'THE COMMPOST' NEWSLETTER

CLINTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

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

July-August 2019

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Next *COMMPOST*
Deadline: August 1

Please submit items in MS Word Format to Nicole Alexander at:
nicolejanealexander@gmail.com

MARK YOU CALENDAR:

June 27, 2019 Thursday:
MG Meeting, Ext Office 6:30pm

July 25, 2019 **TO BE ADVISED:**
MG Meeting, Ext Office 6:30pm

Aug. 22, 2019 Thursday:
MG Meeting, Ext. Office 6:30 pm

Ohio Master Gardener Volunteers contributed more than 164,000 hours of service in 2018 totaling more than $4 million in services to their communities.

There are currently 3,845 active MGVs in Ohio; 405 new MGVs were trained in 2018.

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE...

Letter from the President: Jeff Drapalik

Hello, Fellow MG's,

Rain, rain go away come back another day. Every day seems to bring more rain. Hopefully it will stop raining and the sun will shine and dry out the gardens and the fields.
Pollinators are necessary for producing many of the vegetables we eat and flowers we enjoy. There are many types of pollinators. Bees, moths, butterflies, and hummingbirds are some of the pollinators in our area. Honeybees and butterflies are probably the most recognizable. Individually you can help promote and sustain these valuable members of nature.

- Limit or do not use chemicals on your lawn or garden. Dandelions and clover are excellent sources of nectar for all varieties of bees.
- Cut your grass every other week. Letting the grass grow gives a food source for the pollinators.
- Convert a section of your yard or garden to a wildflower garden. A small area gives pollinators a food source.
- Plant milkweed seeds. Monarch butterfly caterpillars only eat the milkweed plant.
- Hang a hummingbird feeder. Seeing a hummingbird at a feeder is truly enjoyable.

The Master Gardeners with Clinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and Clinton County Soil and Water, have planted a wildflower / pollinator area at the corner of highway 730 and Osborn road. The area is approximately one acre and is planted with native wildflower seeds. It will take a season for the area to develop and provide a habitat for pollinators. As you drive on 730 look at the plot as it grows.

WIC Garden

The Clinton Country Master Gardeners have been working on two community gardens. The first, begun last year, is at the site of the Clinton County WIC offices on Nelson Avenue in Wilmington. Renee Quallen, Director of WIC, once again asked the Master Gardeners to help with the garden that produces vegetables and herbs for families and children. The improvement this year is the use of raised beds. Planting day was held on June 4, 2019. Families come to the WIC offices and are invited to help weed, water, and harvest produce. Everyone learns about gardening, but the advantage is being able to take produce home for cooking and eating!

A new venture this year is helping teenagers from Clinton County Juvenile Court Services learn about gardening. Chad Mason, Community Service Coordinator for the Juvenile Court, brings roughly

sixteen teenagers to Wilmington College's community gardens on Friday mornings at 9:00 a.m. The group is learning about dirt, planting, vegetables, and cooking, and Master Gardeners are on hand to help on Plots 18 and 20! Hopefully the teens will become interested in gardening. After they leave the gardens each Friday, they are taught about cooking with produce. Then they enjoy a meal at the Lutheran church with the Snap Education Program Assistant, Sarah Niekamp.

Words from Tony Nye

Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, County Chair

Greetings:

Clinton County is very fortunate to have most of our Corn and Soybean acres planted for 2019. There are still counties with less than 25-30% of their total crop acres planted so we are very fortunate.

The weather continues to create the perfect storm for disease issues with many vegetable gardens, fruit trees and landscape. Several calls are coming in on a regular basis and many samples as well are making their way here to be evaluated and hopeful solutions determined. This will be an ongoing issue the remainder of the growing season so don't be surprised if I ask for some assistance from time to time.

We may have another opportunity for a community project – still waiting to get some details. Bright Farms (Our Large Greenhouse production system) hosted the Highland county MG's for a tour and asked them if MG's could help them with beautification around their facility so Brooke Beam – ANR Highland is to be getting back to me how we may be able to assist them. They too are few in numbers.

Finally – the way the planting season has been going this year has also created major issues getting the pollinator plot at the Nike Center planted. We attempted one day – got rained out and are now waiting for availability of tractor and drill to attempt to finish.
Keep up the great work you are all doing on all our wonderful projects and as always –
THANK YOU!!!!

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Hemp

Hemp, (*Cannabis sativa*), also called industrial hemp, plant of the family Cannabaceae is cultivated for its fiber and its edible seeds. Hemp is sometimes confused with the cannabis plants that serve as sources of the drug marijuana. Although both products—hemp and marijuana — contain tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), a compound that produces psychoactive effects in humans, the variety of cannabis cultivated for hemp has only small amounts of THC relative to that grown for the production of marijuana.

Hemp originated in Central Asia. It was planted in Chile in the 1500s and a century later in North America. Many of our founding fathers grew hemp and advocated its uses and benefits. Most notably, Thomas Jefferson wrote the draft of the Declaration of Independence on hemp paper.

Hemp is grown in temperate zones as an annual cultivated from seed and can reach a height of up to 16 feet. Crops grow best in sandy loam with good drainage and require average monthly rainfall of at least 2.5 inches throughout the growing season. Crops cultivated for fiber are densely sowed and produce plants averaging 6–10 feet tall with almost no branching. The slender stalks are hollow except at the tip and base. The leaves are compound with palmate shape, and the flowers are small and greenish yellow. Seed-producing flowers form elongate, spike like clusters growing on the pistillate, or female, plants. Pollen-producing flowers form many-branched clusters on staminate, or male, plants. Maximum yield and quality are obtained by harvesting soon after the plants reach maturity, indicated by the full blossoms and freely shedding pollen of the male plants. Although sometimes pulled up by hand, plants are more often cut off about 1 inch above the ground.

Fibers are obtained by subjecting the stalks to a series of operations—including retting, drying, crushing and a shaking process that completes separation from the woody portion, releasing the long, fairly straight fiber, or line. It is strong and durable and is used for cordage—e.g., twine, yarn, rope, cable, and string—and for artificial sponges and such coarse fabrics as sacking (burlap) and canvas. Today, hemp is used in a number of consumer goods, including, clothing, shoes, accessories, dog collars, and home wares. For clothing, in some instances, hemp is mixed with lyocell. Compared to wood pulp, hemp pulp offers a four to five times longer fiber, but production costs are about four times

higher than for paper from wood, so hemp paper could not be used for mass applications as printing, writing and packaging paper.

Environmental impact
Hemp is considered by a 1998 study in *Environmental Economics* to be environmentally friendly due to a decrease of land use and other environmental impacts, indicating a possible decrease of ecological footprint in a US context compared to typical benchmarks. Hemp is also claimed to require few pesticides and no herbicides, and it has been called a carbon negative raw material. Results indicate that high yield of hemp may require high total nutrient levels (field plus fertilizer nutrients) similar to a high yielding wheat crop.

Historically, hemp production had made up a significant portion of antebellum Kentucky's economy. Before the American Civil War, many slaves worked on plantations producing hemp.

In 1937, the Marihuana Tax Act of 1937 was passed in the United States, levying a tax on anyone who dealt commercially in cannabis, hemp, or marijuana. The passing of the Act was to destroy the US hemp industry.

During World War II, it was used to make uniforms, canvas, and rope. Much of the hemp used was cultivated in Kentucky and the Midwest. During World War II, the U.S. produced a short 1942 film, *Hemp for Victory*, promoting hemp as a necessary crop to win the war.

Recent hemp timeline:
1998: The U.S. begins to import food-grade hemp seed and oil.
2004: Ninth Circuit Court decision in Hemp Industries Association vs. DEA permanently protects sales of hemp foods and body care products in the U.S.
2007: The first hemp licenses in over 50 years are granted to two North Dakota farmers.
2014: President Obama signed the Farm Bill, which allowed research institutions to start piloting hemp farming.
2015: The Industrial Hemp Farming Act (H.R. 525 and S. 134) was introduced in the House and Senate. If passed, it would remove all federal restrictions on industrial hemp and legalize its cultivation.
2016: A Colorado farm has earned the Organic certification from USDA for its hemp

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hemp
https://www.britannica.com/plant/hemp
https://ministryofhemp.com/hemp/history/

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Minutes: *Clinton County Master Gardeners Association. May 23, 2019*

In Attendance: Tony Nye, Agr. Educator, Judy Grosvenor, Coordinator, Connie Hardie, Mary Harris, Debbie Tong, Melissa Gaughan, Jim Hackney, Ann Kuehn, Scilla Wahrhaftig

President's Report: Not in attendance

Extension Report: Tony Reported to new members about current projects and submitting for new projects and the awards possibility behind them. Reminded members that we are volunteers of the Ohio State Extension Office and we are "Not weeders for hire".

Scilla Wahrhaftig: Presented a new project at Cape May by maintaining gardens. Also said she is helping with CCYC with planting in their raised bed gardens this year.

Treasurer Report: not in attendance

Coordinator Reports: Shared that the #1 question from the plant sale was "What do I plant for pollinators +/or hummingbirds". The May 11th Plant Sale was discussed, issues and improvements. For Pollinator Week: June 17-22, we will do a program at the Wilmington Public Library on 6-21 at 11 am, for story time, ages 3-6 year old. The Wilmington Public Library also wants a bug/flower program on September 11, 2019 @ 4:30 pm, for their Discovery Club, geared toward 4-10 year olds.

One Day MG State Conference @ OSU 4-H Building this fall, November 8, 2019. The International Conference will be in Pennsylvania this year.

Meeting adjourn, next meeting June 27, 2019. Respectfully submitted: Nicole Alexander.

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Clinton County 2019 MG Projects:

We have a list of current Master Gardener Projects that we participate in every year. Some of the projects we carry from year to year. Some are one and done, as in being a speaker for a group or presenting an community educational program. In establishing projects, we view:

Goals - what are we hoping to accomplish.
Objective - precise outcomes that can be measured to support the goals
(Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound)
Description - establish need and benefits, being realistic, clearly identify the focus and evaluation.

We plan our projects to educate, benefit and enhance the community. Please view the list of projects and choose several that interest you or will help you grow as a Master Gardener. We welcome new ideas. Many hands and good companionship will accomplish much.

*Pollinator Acre at Nike Center Area. Contact: Jeff
*Community Pollinator Educational program.
*Area Community Gardens. Includes WIC garden and youth garden with Eric. Contact: Jeff.
*Backyard Food Demo Garden @ Denver Park, by walk path. Contact: Debbie or Judy.
*Planting two urns @ Denver Park entrance. Seasonal 4 times year. Contact: Judy.
*Habitat for Humanity: Work with H/H and new homeowners, Design Front Landscapes & install them. **We need a leader** on this, but all volunteers to work. Contact: Judy or Nicole.
*Work in office: as asked by Tony/ and hotline questions from public.
***New project:** Master Gardener booth, once or twice a month table at the Farmers Market, to meet public/answer questions. Contact: Judy.

Clinton County MG 2019 Meeting Dates:

The Association meets on the fourth Thursday of each month unless otherwise noted. All regular meetings begin at 6:30 pm.

June 27	Regular Meeting 6:30 pm
July 25	Meeting **TO BE ADVISED**
August 22	Regular Meeting 6:30 pm
September 26	Regular Meeting 6:30 pm
October 24	Regular Meeting 6:30 pm

Hours Needed for Interns: 50 Hours total 1st year
Hours needed for established MGV: 20 Volunteer Hours per year
Continuing Education Hours: 10 Continuing Education Hours per year

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Interesting State MG websites:

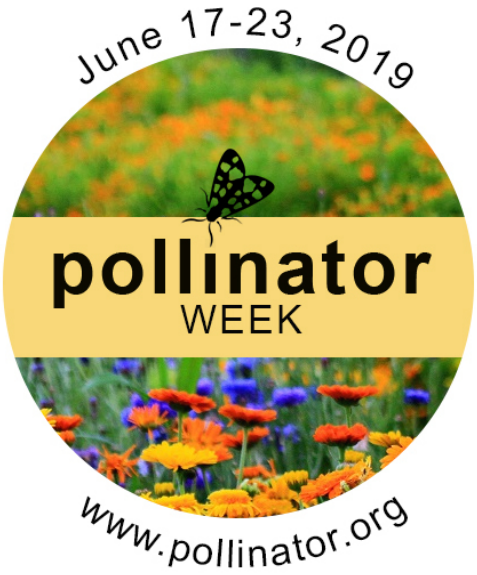
The Ohio Invasive Plants Council (OIPC) www.oipc.info

Ohio State MGV website: mastergardener.osu.edu/home

Ohio MG Volunteer system sign in: https://ohio.volunteersystem.org

OSUE's 'Buckeye Yard and Garden on Line' http://bygl.osu.edu/ and http://vegnet.osu.edu

Join us at https://www.facebook.com/clintoncountymastergardeners



To learn more about pollinators and pollinator plants, consult these resources:

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation: **xerces.org**
The Ohio State University Bee Lab: **beelab.osu.edu**
Pollinator Partnership: **pollinator.org**
National Pollinator Week: **fws.gov/pollinators/**

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