

THE GREENE LEAFLET

News for OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteers

March/April 2022

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Debbie Downes

For over 40 years, The Dayton Foodbank has served as the primary source of food for the hunger relief network in our region. Located near downtown Dayton, The Foodbank – the only one of its kind in the area – relieves hunger in the community through a network of partner agencies by acquiring and distributing food. The Foodbank provides the infrastructure for more than 100-member food pantries, community kitchens, and shelters that serve as the charitable hunger relief network in Montgomery, Greene, and Preble Counties. In Greene County, 21,720 people struggle with food insecurity (13.2%) with 6,360 of them being children.

Greene County agencies served by the Foodbank include:

- BOGG Ministries
- Family Violence Prevention Center
- Fellowship Tabernacle
- FISH – Fairborn
- Greene County FISH Food Pantry (formerly called FISH – Xenia)
- Foodbank Mobile Farmers Market
- Vineyard Christian Fellowship
- Jamestown UMC
- Liberty Helping Hands Food Pantry
- Spring Valley United Methodist Church
- United AME Church
- With God's Grace
- Xenia Nazarene- Kinsey Food Pantry

Source: The Dayton Foodbank (thefoodbankdayton.org)

So, how can we help? One of the 2022 MGV goals is to increase community involvement through increased involvement in Grow Ohio and other Extension office outreach. Specifically, the GCMGV Board of Trustees selected supporting participation in the Greene County food drive efforts as one objective. Jennifer Eggleton, SNAP-Ed Program Assistant in the Greene County Extension office, is coordinating pantry collections for the Extension office. Throughout the year she is targeting the collection of food and personal items for donation to various pantries in the county. For the most recent outreach, she reports three full totes of food and personal items were collected for the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Family Resource Center in February. We can help by contributing items at the Extension office.

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UPCOMING MEETING/EVENT/TEAM CALENDAR

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS

All Meetings are at 6:30pm

February 8th, zoom
March 8th, zoom
April 12th, In-person
May 10th, In-person
June 14th, In-person
July 12th, In-person
August 9th, In-person
September 13th, In-person
October, TBD
November 8th, In-person

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

all meetings are at 10:30am

January 20th
February 17th
March 8th
April 21st
May 19th, zoom
June 16th
July 21st
August 18th
September 15th
October 20th
November 17th
December 15th

Updates will be posted on the website
greene.osu.edu

CONTINUING EDUCATION

CFAES

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Greene County – Agriculture and Natural Resources

Continuing Education Events Available to Master Gardener Volunteers

Additional Programs:

All programs will require pre-registration, for links go to greene.osu.edu

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

The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden Events

Miami County Coffee with the Master Gardener Volunteers

Cuyahoga Master Gardeners

OSU Bee Lab Workshops & Webinars

OSU Bee Lab Tending Nature Webinar Series

Ohio Woodland Stewards Program



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COORDINATOR'S NOTES SECTION

It is becoming very busy with spring activities happening all around us! We are moving from zoom into face to face programming and meetings. We will be use precautionary measures at meetings such as individually packaged snacks and asking you to "Bring Your Own Beverage" except for water. You can choose to mask or not, whatever makes you more comfortable. Everyone will be understand that the choices you make are unique to you and your circumstances. You may be immune compromised, caring for a vulnerable person, or soon to under go a medical procedure. We just want to see you in-person and not on a computer screen.

There a numerous programs coming later this month and I hope to see many of you at them. Next month will busy also with a big program in May on rock gardening with Joseph Tychonievich. The annual plant sale follows after Hamvention and then the inaugural online auction. Please contact Pam Carter for the plant sale and Trevor for the online auction details.

As we begin to start work in the garden project, do pace yourself! We all are bundles of energy just waiting to weed, mulch, and plant so there is always the tendency to do too much for too long as we first get out in our projects.

The intern class is in their final stretch of completing classes and you will soon see them out at projects and at meetings. Do consider wearing your name tag to the business meetings so they can begin to associate names to faces.

UPDATES IN ANR

Spring is finally around the corner! The grass seems to be growing, but slowly. I will take that for now, but the farm side of me would sure appreciate the grass... just not the mowing the lawn aspect. The cows are ready to go out to the field and graze! I am also ready to mow hay and forage for the cows, but don't want to think about the winter preparations just yet.

As you should have heard by now, we are having an Online auction fundraiser. It is time to start acting on the inaugural OSU Extension Greene County MGV Online Auction fundraiser. In early June 2022, the OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteers (GCMGV) are conducting an on-line auction fundraiser. Sheridan & Associates of Cedarville, Ohio is donating their professional auction services in support of our fundraiser. We have the next month to secure donations from local businesses. Once we have these, I will work with Sheridan and Associates to complete the online website for the sale. First, I need your help! If you know of someone at this business or have an interest in making the ask, please let me know ASAP. Please, do not make the ask then let me know as I have a letter that you can take with you to make the ask. This fundraiser has the potential to make the Greene County MGV group hundreds to thousands of dollars in a very simple on line format. I will take care of the leg work on the back end. All I need from you is a few hours of time to help make the ask for a donation item, share details with me along with digital photos, and getting the item to the Extension office if necessary. Once you choose a business, let me know your thoughts via email. I will send you the letter and a quick reference summary of our program. Items can range from a gift card up to a selection of a tree. The success of our event depends on contributions from sponsors. Specifically, we are requesting donations of items or services valued at \$75.00 or more. This could include landscaping services, grow light stands, raised bed planters, yard art, utility wagons, garden path lighting, or it could include an activity such as a free round of golf. This auction will be open to the public and we really want to stimulate excitement among those bidding (of course you can bid if you see an item that you cannot live without). We will set a minimum bid to ensure the item(s) donated are valued for their worth. We need to have item and donor information secured no later than 4/30/2022 so that we can plan accordingly. Please, feel free to contact me at my office at 937-736-7203 or by email at corboy.3@osu.edu. I cannot wait to see what all you come up with in support of YOUR Greene County MGV program. Kim and I are here to help and want to see this be a success!

Jennifer is currently requesting donations for the Greene County FISH Food Pantry in Xenia. She will be collecting items at the Extension office through late April. All non-perishable foods are accepted. This can include canned meats and spreads, box mixes like hamburger helper, flour, sugar, and soup. Foods that can be served over rice or noodles to make a meal are helpful. In addition to food, personal hygiene items and paper products are greatly appreciated. Needy families also have pets, so cat and dog food are needed.

When you know you are going to be making a trip to the Extension office bring in your donations. Our April 12th Business meeting will be in-person, so that would be a perfect time to bring your contributions.

In addition, another 2022 MGV goal is to improve GCMGV member satisfaction and involvement. One objective under that goal is to recruit membership to secure the commitment of at least three MGVs to contribute produce to food pantries through Grow Ohio program. If you grow produce, haven't been participating in Grow Ohio and would like to contribute some of your bounty, contact our Program Coordinator, Kim Hupman.



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Phone: 937-372-9971
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm
Please note we are closed from 12:00pm-12:30pm for lunch
greene.osu.edu

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OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteer 2022 Officers:

President - Debbie Downes

Vice President - Jane Worth

Secretary - Kathy Lewis

Treasurer - Skip Mahan

Board Members At Large -

Sarah Preston

Pam Carter

Rebecca Elniski

ExOfficio Board Member - Kim Hupman, Horticulture Program Assistant (937) 736-7209

The Greene Leaflet Editor – Pat Zehring at zehring.5@osu.edu

Next Newsletter Deadline: May 20, 2022

We welcome all suggestions, thoughts, calendar dates for this newsletter.
Please e-mail your comments, articles, photos, and dates