

News You Can Use!

December 2022

Here is the November issue of News You Can Use featuring:

- Updates from your MGCC Committee Chair & Volunteer Coordinator
- Native Seed Opportunity from The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes
- A peek into bygone old world gardens in New York City
- MGVC "Update" Archive
- & 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 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 Kim Hawkins, MGCC Committee Chair

Our newest Master Gardeners received a bag of daffodil bulbs and their MGVC certificates at our Annual Meeting, but what they really wanted was their official Master Gardener name tags! We welcome them enthusiastically and can't wait to start working with them.

Thanks to Melanie Biché and her committee of Vickie Byrne, Barb Franzen, Rita Politzer, and Betti Roberts for organizing an evening of good fellowship and good food, (thanks to everyone for your delicious contributions), and a fascinating speaker. We also celebrated 51 MGVCs for their milestone volunteer hours – ranging from 250 to 5,000 hours.

Many committees will be meeting over the winter to plan next year's programs. The rest of us can hunker down in our warm houses with our cozy blankets and our catalogues and books to plan next season's garden



Above: The 2022 Class of Master Gardener Volunteers! Photo by: Donna Schneider

Below: The Master Gardener Volunteer top hour winners - 2019, 2020, & 2021! Photo: Tammy L Currier, MGCC Volunteer Coordinator



**Happy Holidays to all!
See you in the New Year!**

Kim

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**Update from Tammy L. Currier,
Master Gardener Volunteer
Coordinator**



Dear MGVs,

So the year is winding down and what a year it's been! We graduated a class of 33 and successfully pulled off State Conference despite the complications of COVID's interference and hotel location cancellation. As we conclude a busy year of MGCC activities, I'd like to tuck the following into your minds to mull over.

As we slog through the winter months, give some thought as to how you would like to earn your 25 hour requirement in 2023. In other words, do some planning, some strategizing.

Is there an MGCC project you would like to take part in? Take leadership in? Make a difference in? If so, contact the committee chair and join the committee. Or, reach out to the leads of Hotline on the Road Crocker/Shaker/Botanical Garden and commit a few Saturdays. The Ben Franklin Demo Garden team is always in need of volunteers. And, if you haven't been, go visit.

And 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:

- 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 - you could be a Zoom host (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.

And, last but not least, commit to at least glancing at NYCU - it is an important communication tool where we share volunteer and CE opportunities, as well as state Master Gardener Volunteer expectations/requirements.

For 2023 & beyond, your volunteer requirements are as follows: **25 Volunteer Hours / 10 Continuing Education Hours**, due 10/31/2023.

Please reach out if you have any questions - currier.37@osu.edu.

Thank you for ALL you do & Happy Holidays!

Tammy

P.S. Looking for answers to your burning Hands on Connect and 2022 Hour Requirement questions, please see the archive I have created at the bottom of NYCUC. It contains information from each of my updates.

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Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County Dates at a Glance:

- **December 15th - Recertification will begin; STAY TUNED!**
- **January 20 - 28, 2023 - Extension goes to Ecuador; Registration CLOSED.**

For more information on these dates, see below.

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NATURE CENTER
AT SHAKER LAKES

Conserve. Connect. Inspire.

Attention Native Plant Gardeners - Now is the Time to Plant Native Seeds!

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes has opened a Native Seed Library. It is stocked with over 60 species of plants native to Northeast Ohio. Members and non-members are welcome to come and take up to seven packets of seeds.

The Nature Center is located at 2600 South Park Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44120 and their hours are Tuesday-Sunday, 10 AM - 5 PM; Closed Mondays.

If you come for seeds, take some time to hike one of their trails like [the All-People's Trail](#) that takes you on a wooden walkway over the marsh or [the Stearns Woodland Trail](#) that winds through their restored forest environment.

You could also attend their [3RD ANNUAL WINTER SOLSTICE LUMINARY WALK AND WINTER MARKET](#) on Friday, 12/16 - 5:30–8:30 PM, which is FREE and open to the public.

For more information, follow this [LINK!](#)

-submitted by Susan Strauss, MGV 2019

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Just for fun - take a peek into gardens past!

Annoying ads aside, I thought this peek into secret and old-world gardens of a bygone New York City was fascinating. Who doesn't like a secret garden? There's just something about a place or garden that is off-limits to pique one's curiosity.



The article titled "**Lost Gardens of New York City**" introduces you to a selection of the **700 hand-colored glass lantern slides** of truly exquisite gardens, taken around the 1920s across America and also in Italy, France and England, the writer stumbled upon in the digital archives of the Library of Congress. The collection is a dream to discover in its entirety, but the slides that interested the author the most were the slides of old world **New York City** gardens.

Enjoy!

-submitted by Tammy L. Currier, MGCC Volunteer Coordinator

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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.



* Cuyahoga County: 2023 Upcoming Continuing Education Opportunities

Next year, new CE opportunities! Please review the current Cuyahoga County continuing education opportunities.

Upcoming MGCC CE Opportunities:

- See you next year with all new CE events!

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

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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.*

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 is located under the ROSTER in Hands on Connect.
- **Do NOT** 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.
- 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 is located under the ROSTER in Hands on Connect.
- 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.

2023 Hour Requirements: 25 Volunteer Hours / 10 Continuing Education Hours.

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 benefitting the public and to gain OSU Extension-approved, science-based knowledge.

DON'T DELAY - start earning hours as soon as you can in 2023! 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.

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



Follow this [LINK](#) to learn more, register, and access the recordings!

To access 2020 webinars, follow this link: [2020 Spring Lunch & Learn and Happy Hour Webinar Series](#)

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Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County 2022 Advisory Committee Members:

- Chair – Kim Hawkins**
- Vice Chair – Melanie Biche**
- Secretary – Mary Ann Dyer**
- Treasurer – Gretchen Faro**
- Assistant Treasurer - Cheryl Dever**

Members/Term Ending Year

2022

**Melanie Biche
Ruth Connell
Barbara Franzen
Rita Politzer
Kathy Quinn
Sandy Welches**

2023

**Dave Appel
Beth Conroy
Mary Ann Dyer
Deb Hanzel
Mary Jo Rawlins
Amy Shaper
Cathy Wheeler**

2024

**Claudia Gordon
Valerie Harrison
Kim Hawkins
Ed Levine
Beth Murphy
Deborah Osgood
Gretchen Faro**

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 23, 2022 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



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Visit our website

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