

News You Can Use !!

November - 2020

Here is the November 2020 issue of News You Can Use!

Please grab a cup of your favorite drink and join us here for a few minutes of important news for all Master Gardeners, containing an update from your chair and coordinator, the next Gatherings in the Garden webinar, and info on new CE opportunities. Be sure to read all the way to the end!

Beginning October 2020 - April 2021, there will be only one issue of News You Can Use per month.

If you have any questions on information found in News You Can Use - contact Kathy DeJohn at kathy4dj@yahoo.com

Help us build our social media presence by following the [Master Gardeners 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.



A Farewell from Kathy DeJohn

It's been my honor to serve you as the Chair of the Advisory Committee for MGCC, Inc. for the past two years.

I have one more year to serve on the Advisory Committee and will ensure a smooth transition to Kim Hawkins as Chair and Beth Murphy as Vice Chair.

Please thank the following MGV's who have said yes to serving on the Advisory Committee beginning in 2021:

- Dave Appel
- Amy Shaper
- Beth Conroy

- Mary Ann Dyer
- Cathy Wheeler
- Mary Jo Rawlins (second term)
- Jennifer Young (second term)

I want to take a moment to thank the members of the Advisory Committee who served their terms and will leave the committee at the end of this year. Please give a shout out of thanks for their service to:

- Mary Clink
- Carol Ann Cohen
- Betty Drake
- Dave Gilronan
- Nadalene Joseph

~Kathy DeJohn, MGV 2012

Message from Your Volunteer Coordinator: **2020 Hour Update**

Just wanted to thank you all for logging your 2020 hours - there are still a few outliers, but we are nearly there.

I also wanted to remind you all once again to make sure you are logging your hours under the project codes beginning with 0018. The change in codes occurred in 2018. Please check your log and update any outdated codes.



And, just to be clear, the old project codes cannot be removed according to Pam Bennett. Once we switch over to a new system in 2021, they will be removed.

***IMPORTANT - I will launch Recertification in early December** as soon as I get the order from Columbus. **PLEASE DO NOT RECERTIFY UNTIL I SEND OUT THE REQUEST.** There is a system wide 2020 data pull at that time, which will effectively close out the year in regard to hours. This data is used to demonstrate the importance of the Extension Master Gardener Program at the state and federal level and assists in securing ongoing funding for the program each year. This is **WHY** it is so important to get your hours in in a timely manner.

A SINCERE THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO - I know it has been a difficult year, but you have done remarkably well, considering our protective limitations, in serving your fellow Cuyahogans - way to go!

This edition of NYCUC will be short, but sweet. It contains **3 new CE opportunities** (see below) offered by the EPA and other counties, starting this Thursday the 12th.

As a reminder, you are required to achieve at least **5** dedicated volunteer hours. In addition to your required **10 CE hours**, you may **log additional CE's as 0018_102 COVID 19 Continuing Ed in Place of Service Hours in the VMS** to achieve the balance of your **required 30 hours for 2020**.

A sincere thanks for all you do,

Tammy

If you have questions, please email me at: currier.37@osu.edu



Gatherings in the Garden: African Violets & Other House Plants

*Join us on Saturday, November 14th
for the next session in our popular
online Gatherings in the Garden
educational series.*

We're probably all missing our gardens by now and house plants can help fill the need to interact with things that are green and growing. This presentation starts with a brief history of house plants and the benefits of growing them. It then covers the requirements to grow them properly, including light, soil, and watering needs. Finally, it takes a deeper dive into some key aspects of African violets, focusing on the propagation of regular and chimera violets. African violets currently have over 19,000 named hybrids and are one of the most popular house plants worldwide.



Don Landek became a Master Gardener Volunteer in 2019 to pursue a life-long interest in plants and plant propagation. He retired two years ago as Administrative Director of Laboratories at University Hospital after a career in the health care field. He has been growing African violets for more than 40 years.

Our Gatherings in the Garden sessions will be held the second and fourth Saturdays, now through the end of the year, from 10:00 - 11:00 AM. Master Gardeners will receive one CE for their participation.

Upcoming sessions:

November 21st - What Do I Do with my Holiday Plants After the Holidays?

**Please follow this [LINK](#) to register.
The cost for each program will be \$5.**

Note:

- **Registration will close on Friday, November 13th at 12:00 Noon to guarantee all paid registrants receive the Zoom link in time for the Saturday's session.**
- **Information on how to connect to the online webinar will be sent to all registrants on Friday, November 13th.**
- **Questions or concerns, contact: mgcc.event@yahoo.com**

We invite you to share this with your friends and family.

Programs will be presented by members of the Library Committee and the Speakers' Bureau.

MGVs will receive one CE for this webinar



Gardening News from Around the Web: In France, Farmers Still Tend Age-Old Island Gardens

Les Hortillonnages d'Amiens survived a plan to pave it over

IN AND AROUND AMIENS IN the French Picardy region, a stretch of floating farmland poses an unusual challenge to local farmers and gardeners. Les Hortillonnages d'Amiens are an age-old, 300-hectare area of marshland where vegetables and flowers grow on gardens connected by 40 miles of canal.

One legend claims that the Hortillonnages date back to Roman times, with the term for market gardens, hortillon, originating from the Latin word hortus. But it was in the Middle Ages that locals mined marshland around the loops of the Somme river for peat to burn as fuel. The network of trenches eventually filled with water, creating a labyrinth of highly fertile land and canals, soon utilized by farmers who sold their fresh produce to the bustling market halls of nearby Paris. Hortillons varied in size, and just as with fields, some farmers had larger plots while others cultivated only one. But throughout the years, the work has always been a family affair.

Without roads, the only way to navigate the vast area is by the flat-bottomed boats used by farmers for centuries. Today, many of the boats take visitors on tours to spot wildlife and the many birds that call this unusual habitat home. The fertile gardens burst with cabbage in all its forms, carrots, leeks, turnips, and radishes, as well as seasonal vegetables such as eggplants, peppers, tomatoes, and melons. The entire area is an oasis of calm, with water lilies floating on the canals, shimmering kingfishers diving for fish, swans gliding past, and dragonflies hovering.

To read more of this fascinating article by Ulrike Lemmin-Woolfrey published on Atlas Obscura, follow this [LINK](#).

-submitted **Tammy L. Currier, Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator**

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES:

(Note: Cuyahoga County CE opportunities will always be listed first, followed by CE opportunities available in other Ohio counties, so remember to scroll down. New listings will be shown first followed by opportunities listed in chronological order.)



* **Stark County: Garden Java and Garden Java topics thru November**

Grab your own cup of java and join the Master Gardeners of Stark County for their ongoing series, Garden Java. Their upcoming sessions include winter seed sowing and decorating with fresh greens for the holidays.

When:

- **Thursday, November 12th, 10:00 AM - Winter Seed Sowing with Stark County MGV, Rhonda Snyder**
- **Thursday, November 19th, 10:00 AM - Holiday Decorating with Fresh Greens with Stark County MGV, Leanne Estacion**

Where: Online

Register: [HERE](#)

Master Gardeners Volunteers will receive 1 CE each program

* **Cuyahoga County: Property Values and Water Quality - Supporting Decisions with the Hedonic Model - 11/18/2020**

The Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development invites you to a free webinar



Join EPA researchers as they discuss property values and water quality. Although there is well-established body of literature examining how water quality impacts home values, it has yet to be used in analyses of regional and nationwide water quality regulations. Property value studies combine housing choices with data on water quality to estimate benefits in a statistical model. This webinar will present an overview of the hedonic property value method, synthesize the literature to estimate a set of unit values and transfer functions to support decisions affecting water quality, and identify approaches to move beyond the imitations identified in the synthesis.

About the Presenters:

Matt Heberling, Ph.D. - Matt is a research economist with EPA's Office of Research and Development, Center for Environmental Measurement and Modeling. His current research focuses on estimating the economic benefits of improving water quality and using economic incentives for controlling pollution. Matt holds a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Penn State University.

Michael Papenfus, Ph.D. - Michael is an environmental economist with EPA's Office of Research and Development Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment. His current research focuses on estimating the economic benefits associated with protecting water quality, wild salmon populations, and human health. Michael holds a Ph.D. in environment and resources (environmental economics) from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and previously worked at the Natural Capital Project before joining the EPA.

When: Wednesday, November 18th, 2:00 - 3:00 PM

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Master Gardeners Volunteers will receive 1 CE for this program



*** Montgomery County: Global Climate Change - Update 2020 - 11/18/2020**

Montgomery County invites you to join them for a discussion about the history of climate change, its current trends and outlook, and hear tips on gardening practices relative to the effects of climate change.

Speaker: Dr. Thomas W. Blaine, Associate Professor, College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences, Ohio State University Extension

When: Wednesday, November 18th, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Register: To attend this webinar, register [HERE](#)

Passcode: OSUE (All Caps)

Questions: Contact Erin Miller at miller.10520@osu.edu / 937-224-9654 Office

Master Gardeners Volunteers will receive 1 CE for this program

MGVS - Keep those FB Project Posts Coming

Thank you to each of the MGVs that have sent in projects for posting on the OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers of Cuyahoga County FB page. For inspiration, we will continue to share recent posts. The post featured here was submitted by Mary Jo Rawlins.

We continue to accept submissions, so please send yours along. We recognize creating posts for social media may seem like a poor substitute for actual gardening, but it does offer MGCCs the opportunity to continue to educate during this unprecedented time. In addition, you have the opportunity to earn required VHs.

For instructions on how to submit, please see the article below this entry entitled: **Get on Board: Earn Volunteer Hours Writing Posts for Facebook.**



OSU Extension Master
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Like



OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers
of Cuyahoga County Ohio

June 12 at 4:24 PM · 🌐

Gardening on a Dime

During these uncertain times you may have looked at your barren garden space and reflected on your empty wallet! Annuals are beautiful, but what can we do today that is affordable and will... More



9 Likes

To read the rest of this post, please visit: [Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County Facebook page](#) and follow us to help build our social media presence.



OSU Extension Master
Gardener Volunteers of
Cuyahoga County Ohio
Education



Like

Get on Board: Earn Volunteer Hours Writing Posts for Facebook

Master Gardeners - you all have a LOT of knowledge, so let's build our social media presence by first liking our [Facebook page](#) and by submitting a small project for a weekly Facebook post!

Your post should be no more than 200 words and be a small garden-related tip or project for beginners, like how to start

seeds, press a flower or flowers, make salsa from your garden veggies, get rid of a certain weed, etc.

You can include links to other websites, but remember that all MGV research rules apply; sources must be .edu or other credible and non-biased sources. You can include photos or images if you have them.

After you create your write-up, please send it to Tammy Currier at currier.37@osu.edu. You will receive volunteer hours for any time spent researching and writing the post. You can log these hours under "Community Service" with the description: Facebook Mini Garden Project.

Tammy will copy edit your submissions and post each one once Maggie Rivera has fact-checked them and approved them for publication, which includes reviewing each prospective post for proper horticultural content.

Facebook Post Timeline:

Mondays - promote Hotline & share recent Hotline question and MGV answer

Wednesdays - share MGV Project Post

Fridays - promote upcoming programming or share MGV Project Post

Come on, MGVs, let's get writing and liking our Facebook page to expand our social media presence and increase our brand awareness! Don't worry if you're not the best writer in the world - that's what a copy editor is for. You don't have to be ON Facebook yourself help us with our social media presence!

For more information on how to earn Volunteer Hours in 2020, please see the following article.

Internet Search Tips: Useful Info from a Fellow MGV

If you're using Google or another search engine, the following tips will help return unbiased, research-based information.

Google Search Strategy for MG Hotline and Diagnostics

"Unbiased, research-based information"

- **Do a Google search.**
- **Now that you have results, select "Settings," scroll down and click on "advanced search."**
- **A new page comes up.**
- **Scroll down the page and find the box that asks for: "site or domain:"**
- **Type in: .edu OR .gov**



[You can enter more limiters for instance “last update” for more current information.]

- Press Enter for results.

KEEP IN MIND: Limiting search domains to .edu and .gov will give the most UNBIASED, research-based results in most (but not all, so use common sense) situations.

Be sure the information you choose is for your zone and climate.

A CAVEAT FROM THIS LIBRARIAN:

The domains .com .org or .net are not reliable limiters because of the commercial focus: most are selling something and are usually not a source of unbiased, research-based information.

This can be a powerful strategy for personal Internet research as well. For instance, when researching medical and health issues, start searches that are limited to .gov domain.

Please share this information tool with our clients.

- Carolyn L. Hufford, M.L.I.S., MGV 1996



Zoom Meeting Protocol:

So, we've gone from blooming tulips to blooming sunflowers to falling leaves and social distancing measures continue. And, we're still as busy behind the scenes, keeping things rolling. Please review our Zoom Meeting Protocol for any upcoming meetings you may have.

A.) Zoom Protocol: To keep us meeting, planning and educating (at a distance of course), Maggie has worked with your Volunteer Coordinator and the MGV Leadership to develop a protocol you can use to request a zoom meeting for MGV purposes.

* Please note that you should NOT use Zoom to hold meetings with the public without going through the following process.

Zoom Meeting Request and Dispatch

****Do not use zoom to hold meetings with the public without going through the following process**** The one and only exception is MGV Community Garden Mentors with community gardeners they are mentoring.

To request a Zoom meeting for MGV purposes please follow these steps:

Contact Tammy Currier via email (currier.37@osu.edu) to request a Zoom meeting; title the email “_(your name)___ Requesting Zoom Meeting” and submit the following information.

1. Meeting type: For the Public OR MGV Internal Meeting
2. **What MGV Committee is this meeting on behalf of?**
3. Title of Meeting, Date & Time
4. **Tammy will then take that request and send it to our Zoom Team. Once Tammy has confirmed the assignment, she will connect you (the requester) with the Zoom Team Member via email.**
5. You will work with the Zoom Team Member to schedule the meeting and receive meeting information that you can share with your meeting attendees. The Zoom Team Member will also be present during your meeting to help with any technical issues that may arise.

Please allow two weeks for the Zoom meeting to be dispatched and created. Keep in mind Tammy’s part-time hours, Monday 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM; Tuesday – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Wednesday – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM; & Thursday – 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM.

Digital Learning: Basic Zoom Instructions & Best Practices

As our Master Gardener / Extension programming shifts to the virtual realm for the time being, please review the following instructions on how to use the Zoom software.



1. If it is your first time using Zoom, you will be prompted to download the software. Enter your first name, last name, email address, and county. Once you have entered the data, hit the Register button and a screen will return informing you your registration has been approved.
2. **Click on the Join a Meeting button and input the Webinar ID or meeting code of the lecture you've registered for and click Join. Once you've clicked on Join you will be ready to view your chosen webinar.**
3. If for some reason this procedure doesn't work, you can return to the original link and click it again. Once the software has been downloaded, it should take you where you need to go.
4. **Remember to pay attention to the date and time of the webinar or meeting you register for, as you will not be allowed to join the meeting until the start time. You can register ahead of time, but not join until the designated time, typically 30 minutes ahead of the start time.**
5. If the host has not muted participants' sound / microphone, please do so before the meeting goes live, as the background noise is very disruptive to the speaker and your fellow listeners.

6. **Since you are utilizing teleconferencing software, make sure to set yourself up in an appropriate location with good lighting away from items you wouldn't want anyone to see, like a pile of laundry or dirty dishes or an unmade bed or you get the picture.**

Good Luck and Happy Zooming!

2020 Advisory Committee Members:

**Chair – Kathy DeJohn
Vice Chair – Kim Hawkins
Secretary – Heidi Giordano
Treasurer – Mary Jo Rawlins**

Other members of the Advisory Committee for 2020 are:

**Melanie Biche
Mary Clink
Carol Anne Cohen
Ruth Connell
Betty Drake
Barb Franzen
Dave Gilronan
Christine Harris
Nadalene Joseph
Patricia Koch
Ed Levine
Beth Murphy
Rita Politzer
Kathleen Quinn
Sandy Welches
Shoshana Wodzisz
Jennifer Young**

If you plan to attend to observe and listen, or if you'd like to be placed on the agenda (time permitting) please contact Kathy DeJohn at (440) 725-2700 or kathy4dj@yahoo.com.

Next Advisory Committee Meeting is Monday, January 11, 2021 at 4:30 pm

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