



# GARDEN SCOOP

## WGC

### Board

*November business will be taken care of via email as the 1st Wednesday, Nov. 5 is also the date for the GCO meeting.*

Next General Meeting Oct. 15, 10:30 a.m. Westlake Recreation Center. The ecological importance of Fungi.

### New November Meeting Date

**Wednesday, Nov. 12, 10:30**

Westlake Recreation Center

### Pollinator Garden Team

Wed., Oct. 8, Community Center

Wed., Oct. 22, Clague Park. **10:00 a.m.**

Come join us!

### Dean's Fall Fundraiser

Ongoing until Oct. 15. Mention WGC *before the sale is rung* and we receive 20% of the price of anything you purchase.

### Save the Date

Wednesday, December 17

WGC Holiday Luncheon at Avon Oaks Country Club

## Garden Club of Ohio

The Holiday Show will be **Wednesday, November 5. Registration due by Oct. 21.** See p. 5. We will have a vendor table to sell some gently used Christmas & craft items. Carpooling available.

## Pop-up Native Plant Sale

Saturday, Oct 18, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Shaker Nature Center, 2600 S. Park Blvd.,  
Shaker Hts. 44120

Will include plants from Meadow City, Avonlea, Shaker Lakes Nature Center & Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County.

## WGC October Meeting The Fascinating World of Fungi

**Sally Knurek** will present a program on The Fascinating World of Fungi. The meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the Recreation Center Meeting Room.** We look forward to seeing you there! Deb and Kathleen are on deck to provide this month's refreshments.

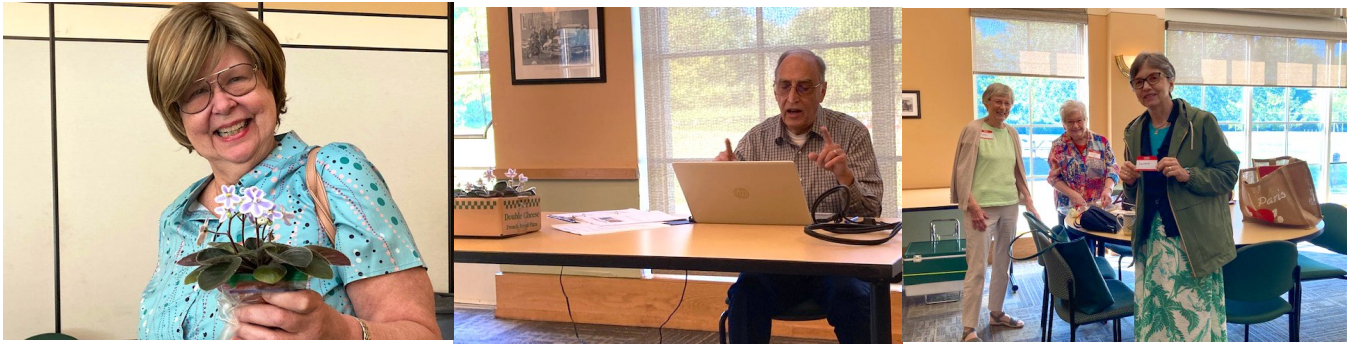


## November Annual Meeting

In accordance with our governing documents, we are required to hold an annual meeting in November. The meeting will include the election of officers and committee chairs. We have received a nominee for all positions except the President. Please consider your garden club when planning your extra-curricular activities and time commitments. We need your talent and contribution to keep us moving forward! Note the different date: 2nd Wednesday, November 12.

## Welcome to our newest member

**Katy Wilson** has joined our club. Katy is starting a native plant bed around her deck and has already pitched in to help with the pollinator gardens and our craft day. We are so glad to have you as a member, Katy. Welcome.



## September Program on African Violets

Master Gardener, **Don Landeck**, gave a presentation on houseplants. He included the history of houseplants and why we love them. Don is known for his fascination with violets, specifically, chimera African violets (violets that express two gene types concurrently). Don also gave pointers on best methods to measure light, watering techniques, and propagation methods. Best of all, four lucky attendees each received one of Don's created chimera violets. Thank you to Debby Basiewicz, Lavinia Cozmin, Kathy Bruening and Linda Freeman for providing the refreshments.

## Garden Club of Ohio (GCO)

Holiday Show - North, November 5, 2025

Woodside Event Center at St Michael's, Broadview Heights.

This is an opportunity to enjoy lunch with friends and fellow gardeners in our area. We will be learning how to use materials from our own gardens to make lovely seasonal wreaths. The deadline for **registration is Oct 21, 2025. See the flyer on page 4.**

Westlake will have a vendor table to sell some gently used Christmas items and materials that might go in that wreath. Interested in car pooling? Call Kathy Bruening, 440-391-6506.

Sally Knurek reports on the fall meeting: **At the fall GCO** we had two wonderful speakers. From the Cleveland Botanical Gardens, Horticulturist Caroline Watson gave a very interesting talk on the history and evolution of Japanese gardens. In the afternoon, Beryl Prusinowski, retired science teacher, told us how colors in plants indicate what nutrients are present. We had a very informative day and of course our usual delicious lunch.

## Pollinator Garden at Community Center

Thank you to Kathy Bruening and her dedicated team that have kept up with the maintenance of the pollinator gardens at the Clague tennis courts and at the Community Center. Thanks to the team's suggestion for the city to remove some creeping evergreens, the garden is now under renovation. The Garden Club is sponsoring the addition of Fothergillas and Summersweet to the area. It is going to be a nice improvement. Excellent job.

October is our last chance to get rid of a few weeds before winter. Next times: **Wednesday, October 8 at the Community Center and Wednesday, October 22, at Clague Park near the tennis courts, 10 a.m.** (2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month are the regular times.)

# Master Gardener Seminar Report

My husband, Rich, and I attended the 2025 Master Gardeners Fall Seminar on September 20th.

The seminar included a Keynote Presentation from Ginger Woolridge, author, on native trees and shrubs as well as the opportunity to select 3 additional programs from 9 other offerings.

The Keynote Speaker, Ginger Woolridge, had some great suggestions for plants and shrubs that will thrive in our landscapes. They're generally less maintenance and more resistant to diseases. We'll definitely make good use of the information she presented when we plant new trees or shrubs in our landscape.

We also attended two presentations by Janet Macunovich, professional gardener, garden designer and author: Simplify to Keep on Growing and More Than a Garden: Balm for the Soul, Glue for the Family. Simplify to Keep on Growing had some great tips for older (and younger) gardeners on saving time, money and defying age: shrink your garden, wheels (don't carry what can roll), choose lower care plants. In her presentation, Balm for the Soul, she spoke about how gardening makes us feel and what others take away from our gardens. Gardening is great for your health. Studies have shown that going outside and seeing beautiful things lowers your heart rate. Janet also has a wonderful website, [GardenAtoZ.com](http://GardenAtoZ.com).

The last presentation we attended was How Genetic Engineering Works: Understanding the Science, Not the Controversy, presented by Joseph Tychonievich, horticulturalist, speaker and author. He did a great job of presenting the mechanics of genetic engineering. We left this presentation with a lot to think about on this interesting topic.

The Master Gardeners did a wonderful job putting on this seminar. There were so many interesting topics and speakers. I would definitely recommend attending next year if you have the opportunity to do so.

*Mary Ann Coblentz*

## September 30 Craft Day

Linda Freeman and her team have been preparing our contribution to the Cleveland Botanical Garden Winter Show. The show, "FROST, AN ICE-CAPPED GARDEN EXPERIENCE" will run from Saturday, November 22 to Sunday, January 4, 2025. The painted pine cone flowers shown to the right will be a part of our wreath entitled "Whispers of Spring" to fit the CBG's theme of changing seasons. Thanks to those who supported the craft day at Porter: **Linda, Mary Ann, Teri, Debra, Katy, Kathy, Shirley and Rose.**



## PEST ALERT

### Spotted Lantern Flies

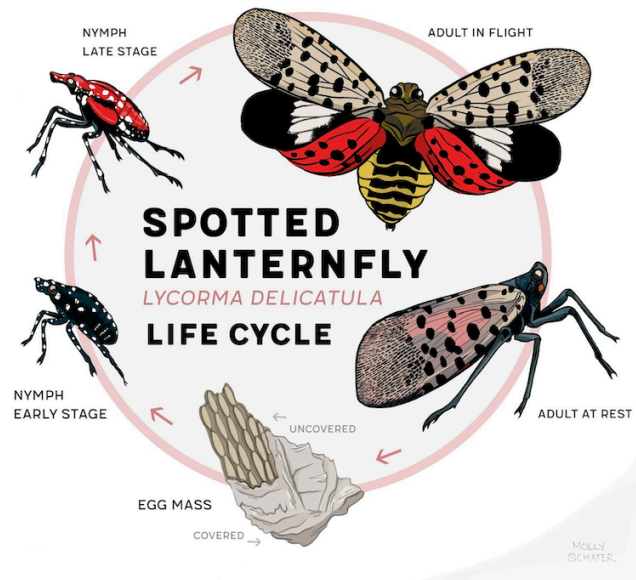
Spotted lantern flies are nothing new to Ohio, but they have recently made appearances in Westlake along Detroit Road. Many people are aware of the threat these invasive insects pose to grape crops and beloved native trees.

Rather than despair, we can take action to combat this threat and mitigate the amount of damage done by identifying and removing the **host plant, tree of heaven** (*Ailanthus Altissima*).

Though it looks similar to native sumacs and black walnut trees, here are a few ways to tell the difference. This tree is known for leaves, twigs, and flowers that possess an unpleasant odor when crushed. Tree of heaven also differs from sumac and black walnut by having pinnately compound leaves that are smooth rather than toothed or serrated. Sumac grows clumps of attractive red drupes, and black walnut grows large nuts. In comparison, tree of heaven grows clusters of flowers that are a light orange to brown in color. One final method of telling the difference between the species is by looking at the bark.

A mature tree of heaven specimen possesses gray bark with irregular vertical strips, while juvenile ones have relatively smoother bark. Black walnut has a much coarser bark with deeper vertical ridges, and mature sumac has horizontal strips on the bark (juvenile sumac can be identified by its stems that are covered in hairs as it is more shrublike). If you have a tree of heaven on your property, please consider pulling it rather than cutting due to its tendency to send up sprouts in response. If you wish to eliminate the tree and roots entirely, the hack and squirt method is recommended in summer and early autumn. While summer has ended, please keep this information in mind for next year's to-do list. Together we can make a difference!

*Brittany Dresden, WGC member*



More information on the spotted lantern fly is available at this website:  
<https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/anr-83>

