

GREEN THUMB PRINTS

Gardening is our Passion Education is our Purpose

July / 2019

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Upcoming Events:

Tue, Jul 02, 2019	<u>Propagating through cuttings of leaves and stems- roots</u>
Fri, Jul 05, 2019	<u>Courier Article Due</u>
Wed, Jul 10, 2019	<u>Library Presentation</u>
Thu, Jul 11, 2019	<u>MG Monthly Meeting</u>
Fri, Jul 12, 2019	<u>Diagnostic Clinic</u>
Thu, Jul 18, 2019	<u>Diagnostic Clinic</u>
Thu, Jul 18, 2019	<u>MG Executive Committee Meeting</u>
Tue, Jul 23, 2019	<u>Continuous Blooms Gardening in our Golden Years</u>
Thu, Aug 01, 2019	<u>Trip to trial gardens</u>
Mon, Aug 05, 2019	<u>Courier Article Due</u>
Tue, Aug 06, 2019	<u>Monarchs & Pollinators</u>
Thu, Aug 08, 2019	<u>Refreshments</u>
Thu, Aug 08, 2019	<u>MG Monthly Meeting</u>
Thu, Aug 08, 2019	<u>Brown Bag - Removal of Geese from Ponds/Yards</u>

Coordinator's Corner

Finally, we have seen a few days of dry with sunshine. I hope you have been able to get your garden done and have controlled the weeds. They seem to be growing faster than usual.

I contacted Marty Davis to let me know his Emeritus status was approved by the Master Gardener organization and that he may do as much or as little as he desires without any of the requirements.

Some of you asked me what my role as a Volunteer Coordinator is to our organization. I think many of you have thoughts that are different than what the role was designed to do. The Volunteer Coordinator does not run the group. He or she reports to the County Educator, Ed Lentz and serves as a liaison between the Educator and the Master Gardener officers. I serve as an advisor to the Executive Committee and each one of you as you have questions about state requirements or horticulture.

So, what is meant by being an advisor? The Volunteer Coordinator does not have any vote in business discussed in Executive Committee. All decisions of how to operate the group is done by the officers and committees. However, my role is to advise when things are not aligning with state requirements. You might remember at our last meeting that someone suggested having a raffle for the county fair booth. I quickly spoke up because it is against Ohio State policy for our organization to hold a raffle. So, when the organization discusses or would like to do things that are not in line with Ohio State policies, I need to speak up. Another example is making sure that our materials and presentations all are following the Ohio State branding policy.

Furthermore, I am responsible for making sure we follow the hour and reporting processes that are required of us by the state coordinators. Reporting hours and contacts in line with their requirements is reviewed by me. I also attend monthly meetings with the other county coordinators and educators to ensure we know what is happening throughout the state and making sure any issues we have get communicated to them.

I encourage each of you to work with your committee to present new ideas, ensure the project work is properly planned and executed and that the results are properly reported. The Volunteer Coordinator does not plan the work or execute the plan. That is done by each of you and the officers. Please do not wait for me to decide things. It's up to the projects and committees to do that if it is following Ohio State policy and that is where I can assist. But since I am ex-officio to all committees, it would be appropriate to notify me of all meetings of which I may or may not attend.

Thanks for all you do to make sure organization executes on its plans. Should you have any questions, please ask. Don't wait for me to tell you what to do in your work areas.

I have been told by Ohio State that our shirt orders have been delayed. I do not have an estimated date of arrival.

I hope to see you at the upcoming summer picnic.

Karl Farwig



Rambling Rose

It has been a great few days of sun and I hope you all got to enjoy being outside! I want to say Thank you to all the Committee Leads and members for keeping the Master Gardener Volunteers engaged in our mission.

The Operating Committees are the most important part of our organization. The committees, per the by-laws, are Administration and Subcommittee Social and Fundraising, Teaching, Education and Service. These 4 committees are responsible for all the Master Gardener Volunteers activities.

The Administration Committee lead is Lynn Farwig who oversees: Facebook, Betsy DeFrancesco; Calendar of Events and Apparel, Kay Sidaway; Membership, Lynn Farwig; Historian, open; Newsletter, open.

Administration Subcommittee lead is Barb Sherman and Lyn Maa who oversee: Wreath classes, Betsy Defrancesco; Summer Picnic, Dick Deerhake and Lyn Maa; Christmas Potluck, Marilyn Beltz; Refreshments, Barb Sherman; Plant Exchange and Fundraising, Karla Dennis.

The Teaching Committee lead is Judi Clymer who is responsible for: Courier Articles, Laurie Pressel; Speakers Bureau, Tim Brugeman; Let's Go Gardening, Noreen Walters; Fair Booth, Marilyn Beltz and Doris Salis; and Library programs, Karla Dennis.

The Education committee lead is Peggy Biolchini who oversees: Brown Bag, Patrick Flynn and open; Mentors, Tim Brugeman; Field Trips, Ann Wollum and Lynn Farwig; MGV Training classes, Karl Farwig and Tim Brugeman; Ask A Master Gardener, Peggy Biolchini.

The Service Committee lead is Linda Leiendecker who oversees: Phenology, Bill Jones; Mugs of Joy, Linda Laux; OSUE Building Garden, Doris Salis; Community Gardens, John and Linda Leiendecker.

The committee leads and their members are responsible for keeping all of us up to date on the activities occurring in their committee. For all questions and concerns in any of these areas, please contact the Committee Lead or the contact for that area.

Many MGV wear more than one hat so any regular or intern MGV who would like to help please contact the Committee Lead and offer your assistance.

Again, thank you to all who make this a successful, fun, and educational experience.

See you July 11 at the Picnic.

Rose



***HANCOCK COUNTY MASTER
GARDENER VOLUNTEERS
MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 13, 2019***

Following a very informative brown bag presentation on Phonology by Bill Jones, President Rose Morrison called the monthly business meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. with 34 Master Gardeners in attendance.

Secretary's Report: Rose asked for review and approval of the May 2019 secretary's minutes. Pat Flinn and Marlene Brunswick 1st and 2nd a motion to accept the minutes. By a voice vote the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer Report: Ann Woolum reviewed the updated financial reports. The reports were accepted by the group.

President Updates: Rose expressed appreciation to Lynn Farwig and Ann Woolum for organizing the field trip to the Secret Abatorium. Appreciation was also expressed to Doris Salis for writing the Courier article on Pollinators, Judy Clymer for organizing the Let's Go Gardening activity and to Linda Casey for her two years of service as the Green Thumb Prints newsletter editor.

Rose shared that Bill Jones and Marilyn Beltz would appreciate help with the garden club's triangle gardens on Tiffin Avenue and Crystal Avenue. Primary activities would be weeding and watering. MGv time spent on this project could be recorded as volunteer time on the VMS system. Bill and Marilyn are usually at the Tiffin Avenue garden on Friday mornings at 8:30.

Volunteer Coordinator Updates: Karl Farwig asked when using VMS to report activities to be descriptive in reporting the talks you have given. Include such information as the organization the talk was given to, the total number in attendance reported by a breakdown of male/female, youth/adult attendees.

Karl reported that the projected date for the new MGv t-shirts to be in was June 15. He encouraged us to attend at least one of the upcoming State sponsored Diagnostic Clinics. He also mentioned that intern Steve Moranville had relocated to Kentucky and would no longer be active in our program.

In reference to approved Ohio State Master Gardener logos that may be used when we prepare handouts or pamphlets for our various local activities, Karl stated that a posting of logos may be found on the VMS site.

COMMITTEE UPDATES –

Administrative Committee: Lynn Farwig reported that Linda Casey will be providing a gardening article each month for the Green Thumb Prints newsletter, she will be stepping away from the activities related to the editor of the publication. Thus, Lynn has a need for a Master Gardener Volunteer to step forward and accept the leadership of this activity. A goal of having the newsletter published by the first of each month has been established.

Administrative Subcommittee Social Activities: Barb Sherman reported that our July 11 meeting will be our summer picnic at the home of Dick Deerhake and Lynn Maa. Their home is located at 125 W. Edgar. Starting time will be 6:00 p.m. Those attending should bring a side dish to share and a lawn chair. The main entrée will be provided. A business meeting will follow the dinner.

Service Committee: Linda Leiendecker reported that the Community Garden is planted and straw was delivered. The mailbox is up. When you work at the garden you should leave a note sharing what work you completed that day. Our goal for produce grown at the Community Garden during the 2019 growing season is 4,000 pounds. Produce grown will be donated to local charities such as the City Mission, Hope House and Chopin Hall. If an MGv is growing produce in their own garden and donating it to charity the produce should be weighted and the amount report to Linda. This amount will be included in our goal of raising 4,000 pounds of fresh produce.

Karl recommended that a time be set for interns to meet at the Community Garden so they might learn the activities of the garden, ground rules and where the key is located for watering. He also suggested that volunteers who plan to work at the Lawrence

Homestead property share their name with Linda prior to their going out as Mr. Lawrence does not like a lot of strangers on his property.

Teaching Committee: Marilyn Beltz reported that the theme for the flower displays at the 2019 Hancock County Fair will be Flower Power. Volunteers may sign up to work at the Master Gardener booth by accessing the VMS site and clicking on the Fair Booth under the Event Calendar.

Tim Brugeman reported that the Speakers Bureau has provided Master Gardener speakers to the Bluffton Garden Club, the Hancock County Public Library, and the 50 North Senior Center in 2019.

Education Committee:

Tim Brugeman shared that the By-Law Committee would be meeting after the business meeting to establish dates for committee work sessions.

Ann Woolum gave an update on our scheduled field trip to the Schedel Arboretum in Elmore, Ohio on Saturday, June 29, 2019. The group will leave the Extension Office at 8:45 a.m. There is a \$25 fee. Rose reported that the Executive Committee had approved a motion and was recommending to the membership that a one-time \$10 tuition stipend for all Master Gardens and Interns planning to attend the Schedel Arboretum be given. Tim Brugeman and Lisa McClain first and seconded the motion respectively. The motion was accepted by the membership.

Ann also reviewed a motion on tentative plans for a field trip August 1, 2019 to the Raker Roberta Trial Gardens located between Litchfield and Jonesville, Michigan. Pat Flinn and Lynn Farwig first and seconded the motion respectively and the motion was approved by the membership.

New Business:

It was shared that Master Gardener Marty Davis had applied for Emeritus Status and the request had been approved by the Executive Committee.

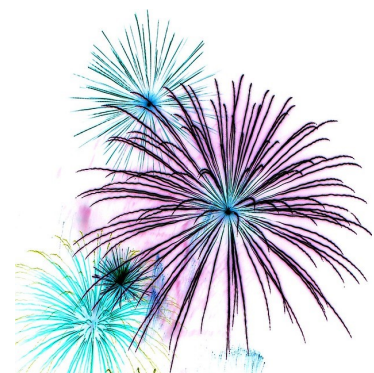
Ann and Rose shared information on the Eventbrite site which provides us with an option beyond PayPal for collecting payments online. Rose asked for approval for a motion to start the process to apply to Eventbrite. Laurie Pressel and Karla Dennis first and seconded the motion respectively. The motion was approved by the membership.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 11, 2019. Summer picnic at the home of Lynn Maa and Dick Deerhake. Starting time - 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cheryl Miller



VMS

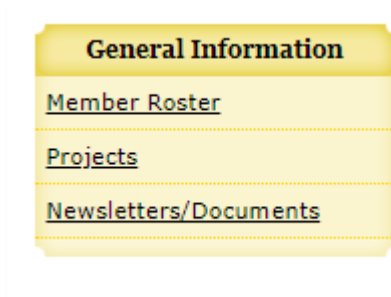
Tips and Tricks

Volunteering for a Project or an Event

Many of you wonder how to volunteer to be on a project team. Well the VMS allows you to volunteer to work on a project and to get communication from the project team via email to only those who have volunteered for a project. John and Linda are using this feature to communicate only to the members who have volunteered to be on the Community Garden project. That way they can run the day to day operations without emailing each of us about their detailed work.

Here is how to do it:

Select Projects for the Home screen.



You can read about the projects that are available. Click on the project that you are interested in volunteering to help with. At the bottom, you will see Volunteer for Project. By clicking on this you will be part of the project team and plans and executes the work of the project.

Volunteer For Project

You can volunteer for this project! To volunteer to help organize this project, just click the 'Volunteer' button below. It would also be a good idea to add some notes for the project coordinator to let them know what you are willing to do.

Notes	
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If you no longer want to be on a project, follow steps 1 and 2, but click unvolunteer.

Volunteer For Project

Thank you for volunteering for this project!

Notes	
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Volunteering to attend an event is very similar.

Go to the calendar item that you are interested in.
Towards the bottom you will see Volunteer for Event. You can also note a comment you have for the event coordinator and whether you are bringing a guest.

Volunteer For Event

Comments to Coordinators	<div></div>
Bringing Guest	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Volunteer	<div>You are not signed up for this event.</div> <div>Volunteer for Event</div>

To remove your name for the event, you go to the calendar event and select Unvolunteer.



Gardening In Your Golden Years Presentation



Gardening in the Golden Years

On June 18, 2019 at 50 North Senior Center Tim Brugeman and intern Debra Evans presented the third installment of the series “Gardening in the Golden Years: Keeping Indoor Plants Alive and Healthy.”

The presentation given by Tim included aspects of selection, care, health benefits, plants that are hard to “kill”, and plants that should be kept away from pets. The participants were asked to bring an empty pot to take a plant home. Tim brought 40 houseplants that were donated by Lowe’s Home Improvement and Feasel’s Garden Center however, 34 of those signed up participated. A hand out on Top Ten Tips for Houseplant was given to all participants.

Then the fun began when participants started to pot their new plants. Many questions were answered and there was reference books available. Lynn a participant said “She liked the health benefits that were covered and the part about plants you can’t kill” also Andy a participant stated “She loved learning about the variety of plants and different types”. Margie Stateler who is the Activities Director at 50 North said “50 North is thrilled” to have the Master Gardener’s present this series on gardening. “It is a very successful program and attendance is excellent” Margie also stated that “partnership with Master Gardeners continues because it is so successful do to the popularity of the classes.”

Our many thanks to Lowe’s Home Improvement and Feasel’s Garden Center for their generosity for the donation of plants and 50 North Senior Center for their partnership and assistance.

This series Gardening in the Golden Years affords a wonderful opportunity to uphold our motto “Gardening is our Passion.....Education is our Purpose”.

The Top Ten Tips for Houseplants was taken from notes given during the Master Garden class given by Dr. Beth Fausey-Shecklehoff on chapter 17 Houseplants.

1. Do not over water damp to the first knuckle.
2. Sunlight understand the plant you have and the light requirements.
3. Water plants from the bottom using a saucer and a pot with a drain hole.
4. Hold the fertilizer! Use ½ strength in the winter per month and ½ strength 2 times a month in the summer.
5. Keep plants clean set out in great weather for a light rain shower.
6. Increase humidity set a saucer with pebbles and water near plants.
7. In spring plants will have new growth remove brown wilted leaves.
8. Refresh the soil as plants grow transplant to larger pots.
9. Use a potting mix with stones in the bottom for drainage.
10. Enjoy! Plants help to purify the air, bring color to a room and you can have green all year long!



Education Committee

Ask-A-Master Gardener Program

The Ask-A-Master Gardener (AMG) program has been busy this June. As of this writing, we have received 10 questions from 9 people. This month there have been several tree and shrub questions, a couple on fruit (grapes and black raspberries), several plant and insect identifications and one vegetable question. If you are on the AMG team and haven't received a call to help, it is due to the expertise level each one of you has previously stated. Some of these questions can be easily answered and others haven't taken some research. If you would like to be contacted more, please let me (Peggy Biolchini) know. I would like to thank Barb Phillips for her expertise in growing fruit, Karla Dennis for her ability to identify plants and insects, and Karl Farwig on a tree with an insect issue. Karl had to send a sample for identification to Curtis Young, the OSU Extension Educator for exact identification of an insect damage on a maple tree. Bob Campbell has asked to be removed from the AMG program due to his health issues. If his health issues ever stabilize, he is welcome to return at any time!

Brown Bag Presentation

The next Brown Bag presentation will be in August by Linda Casey with her presentation on How to Keep Geese off of Ponds. Although this may not be a relative subject for your backyard, as a Master Gardener Volunteer it is valuable information to know in order to help others. Presentation will begin promptly at 6:00 pm with the MGCV business meeting following.

Upcoming Field Trip News

Thursday, August 1st

Raker-Roberta's Young Plants, located at 10371 Rainey Road, Litchfield, MI 49252.

Gather at the OSU Extension Office on Thursday, August 1st, at 8:00 am for the 2 hour and 10 minute drive. We will tour the grounds in the morning with the gardens being self-guided. Free hot dogs, chips and drinks will be served for lunch in the large circus tent and then there will be a greenhouse tour at 1:30 p.m. Plants cannot be purchased. Hanging gardens and dahlias are being featured this year. There are a few benches in the gardens with no golf carts. There is no admission cost. After the greenhouse tour, we will head home to Findlay. If people want, we could stop for dinner in Toledo.

Roberta's Young Plants is the leading wholesaler of custom grown plugs and liners in North America. Through both seed and vegetative propagation, Raker-Roberta's supplies over 3,000 plant varieties to greenhouses and nurseries around the planet. They continuously research and evaluate new and existing plant varieties. Their yearly trials provide more than four acres of over 3,000 plant varieties in three trial categories: row, hanging basket, and container. For information visit: <http://www.m.raker.com/home.aspx>.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Biolchini



Summer Picnic



Dick Deerhake and Lynn Maa will host the Master Gardener Volunteer Picnic at 6 pm on July 11, 2019 located at 125 West Edgar Street. The meat, table service and drinks will be furnished. Please bring a salad, dessert or casserole to share and bring a chair. We can only hope all of this rain is gone by then if not we will still have a fun time.

When lightning strikes, is the tree out?

B. Rosie Lerner

June 18, 2019



When lightning strikes a tree, it will most certainly leave a calling card, but it can be difficult to predict whether that injury is strike one, two or three. There are many variables to consider, including the species, moisture content, relative health of the tree at the time of the strike, and the intensity of the strike.

Lightning can strike just about anything tall, but trees do seem to be a frequent target. And the same tree can be hit more than once. Moist tissues, which are vessels for water and carbohydrates just inside the tree bark, are better conductors of electricity than the drier wood in the center of the tree. The electrical current creates intense heating, often resulting in the bark virtually exploding off in large strips. Some trees may explode from the center of the tree, while others may have a narrow, but long, split in the trunk. If the surface of the bark is soaked with rain, the current may travel outside the trunk, resulting in less damage.

Once the storm has passed and it is safe to assess the damage, the first priority is to determine whether the tree poses a hazard to people or property. Dangling limbs, jagged branches, etc. should be removed immediately. Large limbs that cannot be safely reached from the ground call for a certified professional arborist. An arborist can also help you assess if the tree will continue to pose a hazard and should be removed.

Everybody wants to know if their tree will die from the injury. In many cases, it just cannot be accurately predicted. We've all seen examples of trees that live for years with extensive injury. But damaged trees will also be more susceptible to insect pests, disease, decay and environmental stress. So while they may not die immediately from a lightning strike, the damage can continue to take a toll over several months or years.

You can always take a wait and see approach, as long as the tree does not appear to pose a danger to people or property. Purdue Extension has several publications that can help you learn proper pruning techniques, as well as how to find a professional arborist.

- [**HO-4 Pruning Ornamental Trees and Shrubs**](#)
- [**Coping With Storm-Damaged Trees**](#)
- [**Hire An Arborist**](#)
- [**Trees and Storms**](#)

Diversity in when milkweeds emerge supports monarch butterflies

June 21, 2019 - Author: [Douglas Landis](#) and [Nathan Haan](#), Michigan State University, Department of Entomology



Monarch collected at one site on June 17-18, 2019. Photo by Nate Haan, MSU Entomology.

Despite the cool rainy spring, people have generally reported seeing lots of migrating monarchs and the resulting eggs and caterpillars. In the East Lansing, Michigan, area, caterpillars from the earliest-laid eggs are already transforming into pupae, and a freshly-emerged adult monarch—i.e., very likely originating from eggs laid in Michigan—was observed on June 19. A promising start to the 2019 season!

This spring, we have again been impressed by the importance of the earliest-emerging stems of common milkweed for supporting egg laying by migrating monarchs. We first observed monarchs in East Lansing on May 16 and eggs on May 18. The important part about this observation is that relatively few common milkweed stems had even emerged by that time, suggesting that the early emerging milkweed is a key resource for the initial migrants into the state. This prompts us to ask, what are the factors that result in early emergence of milkweed and how can we ensure that some is likely to be present in any given year?

In our research we regularly survey common milkweed patches in the East Lansing area, often returning to the same spots year after year. While we know that common milkweed occurs at each of the sites, there is tremendous variability in when the stems emerge and thus become available for egg laying. This year when we first began scouting out patches in mid-May, common milkweed had emerged at very few of the sites. On June 3, we found milkweed at more than half of the sites, but some still had no stems above ground. Finally, on June 18 milkweed was up at most sites, but some of the places we know had milkweed last year still have no evidence of emergence. What is the implication of this variation in emergence timing for monarch egg laying and larval (caterpillar) survival?

Monarch life cycle. Larvae (caterpillars) go through five stages of growth called instars. The first instar is the smallest size caterpillar.





Benefits of early emerging milkweeds

We gained additional insight when we surveyed 13 common milkweed patches in the East Lansing area on June 17 and 18. At 10 of these sites, we found virtually no monarch eggs or larvae—just five eggs and two early-instar larvae despite searching more than 1,200 stems. However, in three patches of milkweed, we found a glut of later-instar larvae that were approaching pupation. Across these three sites we found an average of one fourth or fifth-instar larva for every 15 stems, which is a very high density of monarch larvae, especially considering they were later-instar caterpillars.

What made these sites so attractive to the migrating adult monarchs a few weeks ago, and why did the larvae survive in such high numbers?

The common denominator at these caterpillar-filled sites seems to be relatively sparse vegetation with little plant litter on the soil, which we think stimulated the common milkweed stems at those sites to emerge early. This means the stems were available and likely were more visually obvious to the first migrating monarchs arriving in our area, and consequently they were loaded up with eggs. The individual factors that resulted in the sparse vegetation varied. One site was a sandy grassland in an industrial park, another a recently harvested poplar planting on a sandy, West-facing hill, and the third was a sparsely-vegetated grassy parking lot edge. We have also observed that around the home landscape, milkweed growing in elevated beds or on warmer South-facing slopes seem to emerge early. Areas that have been burned (removing plant litter) also warm up quickly and support early emerging milkweed.

Benefits of later emerging milkweed

Having spent most of this article talking about the importance of early emerging milkweed, we also need to mention the benefits of late emerging milkweed. The first generation butterflies that will be flying over the next several weeks prefer young milkweed on which to lay their eggs. Some of those eggs will be laid on butterfly milkweed, swamp milkweed, and whorled milkweed, which naturally emerge later than common milkweed. Alternatively, we previously discussed how [setting back a portion of a common milkweed patch by mowing can enhance egg and larval survival](#).

In the past, there was probably a wide diversity of milkweed emergence dates due to natural disturbances like fire, grazing, as well as variable soil types and slopes. Later, humans introduced variability through agricultural practices associated with preparing and cultivating crop fields. Currently, we have lost some of that variability and [may need to replicate it more intentional ways](#).

How to increase variable times of emergence in a milkweed stand

Given this, it's worth considering how we might increase variability in milkweed emergence throughout the critical spring and early summer season. Perhaps that means finding a low-productivity sandy spot on your property on which to plant milkweed. Milkweed in mulched garden beds near structures also seems to emerge early and may provide critical resources. Plant or encourage some late emerging species of milkweeds. Finally, consider how you might mow or trim common milkweed to provide timely resources for monarch butterflies.

This article was published by [Michigan State University Extension](#)



April's Brown Bag on Phenology





IT'S TIME TO.....

HOME (Houseplants and indoor activities)

- Indoor plants will require more frequent watering and fertilizing as they increase their summer growth.
- You can move houseplants outdoors to a shady location, but pay close attention to their watering needs.
- Cut garden flowers for indoor beauty. Recut the stems again just before placing in water. Add a floral preservative, and change the solution frequently.
- Root cuttings of houseplants and garden plants to increase your collection or share with a friend.

YARD (Lawns, woody ornamentals, and fruits)

- Prune spring-flowering shrubs after blooms fade.
- Apply fungicide to prevent and control black spot on roses.
- Water newly planted trees and shrubs. Water deeply every seven to 10 days when rain is lacking.
- Propagate deciduous shrubs (such as forsythia, lilac, pyracantha, and weigela) by stem tip cuttings.
- Remove faded flowers and seed pods on lilac and other spring-flowering shrubs.
- Many fruit trees had few to no flowers this year thanks to the brutal winter, but some apples and pears may still have fruit set. If they have much of a crop, don't be alarmed by a June drop of some fruit. It is a natural thinning process for most trees to prevent excessive loads, although there might not be as much to thin this year. Thin the remaining fruit, if necessary, or prop up heavy branches to avoid breakage. Most fruit should be spaced 6 to 8 inches apart on a branch.
- Mow grass regularly but mow high to help protect plant crowns from heat stress.
- Unless excessive, leave lawn clippings on the lawn.
- To keep the lawn green and growing, water as needed to supply a total of 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week. If left unwatered, lawns will turn brown and become dormant during extended hot, dry spells, but will green up again when conditions are more favorable.

GARDEN (Vegetables, small fruits, and flowers)

- Discontinue harvesting asparagus and rhubarb around mid-June to allow foliage to develop and store food reserves for next year's harvest. Fertilize and water when dry to promote healthy growth.
- Mulch to control weeds and conserve soil moisture after soil has warmed. You can use many materials, including straw, chopped corncobs, bark chips, shredded paper, and grass clippings.
- Blanch (exclude light from) cauliflower when heads are just 2 inches in diameter. Tie leaves up and over the developing head.
- Control weeds. They're easier to pull when they are still young.
- Start seeds of cabbage, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, and cauliflower for fall garden transplants.
- Plan now for your Halloween pumpkin. Determine the days to harvest for the particular cultivar you want to plant (usually on the seed packet) and count backward to determine the proper planting date.
- Harvest spring plantings of broccoli, cabbage, and peas.
- Remove cool-season plants, such as radish, spinach, and lettuce, because they will bolt (that is, form seed stalks) during hot summer weather.
- Continue planting carrots, beans, and sweet corn for successive harvests.
- For staked tomatoes, remove suckers (branches that form where the leaf joins the stem) while they are 1 to 1.5 inches long to allow easier training.
- Remove the spent blooms of peony, iris, delphiniums, and other flowers.
- Pinch the shoot tips of chrysanthemums, impatiens, petunias, and coleus to promote bushier growth.
- Remove the tops of spring-flowering bulbs only after they have yellowed and withered.
- Continue planting gladiolus for a succession of bloom.
- Pick strawberries from the garden or a U-pick operation.
- Protect ripening strawberries from birds by covering with netting.
- Supplement natural rainfall (as needed) to supply a total of 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week to the garden.



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COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
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hancock.osu.edu

Hancock County Fair Booth Planning

The theme for the Hancock County Fair booth this year is Flower Power. If you would like to help plan the fair booth, help set up the fair booth, volunteer to answer questions at the booth during the fair, or help tear down the fair booth please sign up on the VMS. Set up for the fair booth is on Tuesday, August 27. Three volunteers are needed for each shift during the fair, which is August 28-September 2. The morning shift is 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The afternoon shift is 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and the evening shift is 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Tear down for the fair booth is Tuesday, September 3rd. Please do your part and sign up for 3 or 4 shifts per person. Thank you!!!



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