

# OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

September 2018

## EVENTS

- September 22 – 10<sup>th</sup> annual Botanica Fall Gardening Symposium – Massillon, OH
- September 24 – Master Gardener meeting
- October 5 – Olivia Carril “The Bees in Your Backyard” - Cincinnati
- October 12 – Fall Treasures – Vinton Furnace
- October 20 – Tree Survival School – Little



## Bountiful ‘Yard’ scaping – *Betsy Brijju*

Can you imagine your front yard looking like a garden, a garden which is aesthetically pleasing at the same time productive in terms of food? Be it foliage, flower or fruit, the intention of a flowerbed is to display beauty. I believe we can achieve it using crop plants that produce edible plant parts – leaves, fruits and flowers. A border of strawberry plants, a hedge of asparagus, a spiral design of green leaf lettuce alternating with purple leaf lettuce, a potted cherry tomato plant with fruits cascading down, hyacinth beans on a trellis that makes a tunnel are examples of ideas which make your flowerbed give you much more than ‘eye-candy’. Secondly, one can look for edible plants or plant parts that are already in our flowerbeds. Did you know that dahlia roots are edible, or that tender hosta shoots can be wrapped in bacon for an appetizer, or violet flowers could be used to make jelly? Another way to mesh edible landscaping into your existing landscape is to use companion plants. Garlic plants or chives as a border will save your beautiful Asiatic lilies from rabbits and deer. Similarly, we can include flowering plants like Artemisia and marigolds to serve as companions to the tomato patch and protect them from nematodes. Why not make a pattern while making raised beds – a pattern having radiating trapezoids instead of rectangular boxes. It’s all about making the surroundings of your house beautiful – and yes, we can achieve that using unusual plants – unusual in flowerbeds, but common in a raised bed.



## BUGS AND BLOOMS



Fall Webworm

What to do? See article on back.

Eastern Tent Caterpillar  
Late Season Nest with Caterpillars





## SEPTEMBER GARDEN

### Before September 20

- Cauliflower
- Collards
- Cucumbers
- Mustard
- Rutabaga
- Spinach
- Turnips

### Bulbs – All Month

- Allium **A**
- Anemone **A**
- Crocus **C**
- Glory-of-the-Snow **A**
- Winter Aconite **A**
- Checkered Lily **A**
- Snowdrop **A**
- Hyacinth **B**
- Iris **A**
- Daffodil **A**
- Siberian Squill **A**
- Tulip **D**



### Deer Damage

- A – Rarely Damaged**
- B – Seldom Damaged**
- C – Occasional Damage**
- D – Frequent Damage**



## Plant of the Month



*Chelone lyonii*  
'Turtlehead'

**Turtlehead** is a perennial found along stream banks and damp ground. They grow to a height of 2 to 3 feet.

Growing requirements for turtleheads are moist to wet or mucky soils, a neutral soil pH and prefer full sun to partial shade.

Turtleheads are considered as a medicinal plant that helps with indigestion and constipation. It is also used as a dewormer.

Submit your October Plant of the Month to [brown.6000@osu.edu](mailto:brown.6000@osu.edu)

## Webworms and Tent Caterpillars

*Hyphantria cunea* and *Malacosoma americanum* both form unsightly webs and feed on fruit, shade and woodland trees, causing defoliation. Both worms are native to North America and don't cause much harm, aside from being unsightly; fall webworms are eating this season's leaves, not the buds that will produce next year's foliage. IPM strategies include destroying egg masses, pruning nests out of the host plant, applying Bt, or allowing natural enemies such as birds, small mammals, and parasitic insects to feed on them. The fall webworm is thought to be an important late season food source for many of its natural enemies, so leaving it alone is a fine strategy.

## Seed Saving at the Farmers Market

Children at the Master Gardeners' booth at the Athens Farmers Market collected seeds from marigold, celosia and zinnia flower heads Saturday. Seed envelopes with photos of the flowers were provided, along with instructions of when to plant them next Spring. This is the perfect time to save both flower and vegetable seeds. Check out this website for more information:

<https://www.finegardening.com/article/collecting-and-storing-seeds>

Easily collected seeds include the following:

**Flowers:** poppy, zinnia, calendula, cockscomb/celosia, marigold, cleome, nigella, allium, bachelor buttons, columbine, 4 o'clock, nasturtium

**Vegetables:** tomatoes, peppers, squash, pumpkin, melon, peas, beans, cucumbers