



GARDEN SCOOP



May 20 Meeting

Pressed Flowers and Card Making Presented by Darlene Fritz

Darlene is a member of the Western Reserve Herb Society and has headed their Wreath Department and Pressed Flower Department for the Herb Fair for the last two years. She will give us tips on pressing flowers and demonstrate how to make pressed flower notecards.

The cost of the program is \$10 per attendee to cover the cost of the supplies provided by Darlene and can be paid to her at the program. She will provide flowers, leaves and supplies for each attendee to make three notecards.

Each attendee should bring tweezers, scissors and a pencil or waterproof pen to sign their cards. **Please reserve with Mary Ann Coblentz by May 15: <richierichr1@att.net> in order that we have an approximate number for the necessary materials.**

The program will take place on May 20th at 10:30 a.m., at Westlake Porter Public Library, Porter Meeting Room, 27333 Center Ridge Road, Westlake.

BYOBeverage. Light refreshments will be provided.



Annual Plant Sales

The **Northeast Ohio Plant Sale Guide** was published in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on Sunday, April 26, 2026. It is available online at **Cleveland.com** and includes several sales that support our neighboring garden clubs. We would especially like to call attention to the Master Gardeners **Plants in the Park sale in Independence, OH**. We have several members who have been working hard on that sale. Our club relies on them for excellent speakers at a minimal cost. They have a free gardening advice service that is open to all. Full information on their fundraising sale p. 5.

Also, please do not forget that we get a 20% cut of anything that you purchase from Dean's in Westlake. This is a good fundraiser for us. Remember to mention the club before the sale is rung.

April

WGC April Program

Our April program was well attended by our members and visitors. Master Gardener Kim Hawkins did a great presentation on pruning and brought several key pruning tools for demonstration. She included an information sheet on Ohio Hydrangeas with specific pruning times. Thank you to Teri and Cheryl for providing the sweets and to Kathleen for organizing our refreshment donors. Just a reminder that we are meeting back at the library this year (Porter Room) and that we are asked to bring our own drink.



Native Plant Month!

Those in attendance at our April program received buttons and book marks. Ohio Native Month was signed into legislation in 2019 by Governor DeWine. It started as an email request to a Cincinnati Garden Club asking why Ohio didn't recognize natives as some other states do. Well, Nancy Linz, a member of that garden club loved horticulture and teaching others, so she took the lead. But Nancy didn't have a clue how to begin the legislative process. The individual that sent the e-mail did know a little about how politics worked: former Ohio First Lady Hope Taft. And now you know the rest of the story. . .

By the way, Nancy has just recently stepped down as the head of Ohio Native Month and Jane Ellison, the leader of Nature in My Backyard, has been asked to take that position. You will now find **Nature in My Backyard** referenced on the new **Ohio Native** website. Nature in My Backyard is now affiliated with both Ohio Native and the **Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland ASGC**.



June 17 WGC Meeting

*Mark your calendar: the 3rd Wednesday as usual but in Avon at **The Miller Nature Preserve**. Our tour starts at 10:30. Try to arrive a few minutes early. .*



Discover the art of garden cultivation and plant management. This 60 minute tour will provide an in-depth look at Miller Nature Preserve's Conservatory and outdoor gardens. This interactive program will focus on seasonal highlights. The Nature Preserve is located at 2739 Center Road, Avon.

The Nature Preserve also has an onsite cafe, The Orchid Cafe, for those who might be interested in staying for lunch after the tour.

Affiliate Garden Clubs Meeting Cleveland Botanical Garden

4/16/2026

Five of our members attended the April meeting and had a chance to mingle with other garden club members and admire the beautiful tulips that were strutting their stuff that morning! **Dr. Roy Larick of Bluestone Conservation** was the featured speaker. He discussed his goal of redeveloping a county-wide Moses Cleveland tree program under the potential guidance and participation of Cleveland Tree and the Holden Forests and Gardens. This is a much needed program as many of our canopy trees are being eliminated due to development and aging communities that cannot keep up with their care.

Ed Moydell, Holden Forest and Gardens President and CEO thanked the many clubs that contribute to the success of the HF&G operation. He emphasized reaching out to the greater community. As part of this plan, you may have noticed the new openness in the Japanese garden. Because of a new wrought iron fence, people walking by can see into the space and enjoy the garden. New benches will be placed both inside and outside of the perimeter of the gardens. Hopefully in the future there will be more free days to accommodate the public. Also Holden has a seed bank which holds 4 million seeds, some of which will be available to share in 10 different places throughout the Cleveland area.

Kevin Borowiak, the Cleveland Botanical Garden coordinator for the affiliate garden clubs, gave the theme for this year's holiday season: Tropical Christmas! Clubs are free to do what they would like with the theme. Kevin said that tropical flowers and settings may come from many different places. His hope is that each garden club will provide an educational experience regarding how Christmas and various other cultural holidays are celebrated in a tropical location---Christmas in Costa Rica anyone? Katy has agreed to be our chair this year. I am sure Linda will be her guide. This should be a fun one to work on---let's start thinking!!

Helping Birds on the Wing

Birds are on the wing overhead, making their long journey north to their nesting grounds, and now it is up to us to help them get there. "Exactly how?" you might ask.



Ohio is indeed a "flyover state" for migrating birds, but it's much more than that. It is a critical rest and refueling stop along the way. We could simply enjoy watching the show, or we could view our own yards as an important part of their journey and actively help send them on their way.

Even a few native plants can turn a yard into an important stopover. When birds see that patch of green and decide to land, they're not just looking for shelter, they are looking for food. And that food comes in the form of insects and caterpillars feeding and living on those plants.

Those little holes in leaves? They are actually good file news! They mean something small has been feeding, turning the sun's energy stored in green leaves into the protein birds need to survive their trip. Those insects are what power their journey.

It all adds up. If we want to support migrating birds, we need to support the insects they depend on, and that starts with planting native species. There is a growing body of research showing that many of the insects birds rely on feed only on the plants they co-evolved with, our native plants, not decorative species from overseas.

So this May, as you plan your garden, consider helping migrating birds by adding native plants. When it comes to supporting birds, every yard can make a difference. And as the saying goes, if you're not part of the solution, you might be part of the problem. Who knew?

Find native plant resources here: <https://ohionativeplants.org/>

"Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circles of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace." [May Sarton](#)

Tips from Sally

Butterfly Puddle: 1 teaspoon salt to 1 gallon water plus a few tablespoons of composted manure.

Floralife: 1 tablespoon sugar, 1 - 2 T lemon juice or white vinegar, 1/2 teaspoon bleach, 1 quart water.

Sally has managed to keep a bouquet going for 3 weeks by changing the water every 2 days and trimming the stems.



Master Gardener Volunteers of Cuyahoga County

ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Extraordinary Plants For Sale

Including:

- Native Plants
- Pollinator Plants
- Herbs & Vegetables
- Perennials & Annuals
- Trees & Shrubs
- Houseplants

**All grown or sourced by local
Master Gardener Volunteers!**

**PLUS a raffle featuring garden art,
plants and other garden accessories**

Plants
IN THE
- Park

Saturday

May 30

8:30AM - 1 PM

cuyahogamg.org/pip

Kiwanis Pavilion ● 6363 SELIG DRIVE ● Independence, Ohio



Presale Shopping: May 29 - 4:30 - 7 pm

ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR PRESALE

Scan the QR code or visit the link to register and learn more