



GARDEN SCOOP

WGC Events

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

An evening event open to the public.

Wednesday, September 20, 7 p.m.

Porter Library

Soil health and composting presentation by Rust Belt Riders, a Cleveland environmental company.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, Oct. 4, 10:30 a.m.

Porter Library

POLLINATOR GARDEN CARE

2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month,

9 a.m. All are welcome to help trim, weed and check on the 2 beds in Clague Park and the one at the Community Center. Contact Kathy B for information, kcbruen@att.net or 440-385-7566.

Master Gardeners' Fall Seminar

Natives, Trees, Backyards & Bees

Sat., Oct. 7, 8:15 a.m. -3:30 p.m.

Parma-Snow Library

2121 Snow Road, Parma, 44134

Fee: \$55, sign up online by Oct. 1

See page 6.

Garden Club of OH

HOLIDAY SHOW NORTH

Thursday, November 9, 10:30 a.m.

We plan to do a vendor table again this year. The October meeting will be devoted to preparation for this fundraiser. Please attend.

September Evening Program Wednesday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.

Among the landfill throwaways that could be put to much better use and actually benefit the environment are the food scraps that we toss out each day. Rust Belt Riders will be teaching us how to turn that waste into soil nutrients. Please join us for a presentation on how to compost at home and why



composting is a high leverage climate solution, be it in your backyard, with a private company, or a public municipality. Rust Belt Riders will cover the impact that composting your food waste makes on a local and global level. They will review the scientific data that supports limiting methane emissions and how compost and soil application is a carbon capturing powerhouse. This presentation is open to the public. It takes place at **Westlake Porter Public Library on Wednesday, September 20 at 7 p.m.** Please invite friends and neighbors.



Welcome!

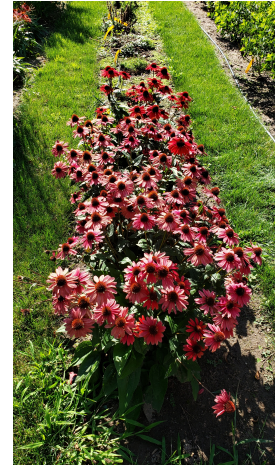
WGC would like to introduce our newest members, **Martie Truby** and **Terry Monnelly**. Welcome!! We look forward to meeting you at one of our coming events. This brings our current membership total to 40 and our honorary member total is three. Terry has twice opened his garden for our club's summer garden walk. Martie found us on the website.

Willoway Nurseries

“Rooted to Grow”



Wow! Those of us who took the tour were amazed at the size and complexity of this local nursery business. “Local” meaning that Willoway is in our own backyard—they have 500 acres in Avon and another 500 acre nursery in Huron. The company is a wholesale distributor that provides plants to places as far east as Vermont and as far west as Colorado. They are licensed to propagate plants from many of the big-name companies such as Proven Winners. All the plants that we saw on the



the trial garden was a delight. A special thank you to our tour guide **Danny Gouge** who patiently answered all of our questions. If you missed the tour, take a look at their website:

willowaynurseries.com. Saturday’s Community Plant Sale at Willoway was a fundraiser for the Avon Public Schools and a real gift to anyone who gardens. There were loads of perennials at very reasonable prices as well as people to answer your plant questions and volunteers to load them in your car. We hope it will be back next year.



Trial gardens to the left; above, plants on the dock ready for shipment by truck to retailers.



A Note from Carol Lewellen



I received the very nice card from the Garden Club and do thank everyone for thinking of me! This has been such a busy summer ! My house sold quickly and as we set the 1st week in Aug. for the closing date, I was able to come to my summer home in MI at the end of June to spend time with children, grands, and great grands! I returned to Westlake in time to see the moving truck loaded and then met it in WI for the unloading in my apartment near my son. My children helped me get the basics unpacked (leaving the rest for winter) and am now back at my home in Bellaire. I will always have fond memories of Westlake, having lived there for 53 years, but the thoughts of all the wonderful people that filled my life while there will be with me always.

*My very best to all of you,
Carol Lewellen*

Carol has long been a faithful member and supporter of our club. We will miss you, Carol but wish you all the best in your new home in Wisconsin.

Membership Chair Opening

This may be the perfect job for you. It will get you a seat on the Westlake Garden Club Board and keep you in contact with all of our members. It is the perfect way to get to know everyone while serving your club. Please consider accepting this position. The duties include welcoming new members, distributing our brochure and collecting dues for the next year. Much of it can be done by phone or mail. Many thanks to Patti Frank for doing such a good job for the past 2 years.

Thinking ahead . . .

Thank you to **Cathy Garlitz** who is hard at work on the wreath that our club will be doing for the Cleveland Botanical Garden Holiday Show. The theme is “Sparkle at the Front Door” and this wreath promises to be sparkling. The October meeting (venue yet to be decided) will be devoted to preparing some simple crafts that we can sell at the November GCO Holiday Show at St Michael’s Woodside. **Jean Smith** did a vendor table there for us last year. It was a great success and a good way to add to our funds for garden club events and charitable donations.



Did you know?

Native plants require less water than lawns and help prevent erosion. The deep root systems of many native Midwestern plants increase the soil's capacity to store water. Native plants can significantly reduce water runoff and, consequently, flooding.

From the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture)



THE HUM OF BEES IS THE VOICE OF THE GARDEN.

Elizabeth Lawrence

Westshore Arts Council

Congratulations to two of our members who had entries in the Community of Fine Arts Show at Porter Library in August. **Jean Smith** exhibited works entitled The Lone Egret, Nature-Autumn and The Many Faces of Eve. All three were in the Mixed Media category with The Many Faces of Eve taking a 2nd place prize. **Robert Pearl** entered a painting entitled Backyard Fence in the Oil/Acrylic category. We have some very creative and multi-talented gardeners.



Pollinator Garden Upkeep—Wed. Sept. 27

All are invited to help with the upkeep of our gardens. Weeding and trimming is needed on a regular basis. As mentioned last month, the common milkweed has erupted all over the two beds at Clague. Now that the weather is cooler, we should be able to get it under control. Days set aside for a group effort are the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. weather permitting. If you want to help out at another time, that will be fine. Contact Kathy Bruening with any questions. *A special thank you to Deb Dougherty for weeding and trimming the Community Center Pollinator Garden all on her own.*



Wednesday, Sept. 13: A Good Day to be out in the Garden

Autumn Leaves

Ohio's weather, while not always the best, is a real joy in the Fall. The crisp cool air and fabulous colors make this our very best season. Walking, hiking, or just sitting on the porch is a pleasure—until the leaf blowers go into action. Besides being a noisy disturbance, there are some very good reasons to avoid blowing leaves and to rake them judiciously. Kim Eierman has some detailed information on how to manage our leaves and preserve our environment on the website <ecobeneficial.com>. I urge you to check it out. Below are 6 reasons to stop blowing leaves taken from one of her articles.



1) Fallen leaves are nature's mulch.

Dead leaves act as nature's mulch – they retain moisture in the soil, they protect soil from erosion and compaction, and they suppress unwanted weeds. Fallen leaves can be especially protective for many shallow-rooted plants.



2) Fallen leaves "feed" the soil.

When fallen leaves decay, they become natural compost, releasing nutrients into the soil. These nutrients enable plants to grow and be healthy. It is a process of nutrient cycling. And, soil that has more organic matter is better able to retain moisture – especially critical in times of drought.



3) Fallen leaves provide habitat to many creatures.

The leaf litter is alive with small creatures that are important to our ecosystems – from microscopic fungi to ants, beetles, snails, salamanders, and many others. Love butterflies? Leave leaves alone, as many butterfly species overwinter as pupae in the leaf litter layer.



4) Fallen leaves help to create a food web.

Within the leaf litter layer there are creatures that eat other creatures and in turn, are eaten by others. Like songbirds? Keep your leaves in place. The vast majority of songbirds feed insects to their young, and the leaf litter layer is an insect buffet.



5) Fallen leaves (nature's mulch and compost) are free!

So many people remove their fallen leaves in the fall, only to buy expensive compost and mulch in the spring. Sounds crazy? It is. Stop the insanity!



6) Leaving leaves in place frees us so much time that you can spend doing something that is actually productive, or even fun!

Sometimes nature's abundance may be a bit too abundant, with piles of leaves several feet deep. And, not all plants have evolved with leaves and may not appreciate a thick litter layer – turf grass is one example. For those situations you can run over leaf piles with a mulching mower, leave some shredded leaves in place, and use the rest in garden beds and wooded areas. For more information on leaf mulching, visit these two helpful websites: [Leave Leaves Alone](#) and [Love 'Em and Leave 'Em](#).

Good luck! From Kim Eierman at EcoBeneficial!

Posted in [Ask EcoBeneficial](#), [Butterflies](#), [Gardening Techniques](#), [Seasonal](#)

Westlake Garden Club has a number of members interested in the Master Gardener Fall Seminar mentioned below. The Master Gardeners always do an great job of providing excellent workshops and speakers. Please consider attending. The sign-up and full schedule for the event is online at <cuyahogamg.org>. Contact Kathy B if you wish to arrange a carpool. The \$55 fee includes the keynote speaker, 3 sessions, continental breakfast and a boxed lunch. Details on the sessions and lunch offerings are on line.

8/13/23, 4:49 PM

2023 Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County Fall Seminar

CFAES

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION—CUYAHOGA COUNTY

2023 Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County Fall Seminar



Please join us on
Saturday, October 7, 2023
8:15 AM - 3:30 PM
Parma - Snow Library
2121 Snow Road, Parma 44134

Seminar fee is \$55 (includes keynote speaker and three sessions, continental breakfast, and a boxed lunch).

Check payments must be received by October 6th. **Sorry, no refunds.**

5 CE hours for Master Gardeners

events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=asphx9zab&oeidk=a07ejwixkgoff3bd7fb

1/4