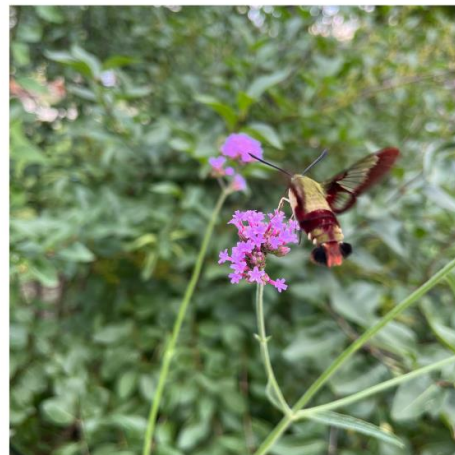
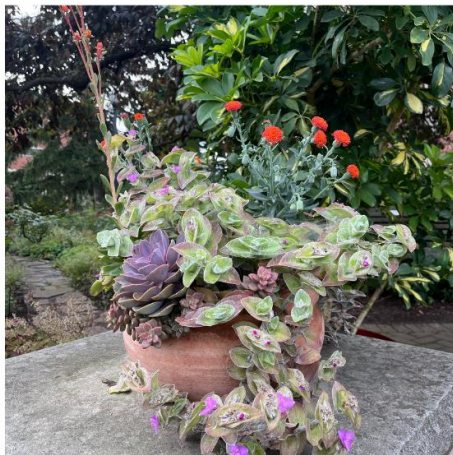


The Buckeye Treehouse

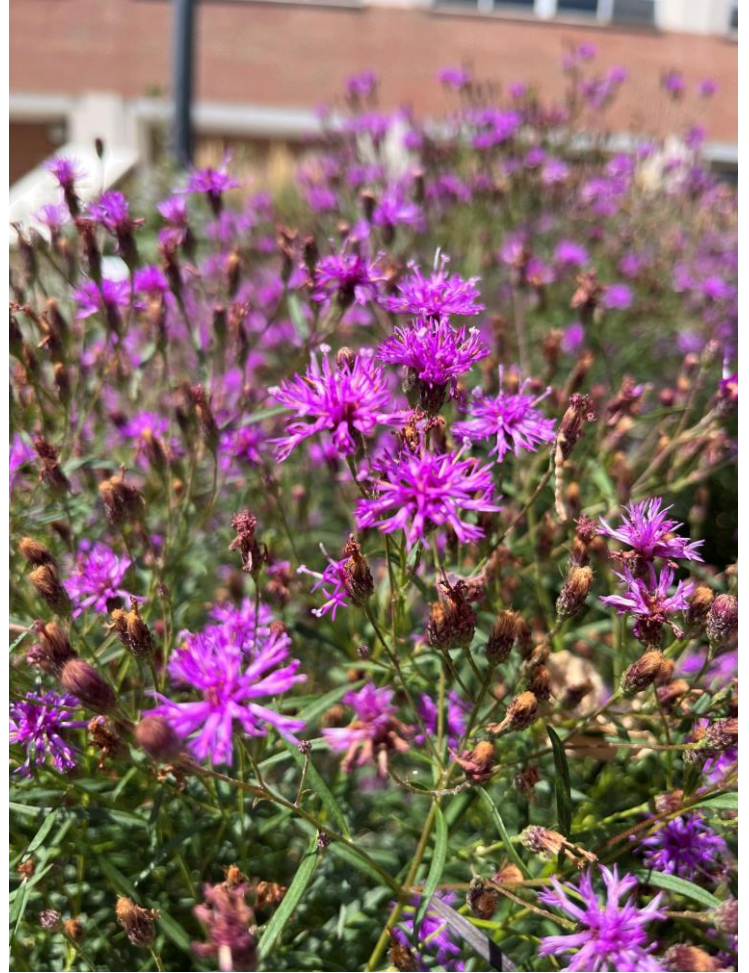
The Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens Newsletter

September 2025



What's in Bloom?

Southern Cross Ironweed



Vernonia 'Southern Cross' in the Still Garden.

As you stroll through the Learning Gardens, you'll notice a beautiful mass of narrow-leaved foliage and bright, purple flowers in the Dr. Still Perennial Garden. The plant is *Vernonia* 'Southern Cross', or Southern Cross ironweed. In the Asteraceae family, *Vernonia* is a genus of herbaceous perennial, with many species native to North America. We usually think of ironweed as a somewhat weedy plant, growing tall along roadsides and attracting pollinators in the late summer and early fall. The common name implies iron-like qualities, such as tough stems and foliage, and a rusty color as flowers fade and seeds emerge. Southern Cross ironweed is a great hybrid, thought to contain lineage from *Vernonia lettermanii*, which accounts for its narrow, lanceolate leaves. It provides the same late season benefits to pollinators and long-lasting striking purple blooms, while growing in shorter clumps that are uncharacteristic of other types of ironweeds. It grows around 3' tall and 3' wide, requires full sun, and well-draining soils.

Scientific name: *Vernonia* 'Southern Cross'

Common name: Southern Cross ironweed

Height: 3ft

Spread: 3ft

Saying Goodbye to Old Friends

By Laura Deeter

We've had two large trees suffer large branch losses this year and ended up having to remove one of them (the large shingle oak in the Lane Ave Gardens – north of the Ag Admin building). The tree in this image (hackberry - *Celtis occidentalis*) was suffering from a LOT of rot in the main trunk, and we were watching the split get larger and larger.

In consultation with the OSU Arborist team, we made the heart-wrenching decision to proactively remove the tree. It was in a very prominent and well-travelled area and was a safety hazard. It always pains me to remove large trees, they are the 'Mother Trees' of the Urban Forest and will take decades to replace its canopy.

I gave it several hugs, thanking it for years of shade, service, and watching over the area and the people passing by. **Fear not, tree lovers.** We will get a replacement in the area as soon as we can so future students will be able to sit in its shade. Trees are planted for future generations!



Before & after tree removal, and cross section of trunk with decay.



The pictures to the right show the previous location of the large shingle oak at the Lane Avenue Gardens. This tree unexpectedly dropped a large limb and was determined to have decay that had previously been undetected. We are thankful to the OSU Arborist team for their swift and careful removal but deeply saddened by the loss of this mighty oak.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities & Events

SEPTEMBER 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day Office Closed	2 Lane Ave Session 9am-11am	3 Arb North Session 9am-11am	4 Learning Garden Session 9am-11am	5	6
7	8	9 Lane Ave Session 9am-11am	10 Native Seed Collection 10a.m. Arb North Session 9am-11am	11 Learning Garden Session 9am-11am	12	13
14	15	16 Lane Ave Session 9am-11am	17 Arb North Session 9am-11am	18 Learning Garden Session 9am-11am	19	20
21	22	23 Lane Ave Session 9am-11am Hypertufa Class 2-Day Workshop	24 Arb North Session 9am-11am	25 Learning Garden Session 9am-11am Volunteer Appreciation Dinner	26 Alumni Fall Family Fest 5:30p.m.	27
28 Fall Foliage Open House Noon - 3p.m.	29	30 Lane Ave Session 9am-11am				



- **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28: Volunteer at Chadwick Arboretum Fall Foliage Open House, 12:00-3:00pm**

Many volunteer opportunities including: welcome table, tree ID table, assisting with nature activities, handing out apple cider, assisting with parking + directions, event clean up.

Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E4FA-AA628A2FB6-58052203-fall>

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities & Events



Hummingbird moth on Verbena bonariensis.

Plant Talk: Native Seed Collection

Join Chadwick Arboretum volunteer Joe Carter on a native seed collection walk around Arboretum North during our weekly volunteer session! Joe will educate us about what's ready for collection and teach best practices.

Date: Wednesday, September 10

Time: 10 – 11a.m.

Location: Arboretum North

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Tuesdays, 9-11 AM: Lane Avenue Garden**
CONTACT Joe Stewart: gardenjoestew@gmail.com
- **Tuesdays, 9 – 11 AM: Cultivar Trials**
CONTACT Kathy Krantz: candkkrantz@sbcglobal.net
- **Wednesdays, 9-11 AM: Arboretum North**
CONTACT Bruce Wall:
wallbrucea@gmail.com
- **Thursdays, 9-11 AM: Learning Gardens**
CONTACT Chris Tilton: ctilton@columbus.rr.com



To become a
Chadwick Arboretum
Volunteer, visit our
website and fill out
the **'Become a
Volunteer Today'**
application!

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities & Events



Representing Chadwick Arboretum at Columbus ArborFest!

Hypertufa Workshops

In this **2-day workshop**, Chadwick Arboretum Volunteer Allen Fabian will teach you how to create beautiful hypertufa containers. All materials, gloves and handouts provided. Please come dressed in your garden clothes.

Dates:

- September 23 & 24
- October 21 & 22
- November 11 & 12

Cost:

\$45 for members/ \$50 for non-members
Payment due online at registration to secure a spot.

**If you are a Chadwick Member and did not receive a discount code, reach out to Williamson.596@osu.edu.*

Learn More Here:

<https://chadwickarboretum.osu.edu/events>

Tour Guide Corner



Family strolling Arb N. Photo by Kathy Watson

Seeking Tour Guides

- **September 18:** Ecology of Plant Systems Class (15 students each)
9:10am – 11:00am (1-2)
&
6:00pm – 8:00pm (1-2)
- **September 19:** STEP Group (13 students)
12:00pm – 1:00pm (1-2)
- **November 3:** International Affairs Class (45 students each)
10:00am – 11:00am (2-3) &
11:00am – 12:00pm (2-3)

Please email

Williamson.596@osu.edu
with the date(s) and time(s) of the tour(s) you would like to lead.



Dear Volunteers,

Please join us for an evening celebrating **you** and all the work you have done for Chadwick Arboretum this year.

Come for the dinner and music and stay for the community and friendship as we reflect on all your achievements over the past year.

Thursday, September 25, 2025

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Lane Avenue Gardens

P.S. no weeding required!

Help us know who's coming by **RSVPing below by September 11.**

[RSVP Here](#)



CFAES

DATE:

Sunday, September 28

TIME:

Noon – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

Chadwick Arboretum North
2235 Fred Taylor Drive
Columbus, OH 43210



**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Fall Foliage Open House at Chadwick Arboretum

Have you ever visited Chadwick Arboretum's largest garden site, Arboretum North? Join us for a family-friendly open house exploring this hidden gem on campus that includes a lake, picnic area, 1000 native trees, a "net zero" tiny house and more.

Enjoy fun activities for the whole family including:

- Nature themed crafts
- Buckeye Crepes food truck
- Free apple cider
- Live music
- Fishing demonstrations
- Tours
- And more!

For more information, visit:
go.osu.edu/fallfoliage

chadwickarboretum@osu.edu

Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens

Keep Planting Forward

The Mary Maloney “Keep Planting Forward” Endowed Fund provides support for Chadwick Arboretum and Learning Gardens, particularly in staffing. The intention of the fund is to allow a recent graduate to come on board Chadwick Arboretum with the intention of learning new horticultural skills, put their degree to practical use, and developing leadership skills in recent graduates. This allows the individual to not only improve their practical knowledge but potentially take advantage of the benefit of furthering their education through graduate school as a full-time employee

If you are interested in donating directly to this fund, please use the gift fund number **GF484207**.

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