

News You Can Use !!

January - 2021

Here is the January 2021 issue of News You Can Use, featuring:

- Updates from your chair and coordinator
- Info on the next Gatherings in the Garden webinar
- An article about a fellow MGV
- Access to the Hort Lunch & Learn & Hort Happy Hour webinars and other CE opportunities so you can begin getting your hours for 2021
- and much 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 Kim Hawkins at hawkinsek@gmail.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 out reach!

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



**A Message from Kim Hawkins,
Advisory Council Chair**

Happy New Year Master Gardener Volunteers! This year has to be better than 2020. On the very positive side, Maggie is back from maternity leave with baby Rowan. We've missed her a great deal, but want to thank Nicole

Debose and Tammy Currier who really stepped up to help MGCC leadership while Maggie was away.

At the moment, we don't know what our 2021 programming is going to look like, which is a great frustration for our group of inveterate planners. We also don't know yet what the requirements will be for volunteer and continuing education hours this year. We will be conferring with Pam Bennett, State Master Gardener Program Director, Maggie, and the Advisory Committee and will let you know as soon as possible. In the meantime, however, you might want to begin thinking about how you will get hours over the next 12 months. We know that public contact will continue to be limited – at least through April – so be sure to read our Volunteer Coordinator's update for suggestions as to how you can begin working on this winter and spring.

Our very popular Gatherings in the Garden series is back, starting Saturday, January 9th, with Chris Harris teaching us about seed starting. A schedule of topics through June is included in the article about this weekend's session below.

Finally, I want to welcome new Advisory Committee members Dave Appel, Beth Conroy, Mary Ann Dyer, Amy Shaper, and Cathy Williams, as well as our new assistant Treasurer, Anna Stroup. And warmest thanks to retiring AC members Mary Clink, Carol Anne Cohen, Dave Gilronan, and Nadalene Joseph for their years of dedicated and thoughtful service.

See you in some garden sometime soon (I hope).

-Kim



Message from Your Volunteer Coordinator: **Twenty-twenty-one**

HAPPY NEW YEAR, MGVS - let's start the new year right!



2021 Things to know:

- * Please log your hours under the **codes beginning with 0018.**
- * There have been a few changes / additions to the project codes in the VMS - they are as follows:
 - please log any time spent mentoring community gardens as **0018_70 Community Gardening Committee / Mentors.**
 - please log any time spent researching & writing posts for the MGV FB page as **0018_81 Facebook MGV Posts.**
 - please log any time spent working (writing, researching, presenting, Zoom hosting, cohosting, managing) on Gatherings in the Garden as **0018_80 Gatherings in the Garden.**
- (Do not log CE's under this category. If you watch a Gatherings in the Garden webinar, log it as 0018_700 Continuing Education.)
- * When logging your CE's do not lump them together. You are responsible for listing each CE you participated in, naming the event & listing the date.
- * When writing FB posts, please know we can only accept one garden-related recipe per MGV.

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Wanted: FB Posts

Facebook Reminder: We post to Facebook 3 X per week and continue to need posts. Please remember to continue sending submissions. See instructions below.

Note: We can only accept ONE garden-related recipe per MGV.

FB Posts: Master Gardeners - you all have a LOT of knowledge, so let's build our social media presence by first liking our FB page (<https://www.facebook.com/mgcc5320/>) and by submitting a small project for a weekly Facebook post! For tips, check our existing posts.

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 MGCV 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 **0018_81 Facebook MGCV Posts.**

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.

Log your hours spent researching and writing your FB posts as **0018_81 Facebook MGCV Posts.**

Please contact Tammy at currier.37@osu.edu with questions or suggestions.

Handy Guide to earning VH's in 2021:

- Ben Franklin School Garden (Thursdays, Spring through Fall) - reach out to Geoffrey Black to volunteer in the BF School Garden (jazzygeebee@gmail.com) - due to social distancing measures put in place by OSU, you must email Geoffrey to schedule time in the garden. Please remember that you cannot just show-up to volunteer, you must schedule ahead of time.

- Ben Franklin Perennial & Herb Gardens (Thursdays, Spring through Fall) - reach out to Hedy Westra (hedywestra@ameritech.net), Kim Hawkins (hawkinsek@gmail.com), or (jjnlarson@aol.com) to volunteer in the BF Perennial & Herb Gardens - due to social distancing measures put in place by OSU, you must email Hedy, Kim or Jan to schedule time in either of these gardens. Please remember that you cannot just show-up to volunteer, you must schedule ahead of time.

- Ben Franklin Vegetable Garden (Thursdays, Spring through Fall) - reach out to JoAnn Pallant (japallant@sbcglobal.net) or Dave Kuebler (dkuebler@mpo.noaca.org) to volunteer in the BF Vegetable Garden - due to social distancing measures put in place by OSU, you must email Jan or Dave to schedule time in the garden. Please remember that you cannot just show-up to volunteer, you must schedule ahead of time.

-Hotline (April - October) - reach out to Lois Rose (dlroses@roadrunner.com) to assist your fellow Cuyahogans by answering garden / horticulture questions.

- Grow a Row for Grow Ohio (April - November) - reach out to Tammy Currier (currier.37@osu.edu) for guidelines on how to earn VHs growing food for those in need.

- Join our Technology Team - this is even more important, as we shift to adding webinars to our programming - reach out to Kathy DeJohn (kathy4dj@yahoo.com) or Shoshana Wodzisz (slwodzisz@yahoo.com).

- Join our new webinar series, Gatherings in the Garden, team - assist us with developing and presenting webinars to continue getting our valuable horticultural information out to the public - reach out to Kathy DeJohn (kathy4dj@yahoo.com).

- Join our Zoom host team - sign on to help host Zoom meetings, including our Gatherings in the Garden webinars - reach out to Tammy Currier (currier.37@osu.edu).

- Create presentations for Speakers Bureau - reach out to Pat Koch (patriciaakoch75@gmail.com) for topics we already have (so you don't duplicate) and guidance.

- Write articles for NYCU or FB project posts - follow guidelines listed above and submit to Tammy L Currier (currier.37@osu.edu),

- Join the Continuing Education Committee - reach out to Rita Politzer (psychorita2@aol.com) & get onboard to help plan 2021 programming.

- Suggest other ideas - put your thinking caps on and figure out new ways we can serve our community at this time.

Where to find CE's in 2021:

- NYCU - each issue lists available CE opportunities

- OSU Extension Hort Lunch & Learn Webinar series (current)
- <https://mastergardener.osu.edu/lnlh>

- OSU Extension Hort Lunch & Learn Webinar Library - <https://mastergardener.osu.edu/SpringWebinarSeries>

- OSU Extension Food Preservation Webinar Library - <https://fcs.osu.edu>

- **Gatherings in the Garden** - this webinar series is 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. Watch your email inbox for the Constant Contact invitation to sign up.

- **The Ohio State University Bee Lab Webinars** - <https://u.osu.edu/beelab/resources//programs/major-program-areas/healthy-people/food-preservation>

- **The Ohio State University Backyard & Garden onLine** - <https://bygl.osu.edu/>

Wishing you all a productive MGV year,

Tammy

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

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MGV Receives \$5,000.00 Neighbor UP Grant to Help Feed the Needy in Her Community

When Carolyn Hufford, MGV 1996, and her husband found themselves frustrated by their inability to help the needy as they typically do during the holidays, so they applied for a grant from Neighbor Up, a local grassroots

non-profit that provides support to various causes around Cuyahoga County. They weren't sure their grant application would be approved, but it was!

Carolyn is sharing this information with the MGCC body to encourage you all to check opportunities out there and apply - you never know what you might qualify for in regard to helping people.

To read all about it, follow this [LINK](#).

To learn more about Neighbor Up and Neighborhood Connections, follow this [LINK](#).

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Gatherings in the Garden: Seed Starting

Join us on Saturday, January 9th, for the next session in our popular online Gatherings in the Garden educational series



With a focus on springtime and new beginnings, MGV Christine Harris will discuss best practices for successful seed starting. Participants will learn what containers work best and how to plant, light, and heat your seeds / seedlings. She'll also explain how to set up a seed-starting area at

home, including when to start, how to water, how to prevent dampening off, and, finally, how to harden off the seedlings before planting.

Christine Harris is an outstanding teacher and was the first Master Gardener from Cuyahoga County to win the award for Master Gardener of the Year at the state level. She lives on an acre of land filled with fruit trees, flower beds and vegetable plots. She has been a Master Gardener Volunteer since 2004.

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 include:

- **Color through the Seasons with Donna Schneider, 1/23**
- **Phenology: Nature's Calendar with Jo Ann Bartsch, 2/13**
- **Waking the Garden in Spring with Christine Harris, 2/27**
- **Pollinator Gardens with Jo Ann Bartsch, 3/13**
- **Vegetable Series: Vegetable Gardening 101 with Christine Harris, 3/27**
- **Vegetable Series: Tomatoes with Pat Koch, 4/10**
- **Vegetable Series: Container Vegetable Gardening with Christine Harris, 4/24**
- **Vegetable Series: Heirloom Vegetables and Flowers with Deb Osgood, 5/8**
- **Herbs with Hedy Westra, 5/22**

- **Rain Gardens with TBD, 6/12**
- **Managing pests in the vegetable garden without chemicals with Don Landek, 6/26**

Please follow this [LINK](#) to register.

The cost for each program will be \$5.

Note:

- **Registration will close on Friday, January 8th, at 12:00 Noon to guarantee all paid registrants receive the Zoom link in time for Saturday's session.**
- **Information on how to connect to the online webinar will be sent to all registrants on Friday, January 8th.**
- **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

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**Hort Lunch & Learn & Hort
Happy Hour continue in 2021!**

**The Horticultural Lunch & Learn (HLL) &
Horticultural Happy Hour (HHH) series
born out of COVID 19 are continuing in 2021.
Check the list below for a roster of topics.**



To sign up for a webinar, visit the following [LINK](#).

In the meantime, you can listen to past sessions by visiting the [Spring Webinar Series](#) webpage, If you have a hankering for garden knowledge or inspiration, visit the page. It's easy to press play & learn while you do the dishes, fold the laundry, or cook. Interesting material always helps mundane, but necessary tasks more pleasant.

The list of 2021 topics includes:

- Bees, Pesticides and Politics
- Plant Cannibals
- Therapeutic Hort
- Strawberries
- Jumping Worms
- Ticks
- Lavender
- Foliar Diseases of Landscape Ornamentals
- Glyphosate
- Monarch Conservation

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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.)



*** Northeast Ohio: Train to Be a Master Rain Gardener**

Just what is a rain garden you might be wondering? Well, it is a bowl shaped garden that works with nature to collect and filter rainwater from your property. Through this informative program, you will learn to design and install your own rain garden and become the rain garden expert in your neighborhood. Graduates will receive a Master Rain Gardener t-shirt, a yard sign, and a certificate of completion.

When: Recorded class webinars will be viewed at your convenience with Live Q & A sessions each week, February 1st - March 12th

Where: Online; \$50.00 fee

Register: [HERE](#)

For questions, contact:

Laura Bonnell (CRWP) at lbonnell@crwp.org or (440) 975-3870 ext. 1002

OR

Elizabeth Hiser (Cuyahoga SWCD) at ehiser@cuyahogawcd.org or (216) 524-6580 ext. 1002

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*** Montgomery
County: Climate Change
Impacts on Gardening and
Agriculture in SW Ohio**



Join Atmospheric Research Scientist, Aaron B. Wilson, of the Byrd Center and OSU Extension at The Ohio State University, as he discusses how annual weather variations and changes in climate affect all aspects of gardening and agriculture. He will look back at recent weather conditions and longer-term changes in key climate variables that impact Ohio's Miami Valley.

Though this presentation focuses on the impacts of climate change on Montgomery County specifically, MGVs may learn important information about climate change in general.

When: Wednesday, January 13th, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Where: Online

Register: [HERE](#)

Password: OSUE (All Caps)

Master Gardeners Volunteers will receive 1 CE each program

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What Can You Create with Adobe Spark?

Transform your ideas into stunning visual stories

Learn how to create professional social graphics, web pages, and short videos utilizing Adobe Spark with Medina County Extension Educator, Ashley Kulhanek. Her tutorial is simple and easy to follow and she leads you step by step through making a video out of still photos that can be used for education, FB posts, promo pieces - you name it. Along the way, she also demonstrated how you can get an Adobe Sparks account (free or paid) if you're not an Ohio State University employee.

Follow along, you'll be amazed at how professional your creations will look. You can use the platform to create videos about your various MGV projects or to track the growth of a certain plant or the progression of a garden - the sky is the limit!

Follow this link, to watch the video: [Adobe Spark with Ashley Kulhanek](#)



MGVS - Keep those FB Project Posts Coming

They are an ongoing need!

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.



OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers of Cuyahoga County Ohio
Education



Like

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 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.

Log your hours spent researching and writing your FB posts as **0018_81 Facebook MGV Posts**.

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

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Zoom Meeting Protocol:

New year, same protocol!

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.

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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!

**Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County
2021 Advisory Committee Members:**

**Chair – Kim Hawkins
Vice Chair – Beth Murphy
Secretary – Heidi Giordano
Treasurer – Mary Jo Rawlins
Assistant Treasurer - Anna Stroup**

**Members/Term Ending Year
2021**

**Kathy DeJohn (2nd term)
Christine Harris (2nd term)
Kim Hawkins (2nd term)
Heidi Giordano
Ed Levine
Beth Murphy
Shoshana Wodzsiz (2nd term)**

2022

**Melanie Biche (2nd term)
Ruth Connell
Barbara Franzen (2nd term)
Pat Koch
Rita Politzer
Kathy Quinn (2nd term)
Sandy Welches (2nd term)**

2023

**Dave Appel
Beth Conroy
Mary Ann Dyer
Mary Jo Rawlins (2nd term)
Amy Shaper
Cathy Wheeler
Jennifer Young (2nd term)**

Representative on State Advisory Committee – Ellen Comeau

If you plan to attend to observe and listen, or if you'd like to be placed on the agenda (time permitting) please contact Kim Hawkins at hawkinsek@gmail.com Next Advisory Committee Meeting is Monday, January 11, 2021 at 4:30 pm

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit cfaesdiversity.osu.edu.



CFAES

MASTER GARDENERS OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY



Visit our website

Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County | 12200 Fairhill Road , Cleveland, OH 44120
www.cuyahogamg.org