

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

October 2017

EVENTS

- October 12 – Garden Party @ the Children’s Garden, cleanup and thanks to Leah Maxey 6 PM
- October 13 – White Oak – Importance, Ecology, and Management, Vinton Furnace State Forest
- October 23 – Master Gardeners “Tree Care and Tree Selection” with Ann Bonner 6 PM Social, 6:30 PM Meeting, presentation follows
- October 27 – ‘Trees to Lumber’, Hocking College



Wrapping up the Children’s Garden

The Children’s Garden at the Athens Community Center had another productive and instructive year. Master Gardener Pat Huntley and Leah Maxey, an Americorps intern, spent countless hours maintaining and improving the garden this year.

A flood in March damaged early plantings and changed the PH of the soil, reducing the production of some of the beds. In spite of that, over 400 pounds of produce were harvested and donated to Community Food Initiatives to be distributed to local food banks.

Classes for preschool through 6th grade children were held throughout the summer, with topics ranging from pollinators to plant parts. Several more classes are scheduled for this Fall and will be held under the watchful eye of the Scarecrow that was recently assembled.

Improvements to the garden this year include heavy duty soaker hoses in all beds, sand toys for little visitors, and a camera which documents the many visitors to the garden.

After a decade of dedication to the Children’s Garden, Pat has announced her retirement. She has been a driving force in the garden and replacing her will be difficult. Contact Ed Brown, if you are willing to help with this important project.

BUGS AND BLOOMS

Bold Jumping Spider
Feasting on a Crane Fly



Joe Boggs, OSU Extension©

Spiders are motivated to invade homes in the fall for protection, food, or love. As with home invading insects, some spiders enter homes in search of protected winter quarters. Others may find their way into homes while seeking prey.

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OCTOBER GARDEN

Plant

1. Plant trees
2. Still time to divide and transplant plants before it turns cold.
3. Still time to plant spring bulbs.

Chores

1. Trim blackberry canes to 4 ft. (promotes growth)
2. Compost dead plants
3. Burn or throw out **diseased** plants and fallen leaves
4. Take soil tests and apply lime (if recommended)



Plant of the Month



'Excentric' 'Crazy Love'
'Mikayla Miranda'
'Nadine Jesse' 'Ivanetti'

Dahlias, sometimes called 'the Peonies of the Fall' are showing off in the late summer, continuing their bloom until frost. They come in every color except blue, in shapes like daisies, pompons, cacti, peonies and waterlilies, and in sizes less than 2" to wider than 10". After a killing frost, tubers must be dug and stored.

Submit your November Plant of the Month to brown.6000@osu.edu

Project Spotlight

This year we are adding a new project to the list for volunteers. The Master Gardener Newsletter "Over the Garden Fence" will allow members who provide articles and pictures to add this work to their volunteer system hours. The newsletter was started by Debby and Ceil and exploited the talents of Ed Brown our Extension Educator. Currently it is published by Ceil, Marcia and Ed monthly to report to our members the activities, both volunteer and educational, that are available to Master Gardeners. If you want content control, volunteer.

Digging Deeper



At the regular meeting, Master Gardener Lee Gregg presented Ferns – covering several types of ferns that will grow in this area as well as their size, shape and growth habits. Lee described the methods of propagation and the variety of ways the different fern varieties produced spores. Lee used examples of her own garden ferns in plantings. The Christmas fern is one of the hardiest ferns and most ferns will survive in sun if their "feet" are kept moist.