

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

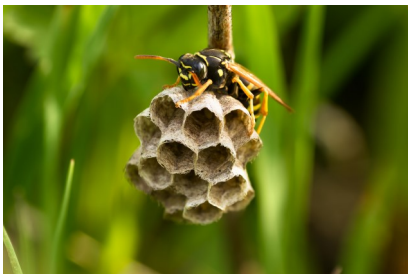
August 2023

Events

- August 28—Master Gardener monthly meeting
- Spring—Lunch & Learn Series
<https://mastergardener.osu.edu/HHHLNL22-23> All programs and links are on our County Calendar

Meat Tenderizer for those Stings –

Marcia Burchby



Late summer is often the time for yellow jacket or other bee encounters. A quick home remedy for treating a sting is to wet the stung area, sprinkle **meat tenderizer** on, then rub it in, creating a poultice. You can also mix the powder with water and create the paste first, then smear it on the affected area. The papain in the meat tenderizer breaks down proteins (like in your steak), neutralizing the venom and reducing the pain and swelling. Papain can also break down toxins from bug bites and cut back on itching.

**If you have a bee allergy, other action will be necessary.

**Check the label to be sure your meat tenderizer contains the enzyme papain.

Digging Deeper at the Wistendahl –

Ceil Weldon, Marcia Burchby

The July Master Gardener Meeting was held at the Wistendahl Native Garden with Sauny Imhoff, the volunteer coordinator for the garden, and several of the faithful gardening friends. After Sauny's introduction and readings from *Birdscaping in the Midwest: A Guide to Gardening with Native Plants to Attract Birds* by M. Nowak, we toured the garden. Tour guides Sauny, Connie Davidson, Janelle Gilmore,

Zella Nisley, Beck LaSor-Martin and Debbie Balding each focused on an area of the garden, highlighting specific plants. These volunteers are nurturing thousands of plants as they build awareness of the benefits of natives for visitors to the garden.

Here are some of

our favorites:

Tall Larkspur (*delphinium exaltatum*) Growing 4-6 feet tall, with gentian blue blossoms, this grows best in cool summer climates (which we don't have, but it seems to be doing fine here!). It attracts butterflies, is poisonous to herbivores, and the tubular flowers are a favorite of bumblebees and hummingbirds

Cup Plant (*silphium perfoliatum*) A member of the sunflower family, Cup Plant has very large, showy yellow blooms that pollinators love on the 8-10 foot tall plant.

Cont.



Digging Deeper at the Wistendahl – *continued*

The toothed leaves attach to the square stalk, forming a cup that holds water from which birds drink. A self-seeder, Cup Plant will spread by seed and rhizome and is an aggressive grower.

Compass plant (*silphium laciniatum*) Also a member of the sunflower family, this perennial can grow 3-10 feet tall with a taproot that can delve 16 feet below the soil. The leaves orient themselves in a north to south direction to avoid the direct rays of the mid-day sun, thus giving them their common name. Goldfinch love their seeds.

Big bluestem (*andropogon gerardi*) A native of the Midwestern tall grass prairie, 'big blue' often reaches 6-8' in height. It is palatable to livestock and can be used to control erosion. Seed heads often have three spikelets that look like a turkeyfoot.



Rough blazing star (*liatris aspera*) A Missouri native, these flower spikes are 3 feet long and bloom for many weeks. They prefer medium to dry soil; butterflies, skippers and bees are greatly attracted. This species is distinguished from other *Liatris* species by its rough appearance and rounded, outflaring bracts.

Prairie dock (*silphium terebinthinaceum*) Growing up to 9 feet tall with sandpaper-textured leaves that are 18" long and 12" wide, this member of the Aster family is attractive to bees and goldfinches.

Strawberry Bush

(*Euonymus Americanus*) Also called 'Hearts A'bursting', this deciduous suckering shrub derives its name from the capsules that split open to reveal red-orange seeds in the fall.

Rattlesnake Master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*) Plant of the month in the July newsletter.

Passion Flower (*Passiflora incarnata*) This is a vine that has large, showy blooms when grown in the tropics, but it is native up to zone 6 and is very attractive to hummingbirds.





Plant

Before August 20

- Beans
- Sweet Corn (60d)
- Tomatoes

All Month

- Cucumbers (T)
- Southern Pea
- Squash (summer)

After August 15

- Broccoli
- Brussel Sprouts
- Cabbage
- Chinese Cabbage
- Collards
- Lettuce
- Mustard
- Rutabaga
- Turnips

August


CFAES


Plant of the Month— Molly Gassaway



Eutrochium purpureum - Joe-Pye Weed

Many people think Joe-Pye weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*, part of the *Aster Family*) is nothing more than a roadside weed and have never taken into consideration its outstanding ornamental characteristics. It is a large plant which needs space, but when planted in mass it

can provide exceptional flowering and provide height when needed in the landscape. This herbaceous perennial is native to Ohio and grows in meadows and open woods with full sun to part shade in damp-to-dry moisture conditions. And, good news, deer do not bother this plant and it has no serious insect or disease problems...Joe Pye just isn't a fussy or difficult plant to grow.

It typically grows 4 - 7' tall with a spread of 2 - 4' and blooms in mid-summer to early fall. The showy and fragrant flowers attract many butterflies including Zebra Swallowtail, Variegated Fritillary, Tiger Swallowtail, Black Swallowtail, and skippers. You will also see hummingbirds, bees and wasps, as Joe Pye is said to be an important nectar source. Birds also love the seedheads and they are especially important for birds in fall and winter.

Joe Pye has a rich history for healing. This plant is said to get its name from a Native American healer from New England during the time of the Pilgrims. He is said to have used it to treat a variety of ailments including deadly typhus outbreaks. The tops of the plant were steeped and then inhaled to treat colds; fresh leaves were made into a poultice to treat burns. The flower tops were even used as a good luck charm. The entire plant is still used as an alternative medicine; tea made from it is used for fever, urinary tract problems, fever, rheumatism, gallstones, and fluid retention. Some Native American tribes still consider Joe Pye Weed to be an aphrodisiac.

Flower Power — Marcia Burchby

"Flower Power" is wrapping up the delivery of hundreds of bouquets to hospice patients for this summer, but will be continuing its mission of bringing cheerful, local bouquets again next season. Flower Power was inspired by Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Christie Truly's experience with a Hospice House in London, England in 2009. Upon her return to the US, Christie, along with several Master Gardeners, began meeting every week in the summer of 2010 to assemble bouquets to be taken to Hospice patients. 'Flower Friends' gather in a spare room in the Ohio Health office every Monday from June to September, working with flowers that have been donated from their gardens, local flower farms, roadsides and fields. Occasionally, FP will receive donations from weddings or other events. In a surprisingly short amount of time, 20-24 arrangements are artfully arranged, with much acclaim about the various blossoms. The bouquets are then delivered by nurses, aides, social workers, chaplains and volunteers to half of the patients' homes; the other patients will be recipients the following week. Bringing this bit of beauty warms the hearts of all parties involved.