'THE COMMPOST' NEWSLETTER

CLINTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

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

Sept + Oct 2021

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Next *COMMPOST*
Deadline: Oct 22, 2021

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

MARK YOU CALENDAR:

Next Meeting is:
Wednsday, September 29
6:30 pm

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 Autumn

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

Dear Master Gardeners,

Fall is my favorite time of year with beautiful colors, cooler temperatures, football and apple cider. I am hopeful COVID will calm down so we can fully get back to a normal MG schedule of events. Thanks for all you do and hope to see everyone very soon.

Tony

Lynn Musser, Clinton County MGV

This is year two of my Hillsboro streetscape project. My task is to plant and care for the rectangular spots along the downtown sidewalks where trees used to stand. Last year I planted perennial salvia and lantana. Pictures were featured in a 2020 MG newsletter.
This year I started with some annuals from the MG plant sale and added zinnia, crimson clover, cosmos, and marigold seeds. I labeled the plantings with oversized stakes urging passersby to “Watch me grow”. Water was provided by the people who watered the city hanging baskets and planters. The plants did grow providing a colorful display.

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 8-30-21 6:30 pm At Cape May* In Attendance: **Nicole Alexander, Judy Grosvenor, Debbie Tong, Tony Nye, Jim Hackney**

Tony:

- Plant sale reflection. Thoughts were that we had good help and that all went well. We liked the open space the barn gave. Not sure on the final numbers for the sale yet. Question is should we stay with Patchwork or go with Stockslager for next year's sale?
- Thinking about putting together a MGV class this winter in Butler Co. This maybe a blended classroom experience; some class in person, some via virtual classroom. We hope to add 5 more people. Tony will be in contact with others and will get back with us with more details.
- Tickets are available for the Farm Science Review. Tony will provide a ticket, free of charge, for any MGV who wants to go.
- In regard to future meetings, a new person will be the leader for each meeting. The "leader" will make sure that emails are sent, meetings are scheduled, the agenda for the meeting is made out and that the items of business are taken care of. We will try this new method for now and see how it goes.

Judy:

- We have a new MGV electronic hour system. Tony will make sure your hours get transferred to the new system.
- Judy grew a 2.5 lb tomato (with photo evidence) and generously gave out pears and apples from her trees
- There are two habitat houses this year. One is on Hawley Ave in Wilmington. It should be ready for landscape this fall. Second house is on Clinton Street. Building hasn't started yet. Wants to see who can volunteer.
- There will be a virtual gardening session on Sept 8. Register at: go.osu.edu/virtualgardening. Presenter is Kathy Smith
- There will be a horticultural lunch from noon-1pm in October. Will send it out when I have more info. It will count towards continuing education.
- October 14 + 15 is the MGV State Conference. It will be virtual. Will talk more at next meeting about whether MGV will pay for the virtual State Conference this year.
- Debbie Tong was voted in as the new Clinton County MGV Treasurer. Thank you Beverly for your years of service.
- Next meeting is set for Wednesday September 29 at 6:30pm

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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What projects would you like to see happen in 2021?
Email Judy or Tony your suggestions

Clinton County 2021 MG Projects:

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

Pollinator Acre

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

Community Pollinator Educational Program

- ✓ Pollinator week: June 14th – 19th (Cancelled this year)
- ✓ Usually children oriented
- ✓ Educational to raise awareness of need of pollinators

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 everyone who worked with it.

WIC garden at extension office. Contact Jeff

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

Master Gardener booth Contact Judy

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

Chad Mason's Youth Summer Program and Gardens:

- ✓ Chad Mason's Juvenile Youth Program
- ✓ Cover 6 weeks of 1-hour programs on food and gardening

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

Planting two urns @ Denver Park entrance. Contact: Judy

- ✓ Seasonal 4 times year
- ✓ We purchased and donated the urns, keep them planted, seasonal

Elementary School Sensory Garden Contact: Beverly

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

Poison ivy

Poison ivy is an allergenic plant in the genus *Toxicodendron* native to Asia and North America. It is well known for causing urushiol-induced contact dermatitis, an itchy, irritating, and sometimes painful rash, in most people who touch it. The rash is caused by urushiol, a clear liquid compound in the plant's sap. The plant is variable in its appearance and habit, and despite its common name, it is not a true ivy, but rather a member of the cashew and pistachio family (Anacardiaceae). *T. radicans* is commonly eaten by many animals, and the seeds are consumed by birds, but poison ivy is most often thought of as an unwelcome weed. Poison ivy was formerly treated as a single species, *Toxicodendron radicans*, but is now generally treated as a complex of three separate species: *Toxicodendron radicans* (eastern poison ivy), *Toxicodendron rydbergii* (western poison ivy) and *Toxicodendron orientale* (Asian poison ivy).

Poison ivy is a highly variable plant that can grow as a small plant, a shrub, or a climbing vine. It is commonly characterized by clusters of leaves, each containing three leaflets, hence the common expression "leaves of three, let it be". These leaves can vary between an elliptic to egg shape and will have either smooth, lobed, or toothed margins. Additionally, the leaf clusters are alternate on the stem. Clusters of small, greenish flowers bloom from May to July and produce white berries in the fall a few millimeters in diameter.

Leaves may be smooth or notched on the same plant.
T. radicans in Perrot State Park in Wisconsin

Urushiol-induced contact dermatitis is the allergic reaction caused by poison ivy. In extreme cases, a reaction can progress to anaphylaxis. Around 15 to 25 percent of people have no allergic reaction to urushiol, but most people have a greater reaction with repeated or more concentrated exposure. Typically, the rash from the urushiol oil lasts about five to twelve days, but in extreme cases it can last a month or more.

Urushiol binds to the skin on contact where it causes severe itching that develops into reddish inflammation or uncolored bumps, and then blistering. These lesions may be treated with Calamine lotion, Burow's solution compresses, dedicated commercial poison ivy itch creams, or baths to relieve discomfort, though recent studies have shown some traditional medicines to be ineffective. Over-the-counter products to ease itching—or simply oatmeal baths and baking soda—are now recommended by dermatologists for the treatment of poison ivy.

The oozing fluids released by scratching blisters do not spread the poison. The fluid in the blisters is produced by the body and it is not urushiol itself. The appearance of a spreading rash indicates that some areas received more of the poison and reacted sooner than other areas or that contamination is

still occurring from contact with objects to which the original poison was spread. Those affected can unknowingly spread the urushiol inside the house, on phones, doorknobs, couches, counters, desks, and so on, thus in fact repeatedly coming into contact with poison ivy and extending the length of time of the rash. If this has happened, wipe down the surfaces with bleach or a commercial urushiol removal agent. The blisters and oozing result from blood vessels that develop gaps and leak fluid through the skin; if the skin is cooled, the vessels constrict and leak less. If plant material with urushiol is burned and the smoke then inhaled, this rash will appear on the lining of the lungs, causing extreme pain and possibly fatal respiratory difficulty. If poison ivy is eaten, the mucus lining of the mouth and digestive tract can be damaged. An urushiol rash usually develops within a week of exposure and can last 1–4 weeks, depending on severity and treatment. In rare cases, urushiol reactions may require hospitalization.

Treatment

Immediate washing with soap and cold water or rubbing alcohol may help prevent a reaction. During a reaction, Calamine lotion or diphenhydramine may help mitigate symptoms. Corticosteroids, either applied to the skin or taken by mouth, may be appropriate in extreme cases. An astringent containing aluminum acetate (such as Burow's solution) may also provide relief and soothe the uncomfortable symptoms of the rash.

Poison Ivy with fall coloration

T. radicans vine with typical reddish "hairs": Like the leaves, the vines are poisonous to humans.

2021-2022 Hort Happy Hour and Lunch & Learn Webinar Series

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

FALL 2021

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.

Hit CTR + CLICK HERE for the full list of webinars

Did you know that tomatoes are the second most commonly consumed vegetable in the United States?

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Tomato Salsa

Ingredients

1 onion, diced
3 Roma tomatoes, diced
(or your own mix of colors and flavors)
1 jalapeño pepper (optional)
4 cloves garlic, minced,
OR 1 teaspoon garlic powder
½ cup fresh cilantro or parsley, chopped
½ teaspoon salt (or to taste)
¼ cup lemon or lime juice

Instructions

1. Before you begin, wash your hands, surfaces, vegetables and utensils.
2. If using a jalapeno, put on latex gloves and remove the jalapeno seeds and dice small. If you don't have gloves, wash your hands with soap and water after handling the pepper.
3. Combine all ingredients in a medium bowl and stir to combine.
4. Chill in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes before serving, so flavors can blend.

Makes about four ¾-1 cup servings.
Adapted from a recipe on celebrateyourplate.org

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