

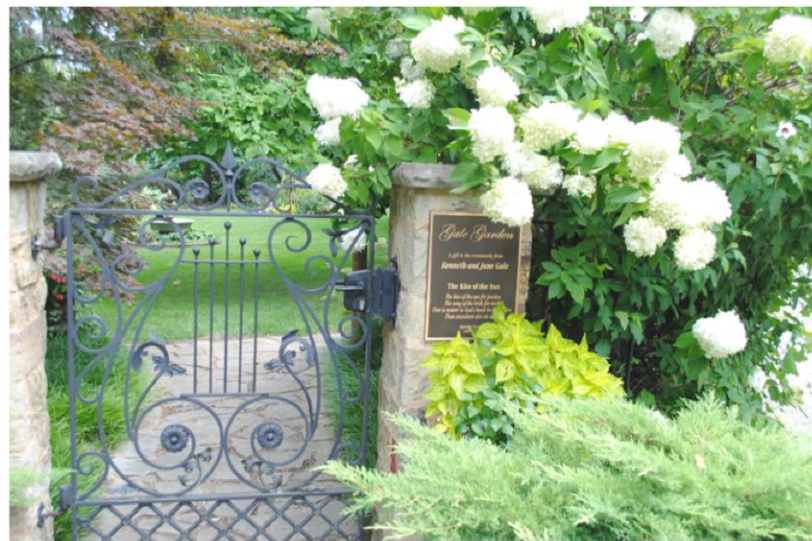
OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

September 2017



EVENTS

- September 8 – Tips, Tools, and Techniques to Improve Your Woods, Vinton Furnace State Forest
- September 25 – Master Gardener monthly meeting – Extension Office
- September 29-30 – State Master Gardener Conference
- October 13 – White Oak – Importance, Ecology, and Management, Vinton Furnace State Forest



Gale Garden gate

Garden Tour

On August 11, a group of Athens County Master Gardeners carpooled to Mission Oaks in Zanesville. They were met by Muskingum County Master Gardeners and taken on a tour of the gardens. They visited the perennial plants, a mostly-shaded beautiful area, and then enjoyed the children's garden, which was new. This included a decorative corn planted in a circle to make a "house" in which children could play. Since this area was a beginning venture, they were open to hear our experiences. After this, Schroeder, a Master Gardener and professional forester (retired), took us on a tour of the conifer garden. He offered many tidbits on how to identify trees and related the history of the Dawn Redwood trees. After lunching at Tom's Ice Cream Bowl with delicious *huge* scoops of home-made ice cream, we found the elusive Gale Gardens. This was a self-guided tour, with many labelled Hosta varieties, some with unique names, such as "White-Walled Tires" and "Pixie Vamp". Unfortunately, many were past their prime, and an earlier trip would be recommended.



BUGS AND BLOOMS



This praying mantis was spotted at the Athens Farmers Market Master Gardener booth

Generally, mantises are good for the garden. They're part of a solution to a pest problem. But they eat beneficials, too. And if nothing else is available, they'll eat each other.



SEPTEMBER GARDEN

- Cauliflower (by Sept. 15)
- Collards (by Sept. 15)
- Cucumbers (by Sept. 15)
- Lettuce (by Sept. 05)
- Mustard (by Sept. 15)
- Turnips (by Sept. 15)

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)
5. Apply fungicide to trees and shrubs



Jeanne Haseley, Louise Zwayer,
Connie Davidson and Kathy Berry

Plant of the Month



Callicarpa americana
American beautyberry

The American beautyberry grows to an average of 4-6 ft. in mildly acidic soils. It prefers full sun to partial shade and can tolerate most soil conditions present in southeast Ohio. It can tolerate some drought, but does well with 1" water per week. Southeast Ohio is on the northern most edge of its growing range and may last longer in the landscape if protected in winter.

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

Project Spotlight

This is the last month for the Farmers Market booth. Any members who are dividing plants and would like to donate them can bring them to the booth during the month of September. These plants will be given away to patrons of the market.

We will be scheduling a work day for the Children's Garden to do fall cleanup and winter prep. Be on the lookout for a follow up email.

Digging Deeper

Master Gardeners met at Homecoming Farm near Amesville, for the August meeting. Marcia Burchby gave a tour of the perennial and annual flower beds that are used for cut flower bouquets and arrangements, along with tips for arranging. She uses nearly 100 different types of flower, blooming from April through October, in the arrangements. Flowers and vases were ready for each member to create a bouquet of his/her own, using celosia, ageratum, daisies, sunflowers, lunaria, statice, dahlias, tansy, eryngium and more. The finished products were beautiful, with great variety in form, color and floral combinations.