

# News You Can Use!

May 2023, 2nd Edition

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Hello Greg,

Here is the May 2023, 2nd Edition of News You Can Use featuring:

- Updates from your AC Chair & ANR Educator
- Plants in the Park important info!
- Available Summer Sprout Plant Distribution Volunteer Shifts
- CE opportunity about propagating lavender with Geauga County MGVs
- 50th Anniversary Master Gardener Commomorative Magazine
- MGVC "Update" Archive
- & more...

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

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

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## **Update from Ellen Comeau, your Interim AC Chair**

**Hello fellow MGV's,**

**I want to start with some great news - our own Deborah Osgood will be our MGV representative on Fox 8, New Day Cleveland on May 31st in the 11:00 hour.**

**She'll be doing a brief segment & even promised to get a plug in for PIP. Make sure you tune in for the show. Thanks Deb, you'll be great!**



**There is still time to get some cool Master Gardener gear or swag. You have to the 29th to get your order into Tammy. Tammy has done an amazing job of getting all of this together. No small feat, so thanks to our coordinator!**

**And lastly, I'd also like to write a little more about the program Heroic Games Morning mentions in her column. The video or digital media pertaining to us is called Heroic Farms. It's a video game-based learning application that starts in the classroom and offers a hydroponic & soil based growing area.**

**The students will have the experience of learning gardening in a real application. They'll be growing seedlings they can then take home or transplant into an outdoor garden. They'll also learn things like science, math, biology, and horticulture - all through the game.**

**As many of you know, I've been trying to get a children's program started for some time. The hardest part is where to start. I believe this is one of several starting points. This company has chosen Ohio to be the pilot program & is asking the MGCC to be provide guidance and mentoring.**

**As you know, motivated teachers are integral to making any school project/garden work. The schools Heroic Farms selected already possess those committed teachers – what they need from us is our ability to mentor, provide kids some extra advice, information, & a reason to be excited about gardening. We've also been asked to look at the curriculum.**

**We all have a passion for growing. That's why we became Master Gardeners or joined a garden club or plant society. We are being offered an opportunity to help children feel that same passion. Who doesn't get excited after spending \$125.00 in materials to be able to taste that first beautiful, juicy tomato?**

**How many of us have had to hear our friends & family say, "Why don't you just go buy a tomato?"**

**We know that answer. You can't describe it; you just have to experience it. Why not share that feeling?**

So please let's work together on this project. They're starting in three schools as Morning mentioned, but they'll be expanding to fifty plus.

This is also the start of hopefully several opportunities we're looking into to partner with 4-H.

Gardening is a universal language & no one should ever be denied the joy of growing.

Please get involved!

**Thanks,**

*Ellen*

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## **Update from Morning Robinson, ANR Educator**

Greetings MGVs,

The Master Gardeners have received a youth gardening request of sorts. Heroic Game Day is a digital learning system, previously focusing on language arts and math, now incorporating a science unit into their curriculum through gardening. Upon meeting with them, I feel it would be a great

way to engage youth in gardening.

Please read the following description:

Heroic Game Day is a digital skill learning platform for students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Previous proficiency targets included math, reading and writing. We were invited to assist in a new target which incorporates gardening into the science curriculum.

This fall when students at Garfield Heights schools, including William Foster, Elmwood, and Maple Leaf Elementary, return they will receive hydroponic growth systems that will allow them to garden indoors. The plants grown in these systems can be taken home by the students or incorporated into an outdoor school garden at the end of the year.

The Master Gardeners are being asked to provide technical assistance and mentorship to students and their teachers on subjects such as seed starting, bulb and seedling planting, seed saving, soil health, pollinators, and more.

As we attempt to engage more youth in gardening, I hope the Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga Councan support this endeavor. If you are interested in being a mentor to a classroom this fall, please reach out to your AC Chair, Ellen Comeau.

To learn more about Heroic Game Day, follow this [LINK](#).

Many thanks,

*Morning*

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### MGCC Dates at a Glance:

- June 3rd - **Plants in the Park; VOLUNTEER!**
- June 9th, 10th, & 11th - **Summer Sprout Plant Distribution; VOLUNTEER WITH BRITINY at hubbard.293@osu.edu!**
- June 10th - **Propagating Purple Lavender; CALL 440.834.4656 TO REGISTER!**
- June 18th-22nd - **International Master Gardener Conference; REGISTER!**
- June 24th - **Summit County Gardens of Distinction; GET YOUR TICKETS!**

**For more information on these dates, see descriptions below.**

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## MASTER GARDENERS OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY



**Plants in the Park is Less Than TWO Weeks Away:  
What Do I Need to Know?**

**\* Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 AM to 4 PM:** Plant preparation, pricing and pavilion set up

**\* Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7 AM to 4 PM:**

- Plant sale set up: 7 AM to 9 AM
- Plant sale: 9 AM to 1 PM
- Pavilion clean up: 1 PM until finished

**Where:** Kiwanis Pavilion, 6363 Selig Drive, Independence, Ohio 44131

**Note:** If you would like to volunteer for this year's Plants in the Park, but have not yet signed up, please do so following this [LINK](#).

It is very important for us to know how many volunteers are coming so we can be sure we have enough Master Gardeners assigned to staff each area on both Friday and Saturday

Also, please let us know if you can bring wagons, garden carts, buckets, hoses, hose nozzles, brooms, dust pans, large shovels and/or folding tables by following this [LINK](#).

**Important reminder:** We need all plants and garden accessories/décor items to be delivered to the Kiwanis Pavilion no later than early Friday afternoon June 2nd - all processing and pricing needs to be complete by end of day Friday as Saturday AM is all about selling plants.

Plants and garden accessory/décor can be delivered to one of our east or west side drop off locations (see attached list) between May 28<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> or directly to the Kiwanis Pavilion on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Volunteering at PIP? Please be aware of the following:**

- Wear your MGV name badge, bring your reusable water bottle, and sign in at the table at the main entrance when you arrive. There is an ice machine in the Pavilion's kitchen you can use to refill your water bottle.
- For all Friday volunteers: Please bring your garden gloves and clippers to use as we prepare our plants for sale.
- A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided for all volunteers on both Friday and Saturday as a thank you for your hard work!
- All Master Gardeners who volunteer for PIP on Friday and/or Saturday morning will be able to purchase 2 plants (non-connoisseur) before the show opens. Master Gardeners can purchase as many plants as they'd like on Saturday afternoon and can take advantage of any discounted pricing that may be offered at the close of the sale (depending on plant availability).
- Last but not least, if you have any medium-sized cardboard boxes we can use in the holding area to pack plants for our customers, please bring them with you on Friday or Saturday morning.

Please feel free to contact me or my PIP Co-Chairs if you have any questions or would like additional information about our plant sale before the event. Thanks in advance for joining our PIP volunteer team! We're really looking forward to working with you – with your help, we know PIP 2023 will be a tremendous success and a lot of fun!

Dave Appel  
appelb@gmail.com  
216-973-6618

Deb Dougherty  
debdougherty2771@  
yahoo.com  
440-506-0237

Cathy Wheeler  
cwheeler12436@gmail.com  
330-569-8066

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**For all remaining plants and garden accessory/décor items,  
drop off is between Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, June 1st:**

**East Side locations**

**Suzanne Hartford**  
2589 Stratford Rd.  
Cleveland Hts.,  
*along sides of driveway*  
[suzannehartford@gmail.com](mailto:suzannehartford@gmail.com)  
216-835-0363

**Christine McLaughlin**  
1145 Hillcreek Lane  
Gates Mills  
*at back of driveway*  
[christinemclaughlin@hotmail.com](mailto:christinemclaughlin@hotmail.com)  
440-605-1812

**Hedy Westra**  
2403 Brian Dr.  
Beachwood  
*backyard, inside deer fence - close gate!!*  
[hedywestra@ameritech.net](mailto:hedywestra@ameritech.net)  
216-464-1113

**Vickie Byrne**  
5983 Wilson Mills Rd.  
Highland Hts.  
*on back patio - close the gate*  
[vickiebyrne@yahoo.com](mailto:vickiebyrne@yahoo.com)  
440-391-9390

**West Side locations**

**Kim Hawkins**  
1867 Wynwood Drive  
Rocky River  
*left side of driveway*  
[hawkinsek@gmail.com](mailto:hawkinsek@gmail.com)  
917-453-2593

**Sue Gifford**  
2958 Lakeview Ave.  
Rocky River (east)  
*next to garage in front of gate*  
[jer-shoes@cox.net](mailto:jer-shoes@cox.net)  
440-821-9026



Any questions about drop-off, contact Vickie Byrne or Melissa Supler – see above for contact information.

Any questions about other aspects of PIP, reach out to one of the PIP co-chairs listed below.

**Dave Appel**  
[appelb@gmail.com](mailto:appelb@gmail.com)  
216-973-6618

**Deb Dougherty**  
[deb dougherty2771@yahoo.com](mailto:deb dougherty2771@yahoo.com)  
440-506-0237

**Cathy Wheeler**  
[cwheeler12436@gmail.com](mailto:cwheeler12436@gmail.com)  
330-569-8066

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**Looking for Volunteer Hours?  
Summer Sprout Plant  
Distribution is around the bend!**

Dear MGVs,

Plant Distribution Weekend is almost here, and Summer Sprout needs your help! If you have time, please come out June 9th & 10th from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM OR 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM on June 11th to help Summer Sprout gardens pick up/load their plants into their cars. I have divided the time slots into 2-hour shifts. Please feel free to sign up for as many slots as you'd like.

**To volunteer:** contact Britiny at [hubbard.293@osu.edu](mailto:hubbard.293@osu.edu)

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**Summit County Master  
Gardeners Present: Gardens  
of Distinction 2023 - 6/24,  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Summit County Master Gardeners  
**2023 TOUR OF GARDENS**



**J**oin the Master Gardeners of Summit County for this self-directed tour through six exceptional gardens - each with the potential to spark new ideas for your own garden. All ticket holders are invited to shop the wide variety of Master Gardener-grown plants and garden items at the Posie Shoppe and the New-to-You gift shop following the tour.

**Please note the following:**

- This is an Advance Tickets Only event!
- The Tour is held RAIN OR SHINE!
- No tickets will be sold the day of the tour.
- Each guest must have a ticket.
- The tour is not universally accessible. Please no strollers, bikes, or pets.
- Space is limited, and the Tour typically sells out. Click on the link to get your tickets now.

**When:** Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Where:** Check-in at St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parking Lot, 1361 W. Market Street / Akron, OH 44313

**YOU MUST CHECK IN BETWEEN 9:00 AM AND NOON!**



Get your tickets [HERE!](#) (For some reason, my email is populating the form, so please delete it and type in your own.)

Proceeds support Summit County Master Gardeners projects, programs, and initiatives promoting local research-based educational and sound gardening practices.

**Questions:** [registrar.mgsc.events@gmail.com](mailto:registrar.mgsc.events@gmail.com)

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**Read all About it:** Ben Franklin Perennial & Herb Gardens announce Saturday Volunteer Hours!

You asked for it, you got it! In addition to Thursday mornings, you can now volunteer at Ben Franklin Perennial & Herb Gardens on the second Saturday of each month weather permitting, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - May thru October.

This is great news for all of you MGVs still working!

**Mark the following dates on your calendar:**

5/13, 6/10, 7/8, 8/12, 9/9, 10/14

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**50th Anniversary Master Gardener Commemorative Magazine**

The 50th Anniversary Master Gardener keepsake magazine is available to order!

Read about how the program started in Washington state in 1973, current points of pride throughout the WSU Master Gardener Program, and a look to the future.

*Get yours today!*  
**\$16.95**

Over fifty full-color pages celebrating 50 years of the Extension Master Gardener Program.

<https://bit.ly/50thMag>

Scan with your phone to order

For more information or to buy a copy, follow this [LINK!](https://bit.ly/50thMag)

Pam Bennett shared this information.

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# Plant Sale & Vintage Boutique

**Saturday, May 27, 2023  
8 am – noon**

1280 Chagrin River Road, Gates Mills

Shop for a wide variety of annuals, perennials, shrubs, & houseplants gathered from Gates Mills gardeners.

Browse our Vintage Boutique offering an array of whimsical, unusual, and utilitarian gardening and flower arranging items for sale.

For more information, visit:  
[www.thegatesmillsgardenclub.com](http://www.thegatesmillsgardenclub.com)  
or call 440/423-4555



Cash, Checks, and Credit Cards accepted.

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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

**N**ew year, new CE opportunities! Please review the 2023 roster of Cuyahoga County continuing education opportunities.



### Upcoming 2023 MGCC CE Opportunities:

- Brian Thompson Tour; June 20th
- Shaper Tour & Potluck lunch; July 7th
- Day at Stan Hywet with lunch; July 27th
- Ben Franklin Diagnostic Walk; August - DTBD
- Spice Garden Farm Visit/Tour with cooking demo & tasting ; August 26th
- Green Circle Growers; September - DTBD

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

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**\* Geauga County: Propagating Purple Lavender - 6/10/2023, 10:00 AM - NOON**

Join Aimee Crane, owner of Bee Loved Lavender, as she discusses several types of lavender that grow and over winter well in Northeast Ohio. Participants will learn techniques for hardwood and softwood cuttings in a hands-on demonstration/activity. You'll receive materials on the various techniques for propagating lavender and other herbs, which will include information on best soil suggestions, rooting tips, and container recommendations - all to ensure successful propagation.

**When:** Saturday, June 10th; 10:00 AM - NOON

**Where:** Geauga County Extension Office / Patterson Center / 14269 Claridon-Troy Road, Burton, OH 44021

**Cost:** \$15.00

**Register:** Call Wendy Ward at 440.834.4656

**Questions:** Call Wendy Ward at 440.834.4656

**\*Note:** Registration and payment must be received by June 3rd to secure your spot. No refunds will be made past June 3rd.

**MGVs will receive TWO CEs for this program**

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**Meet Summit County Master Gardeners in the Garden!**

Join them 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. See list of topics below.

**Where:** F.A. Sieberling Nature Realm Visitors Center, 1828 Smith Road, Akron, OH



## Meet Me in the Garden 2023

F. A. Seiberling Nature Realm  
Visitors Center  
1826 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.

## April

Wednesday, **April 19, 2023**  
7:00 pm

### Native Plants in Your Garden

Learn about the advantages of including native plants in your garden and how Sarah converted her own garden to all natives.

Presented by  
**Sarah Vradenburg**  
Summit County Master Gardener



## May

Wednesday, **May 24, 2023**  
7:00 pm



### Phalaenopsis Orchids

Beautiful, vibrant and long-lasting, these orchids are surprisingly easy to grow.

Presented by  
**Steve Rusov**  
Summit County Master Gardener

## June

Wednesday, **June 28, 2023**  
7:00 pm

### Researching and Preserving Garden Plants and Landscapes

Discover the basic principles, practical approaches and techniques for preserving gardens and/or landscapes.



Presented by  
**Kathie VanDevere**  
Harrison Fellow of Historic  
Landscape Institute (Monticello),  
Summit County Master Gardener  
Emeritus

## July

Wednesday, **July 26, 2023**  
7:00 pm



### Growing Peonies

Learn everything you need to know about growing peonies, including the best varieties for your garden.

Presented by  
**Kevin Rosswurm**  
Summit County Master Gardener

**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 in to 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 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.
- 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 benefiting 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.

**BUSY CAREER or HOME LIFE & WANT TO REMAIN AN MGCV?** - 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 MGCV:

- Volunteer at Ben Franklin Perennial & Herb Demo Gardens the second Saturday of the month, 9:00 AM - NOON - **5/13, 6/10, 7/8, 8/12, 9/9, 10/14.**
- 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.

**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  
2023 Advisory Committee Members:**

**Chair – Ellen Comeau  
Secretary – Deborah Osgood (2024)  
Treasurer – Gretchen Faro (2024)  
Assistant Treasurer - Cheryl Dever (2024; non-voting)**

**Co-Chair Internal – Rita Politzer (2022)  
Co-Chair External – Beth Murphy (2024, 2nd Term)  
Fundraising Chair – Dave Appel (2023)**

**MG OSU Liason - Kathy DeJohn (non-voting)**

**Current Members-at-Large :  
Beth Conroy (2023)  
Deb Dougherty  
Mary Ann Dyer (2023)  
Deb Hanzel (2023)  
Ed Levine (2024, 2nd term)  
Susan Pandoli  
Joan Pellegrin  
Mary Jo Rawlins (2023, 2nd term)  
Cathy Wheeler (2023)**

**NOTE:**

- This chart is a work in progress. Currently, there are 17 Advisory Committee members; 15 voting; 2 non-voting positions
- The MGCC will transition over time to a new Advisory Committee Organization Chart to include 12 members total, 9 voting & 3 non-voting.

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**Next Advisory Committee Meeting is Monday, June 26th, 2023 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](mailto:wallpaperhanger@att.net).**



CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit [cfaesdiversity.osu.edu](http://cfaesdiversity.osu.edu).



MASTER GARDENERS OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

