

# THE GREENE LEAFLET

News for OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteers

September/October 2023

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Debbie Downes

### My Native Front Yard

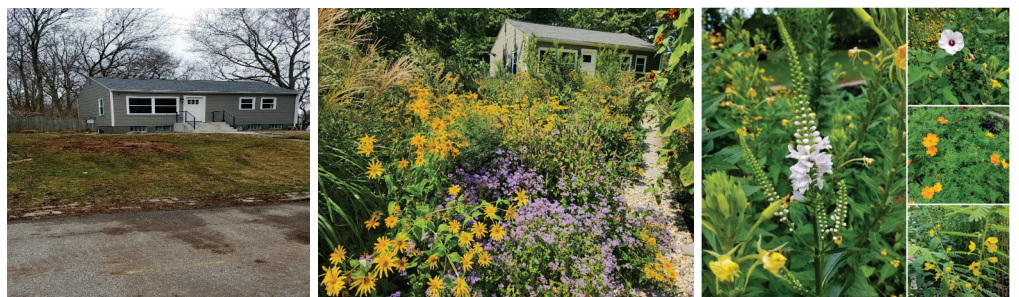
In the January 2022 Greene Leaflet newsletter, I shared my new garden opportunity. I told about the sewer line that went out and how half of my front yard (and the finished basement) had to be torn up – TWICE! It was super stressful, expensive, and messy. However, I decided that I would take that as an opportunity to plant my native garden verses dealing with a grass lawn. After educating myself on native plants, I threw down handfuls of seeds, learned about winter sowing, and was gifted plants from fellow Master Gardeners.

In this January's newsletter, I shared what happened over that spring, summer, and fall which I called "Chaos". I define chaos in a fun way. For me it means random and surprising. This year I've been impressed with the vigor and variety of plants. I was especially excited to see the tremendous array of bees that have used the plants. A few weeks ago, I saw five Monarchs in my garden at the same time. That was more than I had seen in a long while. It was wonderful!

I'm still identifying some of the plants I've grown. In this second year, I've seen some thrive and want to be dominant. I've seen others that will still take longer to fully establish. Bloom colors include red, orange, lots of yellow, blue, and shades of purple. Two of my garden favorites are the Royal Catchfly and Bottle Gentian.

My learning continues with future plans to landscape with more natives.

May you enjoy the rest of our gardening season as another year wraps up.



# UPCOMING MEETING/EVENT/TEAM CALENDAR

## MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS

All Meetings are at 6:30pm, unless otherwise announced

January 17th, 6:30 Zoom  
January 21st 1-3pm Winter Gathering  
February 14th, zoom  
March 14th  
April 11th  
May 9th  
June 13th  
July 11th  
August 8th  
September 12th  
October 10th  
November 14th

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

All meetings are at 4:00pm, unless otherwise announced

January 3rd  
February 14th  
March 14th  
April 11th  
May 9th  
June 13th  
July 11th  
August 8th  
September 12th  
October 10th  
November 14th  
December Social TBD

Meeting dates and other information can also be found at <https://greene.osu.edu> under Master Gardener Volunteers

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

**CFAES**

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

### Greene County – Agriculture and Natural Resources

Continuing Education Events Available for  
Master Gardener Volunteers

#### Additional Programs:

All programs will require pre-registration, for links go to our website, [greene.osu.edu](https://greene.osu.edu), Master Gardener Volunteers, Current Master Gardeners to view Additional Continuing Education Programs

State OSUE MGV Hort Happy Hour & Lunch and Learn Webinar Series 2023 - 2024

The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden Events

OSU Bee Lab Workshops & Webinars

OSU Bee Lab Tending Nature Webinar Series

Ohio Woodland Stewards Program

### Ohio Master Gardener Volunteer Conference in Greene County

visit our website, [greene.osu.edu](https://greene.osu.edu), Master Gardener Volunteers, Current Master Gardeners, 2023 MGV State Conference for link to registration and schedule



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President's message con't

Please Consider Stepping Up!

Don't think you can't do it. It is time for nominations for the 2024-2026 GCMGV Advisory Board. We need a President, Secretary, and two Board members. It is a great way to provide your ideas and suggestions to better guide the organization. Please feel free to contact any of the current board members to ask questions and see if the job is right for you. Thanks!

PS – Jane Worth and I had a blast at the Scarecrow Building workshop. Consider helping work this event next September.



**Have you seen Two-marked Treehoppers (*Enchenopa binotata*)? These insects are named for the two yellow marks they have along the dorsal spine. They also possess a long horn near their head giving them the appearance of a hen! This time of year, the treehopper females have laid their eggs which look very similar to mealybugs and soft scale. If you see these insects or the eggs, send pictures so we can post them.**



## COORDINATOR'S NOTES SECTION

Bellbrook Parks is doing some work at Petrikis Park this year. The area will have paved walkways going to and into the garden area. This will make the garden more accessible to folks and give the MGV at Petrikis a bit more area to do a night pollinator section. I am excited to see the new pollinator area and the walkways at Petrikis.

Remember to enter your volunteer hours at least monthly so you don't have to rush during the holidays to have them all entered in HOC before the deadline of December 15th. That is the date that Pam Bennett asks for MGV program coordinators to have their MGVs volunteer and continuing education hours for the year in HOC.

Kim



## UPDATES IN ANR

I cannot believe fall is here already. For crops in Southwest Ohio, there is a concern about the later-planted corn running out of time to reach the black layer. The corn kernel "black layer" is an indicator of physiological maturity. Southwest is behind on heat accumulation for this time of year, which could be a key factor in this later corn maturing. However, the corn planted in April and early May is having no trouble reaching the "black layer" and is beginning to dry down.

Farm Science Review is coming up next week, and there are plenty of opportunities for continuing education there, hopefully, I will see some of you. We are all excited for the MGV state conference coming up, we cannot thank you all enough for making it happen.

We also would like to thank you all for completing the Greene County MGV survey. It was great to have feedback and understanding of the current program, and we will work on improvements according to your needs.

In our last business meeting (November) I will present the main points of the survey results and some plans we have for improvement, and we would love to hear more ideas and suggestions from you all. Please let me know how I can help, and always feel free to stop by the OSU extension office, call (937-736-7205), or email me ([miquilini.1@osu.edu](mailto:miquilini.1@osu.edu)).

Warm wishes,  
Marina



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***OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteer Officers:***

**President - Debbie Downes**

**Vice President - Sarah Preston**

**Secretary - Kathy Lewis**

**Treasurer - Starlene Brooks**

**Board Members At Large -**

**Pam Carter**

**Rebecca Elniski**

**Beverly Taylor**

**Laura Carroll**

**Past President - Dan Denham**

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

*The Greene Leaflet* Editor – Pat Zehring at [zehring.5@osu.edu](mailto:zehring.5@osu.edu)

**Next Newsletter Deadline:** November 10, 2023

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