'THE COMMPOST' NEWSLETTER

CLINTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

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

Nov + Dec 2021

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Next *COMMPOST*
Deadline: Dec 22, 2021

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

MARK YOU CALENDAR:

Nov 11 @ 6:30 pm Next Meeting

Dec 9 Christmas Pary

Master Gardener Program OSU Extension Mission:

The Ohio State University Extension Master Gardener Program provides knowledge to and develops the leadership abilities of volunteers who, in turn, enable others to improve the quality of their lives by enhancing their home and community environments through horticultural education and activities.

Happy Holidays

All educational programs conducted by Ohio State University Extension are available to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender, age, and disability or Vietnam- era veteran statue.

CFAES

Tony Nye, OSU AG Extension Educator

As we approach Thanksgiving, I want to thank all of you for your dedicated service as Master Gardeners and your friendship along the way. I encourage you to take some time to reflect on all the great things we as Master Gardeners do and what we could possibly do for Clinton County in the future.

You all should have received an email from me announcing the Master Gardener training and *I hope you can each recruit one or two folks to participate*. Also, please be thinking of a couple ideas for community education programs. I have been getting many calls and emails on a variety of topics. Through your help I think we can generate some excellent programs for gardening enthusiasts.

I was sorry I could not help with the Habitat House, but was with my parents that weekend. Judy provided me with pictures of your efforts, "GREAT JOB!" to those involved. Make sure to get your hours of volunteer time into me or Judy so we can get it into the system. We need this as soon as possible so we can meet the December 15th deadline the state MG office has asked us to meet.

Again, thank you so much for everything, be safe during the coming weeks of Holiday travels and enjoy the last of the fall colors.

We will hopefully see all of you for our **Christmas Gathering set for December 9, 5:30 PM at the General Denver.**

Tony

##########

CC Master Gardeners Project

The Clinton County Master Gardeners gathered on Saturday, October 23rd at the new Habitat for Humanity home of April to plant her new landscape. We planted the whole front area and down one size of her home. A design plan and layout was created along with plant care and instruction was included, for future reference. Some of the anchor plants included: 'Sky Pencil' Japanese Holly, a Crape Myrtle, White Azalea, 'Blue Rug' Juniper, 'Emerald' Euonymus shrubs. The perennial flowers included: 'Brilliant' Sedum, 'Little Lemon' Goldenrod, four varieties of hostas, daffodils, and irises.

This is a project that the CC Master Gardeners had coordinated over twenty years with the Clinton County Habitat for Humanity to donate the landscape for the Habitat homes.

We thank our group of hard workers who came out on Saturday: Lynn Musser, Debbie Tong, Nicole Alexander, Judy Grosvenor, Reese and homeowner April.

Judy Grosvenor, MGV Coordinator;

Here are a couple dates to remember, please mark your calendars.
11-11-2021 - Next MG meeting, 6:30 pm. Will be at Extension office, **please bring all your 2021 volunteer hours,** only chance to get them in the new VMS system for the year. (Don't try entering them yourselves.)

12-9-2021 - MG Christmas party at General Denver, 5:30 pm. Cost and details to follow Please advise if you are attending and how many guests.

Before end of November: will need to report your volunteer hours, need twenty hours. Now is the time to work on them. There are new virtual educational programs going on that you can register and attend for hours.

2021-2022 Hort Happy Hour and Lunch & Learn

Fall 2021 Webinar Series

LUNCH & LEARN AND HAPPY HOUR WEBINAR SERIES FOR MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS:

Each session will count for 1 hour of continuing education. You will be responsible for entering in your own hours. Speakers and times are subject to change.

https://mastergardener.osu.edu/resources/2021-2022-hort-happy-hour-and-lunch-learn-webinar-series

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

Interesting State MG Websites:

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

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

Join us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/clinton county mastergardeners

NEW OSU EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Master Gardeners:

This is our opportunity to increase our membership and extend the gardening knowledge to many in our community. Please reach out to your friends, neighbors and community and let them know about our upcoming MG classes. **Note that inquiries and application deadline is:**

November 20th, 2021.

Please help expand our membership.

Clinton County MG 2021 Meeting Dates:

Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month. All regular meetings begin at 6:30 pm. (Watch for Zoom meetings and upcoming programs)

Minutes: *Clinton County Master Gardeners Association 10-4-21 6:30 pm At Cape May* In Attendance: Nicole Alexander, Beverly Drapalik, Jeff Drapalik, Judy Grosvenor, Lynn Musser, Tony Nye, Debbie Tong, Scilla Wahrhaftig

Tony:

- Plant sale thought: should we go with Patchwork or Stockslager? Majority seemed to like Stockslager because they delivered. We would like more perennials next year and smaller perennials, so they are more affordable.
- If we go with Stockslager we could bring our own plants next year for the sale.
- All agreed that we liked having the plant sale at the fairgrounds.

- Talking about the next MGV classes. It will cover Clinton, Fayette and Greene counties. We hope to get 5-6 new volunteers.
- We have a new system for tracking hours. Give your hours to Tony and he will put them into the new system until the end of the year.
- Tony has been getting a lot of calls about trees. Thinking about having a tree class that includes what to look for in the spring, summer maintenance and fall care.
- Farm Science Review was cancelled one day because of the rain. MGV at the FSR said they are looking for donations for the Schletzinger garden. Suggested that we could donate a few hundred dollars to support a garden done by another MG group.

Judy:

- Next plant sale will be May 14, 2022
- Judy and Debbie visited the Hawley house. We will plant at the Habitat house either on October 16 or 23. There were donations from the church to use for the plantings.
- Second Habitat location will be done next spring
- State Annual MGV Meeting will be virtual on October 14 + 15. Will count towards hours. It is $40 per person.
- Next meeting is set for Thursday November 11 at 6:30pm at the Ext Office.
- Will look into reserving the Denver mid-December for Christmas Dinner.

Treasurer's Report:

- Dues will be due Feb/March 2022. We made a good profit from the plant sale.

Clinton County 2021 MG Projects:

Some of these projects are current and some are possibilities that were done in the past. We are looking for new ideas. Please share if you have ideas.

Annual Plant Sale + Educational Classes

- ✓ Fund Raiser
- ✓ Set up + sale of vegetable and flowers to the public
- ✓ Present one-hour educational programs for the public

Community Pollinator Educational Program

- ✓ Pollinator week: June 14th – 19th (Cancelled this year)
- ✓ Usually children oriented

Educational to raise awareness of need of pollinators

Pollinator Acre

- ✓ New 2020 project – headed by Jeff Drapalik
- ✓ Acreage tilled, planted and maintained

Habitat for Humanity: Contact Judy or Nicole

- ✓ Project we have supported for 11 plus years with Habitat
- ✓ Design Front Landscapes, purchase plants and set workday to install them.
- ✓ Present educational on home care of landscape

Work in office: as asked by Tony/ and hotline questions from public

Master Gardener booth Contact Judy

- ✓ Once a month table at the Farmers Market, to meet public/answer questions.
- ✓ Project to make public aware of MG

Planting two urns @ Denver Park entrance. Contact: Judy

- ✓ Seasonal 4 times year ***Project on hold

We purchased and donated the urns, keep them planted, seasonal

WIC garden at extension office. Contact Jeff

- ✓ Work with the WIC office program / Education of growing food for families.

Backyard Food Demo Garden @ Denver Park, by walk path.

- ✓ This project has been retired. We had many years work on this great project and thank all who worked with it.

Spotted Lanternfly Detected in Ohio

February 12 2021

REYNOLDSBURG, OH (Oct. 27, 2020) – A population of the invasive Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) has been found in Mingo Junction just south of Steubenville, along the Ohio River. The initial report came from a resident who spotted a dead adult SLF on a commercial building on October 19, 2020. When Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) Plant Pest Control inspectors arrived, they were able to capture five live adult SLF in trees located nearby.

ODA has been working with the United States Department of Agriculture, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio State University Extension, and the Ohio Grape Industries Committee to do visual surveys, insect trapping, and outreach in the region.
SLF is a great concern to the grape and wine industry. The insect is fond of grapevines, fruit trees, hops, blueberry, oak, pine, poplar, and walnut. Adult SLF are attracted to the invasive Ailanthus tree, also known as tree-of-heaven, while nymphs feed on a wide range of hosts. Both adults and nymphs feed on stems and leaves, causing sap bleeding and reduced photosynthesis, which can eventually kill the plant.

Now through November is the best time to spot the SLF because it is in its most recognizable stages as a colorful winged adult plant hopper. After hatching in the late spring, the SLF goes through four nymph stages. By midsummer, the nymph SLF can be identified by its red body, roughly a half-inch in size, with black stripes and white dots. During the late summer until roughly November, the SLF is in the adult stage. These adults are larger, roughly one inch in size, with black bodies and brightly colored wings.

The public is the first line of defense against the SLF. If you believe you have seen an SLF in your area, you can easily report a suspected infestation by going to ODA's Spotted Lanternfly Information Page and filling out a suspected infestation report. You may also call the Plant Pest Control Division at 614-728-6400.

For more information about the spotted lanternfly and what you can do to help, please visit our website. https://u.osu.edu/spottedlanternfly/

Posted by James Jasinski at 3:30pm

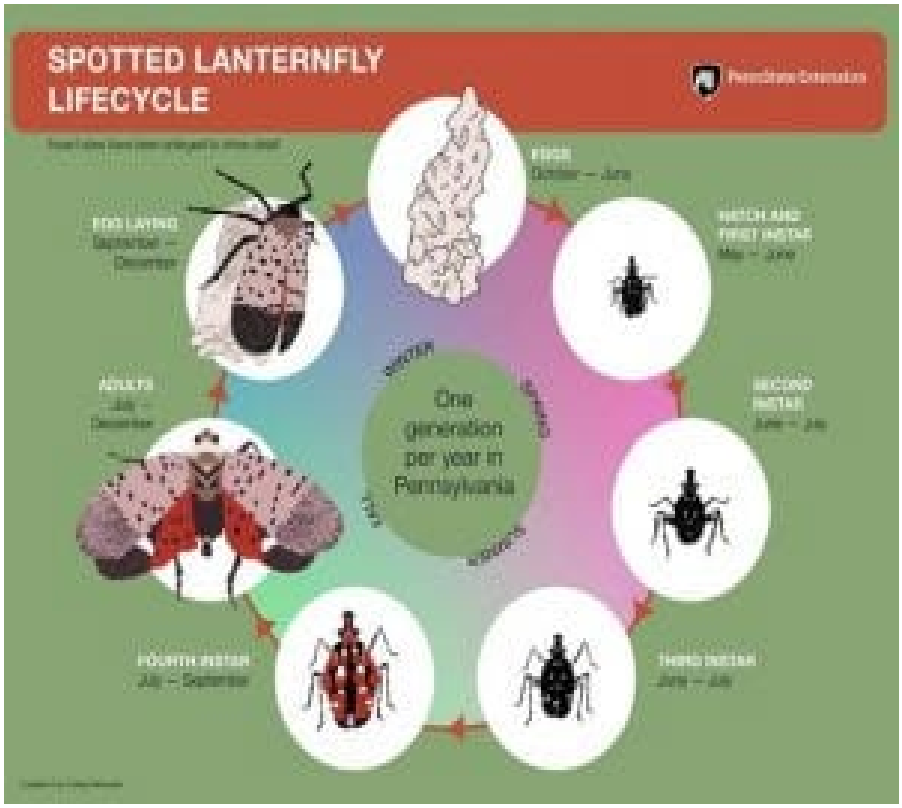
These two updates are important information about a new insect that is showing up in Ohio. If you see it, please contact the Local Extension office.

Spot the Spot – Ohioans Encouraged to Look for the Spotted Lanternfly

August18, 2020

We are urging Ohioans to be on the look-out for the spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) (SLF). This non-native insect was first discovered in Pennsylvania in 2014 and has been 'popping-up' in other states. We encourage others to become familiar with the insect and continue to be on the look-out for the actual insect itself, along with other signs and symptoms. Although not an outright killer of plants, it can be a stress factor causing plant decline, and sometimes death of certain host plants. This insect can also be a nuisance in numbers where recently reports in neighboring Pennsylvania have increased 500% from the previous year.

Below is a resource from Penn State Extension illustrating the life-cycle of the SLF. The insect overwinters in the egg stage where eggs are laid in masses on 'any' flat surface. If you were to spot SLF in Ohio, you would most likely be seeing adult activity this time of the year.



If you suspect seeing SLF in the buckeye-state, we encourage you to capture the insect(s) both literally and in photos, and report the suspect find in one of the following ways:

– The Great Lakes Early Detect Network (GLEDN) App that can be downloaded on your phone to report invasive species in Ohio and other Great Lake States. More information about the App can be found online at: https://apps.bugwood.org/apps/gledn/ You can also learn more by tuning in to some recorded presentations and videos shared by OSU colleagues. If you are monitoring the same site for SLF, you can also report negative finds to alert others that you are looking, but not finding SLF currently in that particular site.

Suspect finds can also be reported on the Ohio Department of Agriculture's website – Public Reporting Tab at: **https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/divisions/plant-health/invasive-pests/slf**

If you have a questions, reach out to ODA, your local OSU Extension office, or your Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry Urban or Service Forester. Help join that battle of this invasive species by staying updated and reporting any suspect finds immediately. Thank you for your help in protecting Ohio. Posted by stone.91 at 5:00am

Unusual Christmas Trees: Growing Christmas Tree Alternatives

By: Teo Spengler

Most people love the traditions of Christmas, but some of us like to put our own twist on decorations. For example, you don't have to use fir or spruce for the tree this year. Using different plants for Christmas trees can be creative and fun. Ready to try unconventional Christmas trees? Read on for our take on top Christmas tree alternatives.

Unusual Christmas Trees Ready, set, let's wade into unusual Christmas tree territory by thinking about a tree constructed of succulents. You can probably find one for sale online and you're good to go. If you are a succulent fan, this is a DIY project that may appeal to you. All you need to get started is a cone of chicken wire, some sphagnum moss, and lots of little succulents or succulent cuttings.

Soak the moss in water, then stuff it into the wire cone. Take one succulent cutting at a time and wedge it into the tightly packed moss. Attach it in place with a greening pin. When you have enough greenery, go ahead and decorate your succulent tree. Alternatively, just use an upright potted succulent, like a jade plant or aloe, and hang it with Christmas ornaments. When the holiday is over, your succulents can go in the garden.

If you've never had a Norfolk Island pine, you may think this little tree is a relative of the old-fashioned pine, fir, or spruce Christmas trees. With its green symmetrical branches, it looks like a one too. Yet, despite its common name, the tree is not a pine at all. It's a tropical plant from the South seas which means that, unlike a real pine, it makes a great houseplant as long as you offer it humidity. In the wild, these trees grow into giants, but in a container, they stay a workable size for many years. You can decorate your Norfolk Island pine for Christmas with light ornaments and streamers. Don't put anything heavy on the branches though, since they are not as strong as those of more typical Christmas trees.

Other Christmas Tree Alternatives For those who would like truly unusual Christmas trees, we have a few more ideas. How about decorating a magnolia plant? Magnolias aren't conifers but they are evergreen. Buy a small container magnolia in December, selecting small-leafed cultivars like "Little Gem" or "Teddy Bear." These magnolias make elegant Christmas tree alternatives in December and can get planted in the backyard when the fun is done. Holly trees work well as unconventional Christmas trees too. These are already considered appropriate plants for Christmas – fa la la la la and all that. To use them as alternative Christmas trees, just buy a container plant in time for the holidays. With the glossy green leaves and red berries, a holly "tree" will bring immediate cheer to

https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/