



A Garden Of Friends Is Always In Bloom

Defiance County Master Gardeners



April Information

The Master Gardeners met in the OSU Conference Room at 6:30p.m. on Tuesday March 20, 2018 with 11 members and one visitor in attendance. Gwen Anderson, presiding for Jamie Walters, who could not attend, called the meeting to order.

Secretary's Report: The secretary's Report for February 13, 2018 was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Same as last month. Gwen is still trying to get the bank to change the officers on the account. We may change banks if they continue to make this difficult.

Historian Report: None

Communication: None

Committee Reports:

Defiance: None

Sherwood: None

Hicksville: None

Community Garden: Mary Brubaker put an ad in the paper about the garden. We still have money in our budget for soil.

Education Day: None

Garden Tour: None

Plant Sale: The plant sale this year is on Saturday May 19. George Stuckey needs help digging up raspberry plants the week before the sale. His address is 112 Washington St., Wauseon. His phone is 419-335-1446. Also, please plant seeds in milk jugs like we did last year for the sale. Bring the jugs to Diane's next month and we will re-pot them for the sale.

County Fair: None

Old Business: Linda Maag reminded us that we discontinued the scholarship, as it was brought up in the meeting.

New Business: George Stuckey reported that the ProMedica garden club is going strong. The soil in the garden is not good so he suggested raised beds. The group meets at 4:30 in the hospital cafeteria on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, which is the day after our meeting.

Putnam County is having a "Spring into Gardening Fair" on Saturday April 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. It will be held at the Education Service Center in Ottawa. The cost is \$30.00 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Call 419-523-6294 to register.

The Kid's Healthy Day at the YMCA is on Saturday April 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Gwen Anderson, Anne Kohout-Chase and Linda Maag will all help.

We will probably help wrap Lilacs for the Lilac Festival again this year, date TBD.

Riverfest will be held on June 22, 23 and 24. Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. there will be a Woodland and Wildlife festival, with free kayaking and pontoon rides.



Planning Ahead

**MG Meeting
Diane Clark's
April 17 @ 6:30pm**

**YMCA
Kid's Health Day
April 21 @ 10:00am**

**Mother's Day
May 13**

**MG Meeting
Extension Office
May 15 @ 6:30pm**

**Annual Plant Sale
Eric's Icecream
May 19 @ 8:00am**



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 Defiance County Master Gardeners



- 4/3 Laura Higgins
- 4/7 Kay Boroff
- 4/11 Kathleen Plush
- 4/13 Linda Hoffman
- 4/18 Donna Hitzeman
- 4/19 Nancy Westbay
- 4/26 Jane Clark
- 4/28 Ginny Lucarelli

April Newsletter Continued

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be at the home of Diane Clark in Hicksville on Tuesday April 17 at 3:00 p.m. It will be a pot-luck picnic so please bring a dish to pass. Diane will provide hot dogs. We will dig perennials and also re-pot any seedlings for the plant sale. Diane's address is 3514 Gordon Creek Drive, Hicksville 419-670-2739.

Our program was given by Stephanie Singer with help by her daughter Ayla. Stephanie talked about how important wetlands are in filtering water. She demonstrated with a model that showed how contaminants enter our watershed after a rain. She said that we could borrow the model for our use at Riverfest. If anyone is interested please contact her at 419-782-1794.

Respectfully submitted, Laurel Brehler, Secretary.



YMCA - MG's Assistance

We need the following help and supplies for the upcoming Youth Healthy Fun Day at the YMCA on April 21.

1. We still need two volunteers to help work. Event is Saturday, April 21 from 10 am to 1 p.m. We would be setting up around 9 am. Easy 4 hours of Volunteer hours.
2. We need egg cartons.
3. We need seed catalogs.

The egg cartons and see catalogs can be delivered in 3 ways by April 17.

1. Drop off at the Extension Office
2. Bring to the April 17 monthly meeting
3. Drop off at the United Way office at 608 Clinton St. on M, W or Thurs between 9-12. (I work there normally between those hours. Other times you would need to call 419-782-3510 to see if anyone is there.)

Volunteers should contact Gwen Anderson at 419-576-2100 or andgwen@roadrunner.com.



Bee Aware"ness"



With the beginning of warmer weather next week, nature's pollinators will begin to appear. One select group are the honeybees; they are specifically beneficial for crop/garden pollination, honey, wax and pollen. For the next few months honeybees will begin swarming, which is an instinctive part of the colony to propagate. Spring approaching makes overcrowding and congestion in the hive, which are factors which predispose colonies to swarm. The swarm will contain several hundred to several thousand worker bees, a few drones, and one queen. Honeybee swarms are not highly dangerous as the cluster is engorged on honey and takes brief breaks on tree limbs, posts, or other convenient sites while the scouts are looking for a new home. They are only defensive in the vicinity of their nest in protecting the hive, their young, and stores. If you see a swarm or cluster of honeybees, do not spray them with anything or come in direct contact without protective gear, but you can safely watch them from a distance. You can contact our local Black Swamp Beekeepers Association at 419.438.7335 or FB: Black Swamp Beekeepers Association to have them safely removed. Please help us preserve nature's pollinators.