This means every penny spent to support garden leader kickoff, seeds, plants, garlic, row covers, and staff has come from our office savings. I made the decision to pause programming because the OSUE office cannot continue to accrue this debt. Our annual contract with the City is \$125,000. As of today, OSUE has accrued approximately \$185,000 in debt in an effort to maintain the program while waiting for an agreement to be finalized. For those who recently completed Dig In! our hope is the program will resume in time for the 2025 season. If the 2025 season is in question as of January 1, I will work to have the training fee reimbursed.

At this time, I have no answers regarding licenses, water permits, garden leader kickoff, etc. for 2025. OSUE will work with the City to address these needs.

Please continue to email me with any questions or needs and enjoy the holiday."

-Nicole Debose

As you all know, our Community Gardening/Mentor Committee has been affected by this since they mentor the gardens involved in the Summer Sprout program. If you are a member of this committee and you get requests for answers to questions regarding the future of their gardens, you are instructed to tell them to email Nicole. She is the spokesperson for OSUE and will be in charge of dispersing ANY and ALL information regarding this issue. As MGV's of CC, we have been instructed not to engage in or get drawn into any conversation or correspondence with anyone about this issue.

IF you get a request for answers to garden related issues, such as insects, deer, blossom end rot, etc. - then try and answer the question(s) or share the Telephone Hotline number (216.429.8200, x 1) and Lois's team can answer questions as well.

Thank you Gardening/Mentor Committee for all the hard work you've done. I feel your frustration and, again, if you have questions, please email Nicole at debose.8@osu.edu. I will update everyone as things hopefully progress.

Now some better news...

The Basic Training Committee is winding up interviews and reference checks and will be letting the new interns know they've made the cut by the end of the month.

There's been a lot of hard work put into this so thank you Morning, Tammy, Kim Hawkins, Sue Pandoli, Deb Dougherty, Chris Harris, Anya Milgrom, and Geoffrey Black. We still have a ways to go but we are well on the way. I think it will be a stellar class.

Speaking of Basic Training, if you are interested in obtaining a new

manual, please let Tammy know. The cost for a complete manual is \$50.00. They will be ordering manuals for the new class and can add to that order.

You also can just purchase updated chapters according to Morning. I don't have the information yet, but Tammy is looking into it. Stay tuned on that - as soon as we have information, we'll share.

And saving the best news for almost last...

In case you haven't seen it, the [NEW WEBSITE](#) is up and running and it's beautiful! Sorry Summit County, but we're giving you a run for your money.

The site is still a work in progress in that events and additional information are still being added, but it's very easy to navigate. We have a place for the public and a place just for us.

Great job done by our Technology Team - Shoshana Wodzisz, Anya Milgrom, and Gretchen Faro - you're the best!

Lastly, we won't be having Fall Seminar this year. Why? Because we couldn't find anyone to co-chair and now it's too late in the season to plan.

Notice I said CO-Chair and not running the thing all by yourself! There are plenty of people willing to help you but are just plain tired of doing it themselves for the last 20 years. We may have someone stepping up for 2025 BUT, c'mon people, roll up your sleeves and pitch in to one of our premiere speaker events.

Sandy Welches, Melanie Biche, and I looked at a venue in Independence off Rockside Road recently and it's a great space. And, more importantly, well within our budget, meaning it's cheaper than Parma-Snow Library which has increased their fees over the past year or so. We are excited about this possibly being the new home for our events. However, we can't have events without participation!

Enough said.

Stay cool & water regularly,

Ellen

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- **Need Volunteer Hours? The Cuyahoga County Fair is Calling You!**

Mark your calendars - volunteer **August 6th-11th, 2024** at the MGCC's educational display in the Floral Building at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. Volunteers are needed to set-up &/or tear down, to do meet and greet, and to answer garden-related questions. There is so much to see and do at this worthwhile event!

- **To lend a hand, Contact Gail Holzman @440-237-7609 or hikoryhill@roadrunner.com. Don't dally - volunteer spots fill up quickly!**

See YOU at the Fair!!!

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MGCC Dates at a Glance:

- **July 13, 2024 - Saturdays at Ben Franklin; EMAIL HEDY WESTRA TO SIGNUP at hedywestra@ameritech.net!**
- **July 15, 2024 - Discover the Biodiversity in Your Own Backyard; REGISTER [HERE](#)!**
- **July 25 & 29 / August 1 & 15, 2024 - Spotted Lanternfly Training for OSU Extension MGVs; LEARN [MORE](#)!**
- **July 22, 25, 31, & August 26 - OSUE MGV Diagnostic Workshops; LEARN [MORE](#)!**
- **August 9 - 11, 2024 - Moss Workshop at Stone Lab, Put-in-Bay; SEE BELOW!**
- **August 11-16, 2024 - MGCC at the Cuyahoga County Fair; CONTACT GAIL HOLZMAN TO VOLUNTEER (See contact info**

in "Help Wanted" section above)

- September 17, 2024 - **MGCC Fall Plant Exchange; SAVE THE DATE!**
- January 17 – 24, 2025 or January 25 – February 1, 2025 - **MGV Ecuador Service Trip; REGISTER [HERE!](#)**

For more information on these dates, see descriptions below.

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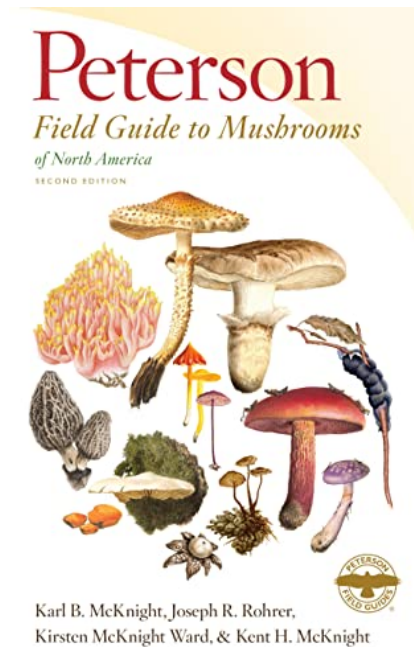
News from Jennifer Andon, OSUE MGV State Program Manager

Ecuador 2025 (January 17 – 24, 2025 or January 25 – February 1, 2025): We still have a few spots available for our Service-Learning Experience trip to Ecuador in January 2025. We will be taking two groups back to back for one week each. You are welcome to bring a friend or family member along to participate with our group. Please see our [Ecuador Information Sheet](#) for more details on these once in a lifetime trips.

Registration is on a first come first serve basis, and we can only take 14 additional people each week. Interested parties must complete the Qualtrics survey [HERE](#), and send in \$500 deposit to hold their place. A notification email will go out upon receipt of your deposit. In addition to the information sheet, Please check out this excellent [Power Point presentation](#) that one our volunteers put together from last year's trip (presentation will go to your downloads).

MGV Diagnostic Workshops: Join other MGVs who love to learn and hone their diagnostic skills at the same time! The class includes individual presentations in the morning that will focus on a review of summer and winter annual weeds, and perennial and biennial weeds and control. Learn about the diagnostic process and then practice in the afternoon. Test your skills with hands-on samples that provide an opportunity for learning more about the diagnostic process.

* All Ask a Master Gardener volunteers receive free registration, but you must register. Contact the sponsor and let them know you are an AaMGV.



* Each county in attendance will receive a copy of *Peterson Field Guide To Mushrooms of North America* to take back to their county office.

Please visit: **Diagnostic Workshops 2025** (click on the words) for more information and to get registered today!

MGVs receive **ONE CE** per **ONE** hour of instruction

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Welcome to the United States of Heat!

Important news for Gardeners

As we all know heat waves can kill and as Ken Graham, Director of the National Weather service, put it, “Heat waves are getting hotter, longer, more frequent, and you’re getting less relief at night.” As the Earth keeps blowing past earlier heat records, [here’s](#) what to know and how to protect yourself.

-submitted by Carolyn Hufford, MGV 1996

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2024 Train the Trainer Spotted Lanternfly Training



As the Spotted Lanternfly (SLF), a non-native invasive species continues to increase its populations and spread in Ohio, Extension Master Gardener Volunteers will play a critical role in outreach and education in their counties. Volunteers will be offered an opportunity of a combination of indoor training and a hands-on outdoor field experience at two different locations and will require some driving between locations. The programs will be offered in 4 locations across the state, in counties with building SLF populations. The training is a result of funding through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) for OSU's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program.



SLF Training For Extension MGVs

- July 25 6:30 – 9 PM Franklin County (Columbus)
- July 29 2 – 4:30 PM Lucas County (Toledo)
- August 1 2 - 4:30 PM Mahoning County (Austintown)
- August 15 2 – 4:30 PM Hamilton County (Cincinnati)



Extension Master Gardener Volunteers are asked to register for the session that they would like to attend using the following Qualtrics link: <https://go.osu.edu/2024mqvsf>

The registration deadlines are one week prior to the specific session. Space may be limited and will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

Cost for the program is FREE and supported through NIFA the OSU IPM Program.

For more information please contact Amy Stone at OSU Extension in Lucas County at 419-574-0986, or stone.91@osu.edu



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

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2024 Train the Trainer - Spotted Lanternfly Training

Want to learn more? Come train to help educate the public about this destructive insect at one of four locations.

- **REGISTER [HERE](#) for this FREE training! Funding provided by NIFA OSU Integrative Pest Management.**

Questions? Contact Amy Stone at OSU Extension in Lucas County at 419.574.0986 / stone.91@osu.edu





Participant Testimonial

How lovely is this - a wonderful testimonial of the Phipps MGV Tour!

June is such a busy month for Master Gardener Volunteers – seems like all I do is weed, water, and deal with pesky insects and plant diseases! When the invitation hit my email box to see the botanical sights of Pittsburgh and Youngstown, I was more than ready to hop aboard and dig into the “educational” aspect of my role – especially when that term includes good food, wine, and camaraderie.

I am a Lucas County (Toledo-area) MGV (although we lived in Strongsville and Olmsted Falls for 25 years), so I was up at dawn to make the 8:00 AM bus departure.

I’m so glad I expended the effort! Our first destination – Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens – is a world-class garden experience and was definitely on my bucket list. It didn’t disappoint. I had never heard of our second stop – Fellows Riverside Gardens (part of the Youngstown area’s Mill Creek MetroParks) – but it is 12 rolling acres of well-curated displays interspersed with shady and restful enclaves. It is a wonder well worth the visit.

A wine-tasting and dinner at Woodland Cellars Estate capped off the tour. Our hosts were an enterprising young couple who are rehabbing the stunning venue, which is a historic mansion/former Catholic retreat center. They were gracious and charming, and the wine and meal delicious. Those of us who had the energy strolled the grounds after dinner.

Thank you so much, Cuyahoga County MGVs, for welcoming me on this tour. I think it’s really important that we take time to recharge and refresh on outings such as this. Beautiful gardens and the

fellowship of other MGVs remind us of what we love and why we volunteer, and they inspire us to bring our enthusiasm back to those we serve. I'm looking forward to the next tour!

-submitted by Kathleen Chirdon, Lucas County MGV



The Mural Park of Madison County: Check out this Project the MGVs of Madison County Played a Part in

Sharing just for the fun of it!

First conceived in 2009, it took ten years to set the plan in motion to create a "welcome" area on the east side of London, Ohio as lovely as the one on its west side. The resulting Community Mural Park (opened 2023) consisting of multi-panel murals using the bricked-in windows of an old tile factory worked perfectly to frame highlights of Ohio history. And along the way, the vision expanded to include a mini-park complete with benches and native plantings (provided by Madison County MGVs) inviting folks to sit and stay awhile.

Looking to the future, the Community Mural Park hopes to include educational kiosks and educational programming in partnership with OSU Extension and the Master Gardener Volunteers for students, seniors, and everyone in between.

Follow this [LINK](#) to learn more!



Saturdays in the Ben

Franklin Demo Gardens are Back!

For MGVs who need weekend hours, we will be in the garden from 9-12 on the second Saturday of every month beginning in June: **7/13, 8/10, 9/14, 10/12.**

If you would like to work on one or more of these dates, you must let Hedy Westra know a few days in advance at

hedywestra@ameritech.net. A senior MGV will be there if we know people are coming. If we don't hear from anyone, we'll be home pulling our own weeds.

Thursday mornings in the garden began on April 25th. Barring heavy rain, we will be there from 9-12 every Thursday. No need to let us know; just show up with your gloves, favorite hand tools, and a bag to take home the weeds.

Hope to see you in our beautiful gardens at least once this season. Hedy Westra, Susan Pandoli, Allen Maragliano, Kim Hawkins, Perennial and Herb Garden Co-Chairs
-submitted by Kim Hawkins, MGV 2008



* Cuyahoga County: 2024 CE Opportunities

See below for 2024's CE opportunities.

- July 15th - Discover the Biodiversity in Your Own Backyard - We'll learn about the incredible diversity in

your garden and inspire you to focus on supporting the biodiversity in your own yard by, for example, creating "soft landings" under keystone trees (or any other regionally appropriate native tree). These plantings provide critical shelter and habitat for one or more life cycle stages of moths, butterflies, and beneficial insects. - REGISTER [HERE!](#)

Upcoming Opportunities:

- **August 1st - Perennials and Vegetables with MGVs own Hedy Westra, Sue Pandoli, Gretchen Mettler, and Brandy Huddleson at Ben Franklin Demo Gardens.**
- **DTBD - Diagnostic Walk with Ann Chanon, Maggie Rivera, and Morning Robinson at Ben Franklin Demo Gardens.**
- **August 21st - Pruning Instruction with MGVs own Lois Rose at The Orchard at Fairhill.**

MGVs earn ONE CE per ONE hour of programming

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Study Moss on Put-in-Bay with OSU!

Moss Identification & Ecology Workshop

Mosses are small and intriguing plants that occur in nearly all ecosystems, sometimes abundantly so. They are a species-rich group that is often overlooked, even by skilled botanists, because of a need to use magnification to see their identification features. This workshop, geared to educators, botanically oriented amateur naturalists, and natural resource professionals engaged in land stewardship, will teach the hand lens and microscope skills required to key out unknown specimens, as well as enable field-recognition of the most common genera.

Location

Stone Laboratory | Put-In-Bay

Dates

August 9-11

Instructors

Robert Klips, Ph.D.
Associate Professor Emeritus

Lisa Kutschbach-Brohl
Chair, Lake Erie Islands Conservancy

Cost

\$500 (includes workshop fees, room and meals)



Scan to QR code to learn more and apply.

Still have questions? Contact us at: ohioseagrant@osu.edu



MGVs earn **ONE CE** per **ONE** hour of programming



Meet Summit in the Garden - see listings below!



Meet Me in the Garden 2024



F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm
Visitors Center
1828 Smith Road / Akron, Ohio

A FREE EDUCATIONAL SERIES

Presented by the **Summit County Master Gardeners**

Join us each month for a lively discussion on a variety of gardening topics.

Programs will be held inside unless otherwise noted. Come early. Space is limited.

May

Wednesday, **May 22**, 2024
7:00 pm

Gardening As We Age

Learn about best gardening practices, ergonomic tools and other ideas in order to garden productively as our abilities change.

Presented by

Laura Akgerman

Disability Services Coordinator
Ohio AgrAbility and OSU Extension



June

Wednesday, **June 26**, 2024
7:00 pm



Growing a Great Cutting Garden

Discover some of Stan Hywet's favorite flowers and plants for floral arranging as well as tips and techniques for growing your own.

Presented by

Brian Gregory

Senior Horticulturist,
Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens

July

Wednesday, **July 24**, 2024
7:00 pm

Tree Planting and Young Tree Care For Long-Term Success

Learn how trees are grown in nurseries and how to choose the right root ball type, proper planting and care for each situation.



Presented by

Tina Graver

Board Certified Master Arborist and
Certified Treecare Safety Professional

August

Wednesday, **August 28**, 2024
7:00 pm



Healthy Trees for 1 to 100 Acres

A brief introduction of forest management for small woodlots considering wildlife, aesthetics and timber management.

Presented by

Michael Hovatter

PA Regional Forester with LandWest



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MGVs earn **ONE CE** per **ONE** hour of programming



Continuing Education Webinars from CFAES

With lots of interesting sessions - CFAES Lunch & Learn and Happy Hour webinar sessions are the perfect way to expand your

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horticultural knowledge, as well as your knowledge of the natural world - all while earning required CE's.

Visit the following links to register for current webinars and to listen to past webinars:

- [2022-2023 Webinars](#)
- [2021-2022 Webinars](#)
- [2020-2021 Webinars](#)

Happy Learning!

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MGV Coordinator "Important Info" Archive: *Please use this ongoing archive to access important and helpful information shared by myself to assist you in being an effective MGV.*

Need help finding MGCC Projects or Roster? Follow these steps:

- Log into this [LINK](#)
- Scroll down to **MY COUNTIES**
- Click on the grey box titled: **SEARCH PROJECTS** to locate full list of current MGCC projects. Click on the title of the project to access description.
- Click on the grey box titled: **ROSTER** (located to the right of the **SEARCH PROJECTS** box) to locate the names, status, phone, and email addresses of your fellow MGVs.

HANDS ON CONNECT TIPS:

- Accessing Hands on Connect: - **BOOKMARK** the following link: <https://mgvolunteers.osu.edu/> - doing so will provide easy access to the site and you won't have to reach out to me. :)
- **REMEMBER** to log-in - the log-in button is in the upper right corner - otherwise, the information you see does not directly pertain to you.
- The Roster is located under the heading - **MY COUNTIES**. The Roster is in the third grey box to the right.
- If/when you are interested in a project you **need to reach out directly** to the chair in charge of that project to sign up. For instance, if you wanted to work with the Community Garden Mentors, you would reach out to Emily Roll. Contact information for every Master Gardener Volunteer is located under the **ROSTER** in Hands on Connect.
- **Do NOT** use the Hands on Connect sign-up feature – it is more a function of the system than a sign-up tool. Expressing interest basically pins the project to your page and allows you to then log any volunteer time spent or CE's earned.
- Take the time to familiarize yourself with the site - you can't break it and it will be much easier to use once you've clicked on a few links. You can't

get the lay of the land, so to speak, until you explore.

2024 Hour Requirements: 25 Volunteer Hours / 10 Continuing Education Hours - due October 31, 2024.

Your volunteer and continuing education hours should be earned participating in county and OSU Extension sponsored activities and continuing education opportunities. The goal is to support our county's projects benefiting the public and to gain OSU Extension-approved, science-based knowledge.

DON'T DELAY - start earning hours as soon as you can in 2024! It's always easier to accrue hours when our programming is in partial to full swing than to wait until our programming has wound down and hours are due to try and scramble to find hours to fulfill your requirements.

BUSY CAREER or HOME LIFE & WANT TO REMAIN AN MGV? - for those of you working full time, we know work gets crazy, so consider opportunities you can do at home to maintain your status as an MGV:

- Volunteer at Ben Franklin Perennial & Herb Demo Gardens Saturday offerings - stay tuned for dates!
- Participate in Telephone Hotline (task completed from the comfort of your own home).
- Join the Ask a Master Gardener team (questions answered online - also done from the comfort of your own home).
- Become a member of the Tech Team (also from the comfort of your home).
- Assist community gardens by becoming a Community Garden Mentor - mostly you respond to phone calls.
- Be a regular contributor to the MGCC Facebook page.

Please keep the information shared above for easy access.

If you have any questions about the information I have shared here, please let me know.

Thanks for all you do,
- Tammy

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**Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County
2024 Advisory Council Members:**

Executive Committee Officers:

Ellen Comeau / Chair / Term Start: '23 / Term End: '25

Melanie Biche / Program Committee Chair / Term Start: '24 / Term End: '26

Dave Appel / Fundraising Chair / Term Start: '23 / Term End: ' 25

Debbie Osgood / Secretary / Term Start: '23 / Term End: '25

Cheryl Dever / Treasurer / Term Start: '24 / Term End: '26

Kate Rosfelder / Assistant Treasurer / Term Start: '24 / Term End: '26

**** Officers serve two years in their officer roles and a third year as a member of the AC.**

**** Assistant treasurer role is ex officio and non-voting. Official AC term starts when the AT assumes the treasurer role.**

Advisory Council Members:

Gretchen Faro / Term Start: '22 / Term End: '24

Deb Dougherty / Term Start: '23 / Term End: '25

Sue Pandoli / Term Start: '23 / Term End: '25

Joan Pellegrin / Term Start: '23 / Term End: '25

Claudia Gordon / Term Start: '24 / Term End: '26

Tom Capretta / Term Start: '24 / Term End: '26

Anya Milgrom / Term Start: '24 / Term End: '26

Shoshana Wodzisz / Term Start: '24 / Term End: '26

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Next Advisory Council Meeting is Monday, August 19th, 2024 at 4:30 PM in the OSU training room at Fairhill Partners.

If you plan to attend to observe and listen, or if you'd like to be placed on the agenda (time permitting) please contact Ellen Comeau at wallpaperhanger@att.net.

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MASTER GARDENERS OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY



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