

The Buckeye Treehouse

The Ohio State University Chadwick Arboretum Volunteer Newsletter

March 2023 Edition



Scarlet, Grey, and Green All Around

Welcome to the new and improved Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens Volunteer Newsletter, "The Buckeye Treehouse."

In this newsletter, you can expect to find updates on things that have been happening at Chadwick over the past month, details on upcoming volunteer opportunities, educational opportunities, and lots of photos.

It's a great way to stay informed so that you can jump into volunteering this season while working around your busy schedules.

We've all been experiencing accelerated [Growing Degree Days](#) here in Columbus, Ohio, which means that we are seeing many of signs of spring much earlier than normal. We are excited to see that first week of April is just around the corner, too. If the weather cooperates, we will be back to our normal garden sessions

the week of April 3rd. We also have many exciting volunteer opportunities on the horizon, including tabling events, tours, Arbor Day, and the Spring Plant Sale Fundraiser.

We can't wait to get started and hope that you'll join us in what we do best here – cultivate community through horticulture, research, and education.

Getting Reacquainted

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Were you able to attend the Day of Education this year? Our annual educational conference, in collaboration with the Franklin County Master Gardener Volunteers, helps us stay up to date on many horticulture topics while reconnecting with each other over the winter.

This year, we were very excited to have both Jim McCormack and Aaron Wilson present in the morning and a lively panel discussion on Community Gardens in the afternoon. Jim McCormack recently wrote *Gardening for Moths*, which is set to release soon on March 28. His up-close and crystal-clear photographs of moths and caterpillars showed us views of these backyard insects that are rarely seen, even though they are right here in Ohio! His presentation on why these unique



The Day of Education Conference

creatures deserve more attention, and how to better support them in our gardens, was not only fascinating but important information to know.

Aaron Wilson, OSU Extension's Agriculture Weather & Climate Field Specialist, spoke on the weather over the past year, projections of our "warmer and wetter" expectations this year, and climate change. Aaron's

ability to break down complex topics and make it relevant to our lives today is one of the reasons we love to have him.

Thank you again to our DOE Team: Nancy Loy, Shaunessy Everett, Chris Atzberger, Marcia Armstrong, and Deb Rinto, as well as our Community Gardener Panelists Missy O'Malia, Mayor Ben Kessler, Lynn Blanton, and Sean McKay!



New Volunteer Handbook

No matter how long you've been a volunteer here, please take some time before the season begins to flip through the new handbook.

You can click on the image to open it or find it on our [Current Volunteer webpage](#).

As we align with OSU Extension's Master Gardener program, there are new policies and practices in place for Chadwick Volunteers. Namely:

- Complete "Recertification Documents" annually on Hands on Connect
- Understand new policies on using power equipment & golf carts.
- Becoming a long-term volunteer now involves references and an interview.

Volunteer Opportunities

In the Garden



Arboretum North Volunteer Sessions beginning March 17:

- **Friday, March 17, 9 – 11 AM:** Dividing and removing plants in the rain garden at Arboretum North.
- **Friday, March 24, 9-11 AM:** Mulching the path in the new Pollination Garden bed.
CONTACT Lori Kingston: lk518@att.net

Volunteer Sessions beginning April 4, 2023

- **Tuesdays, 9 – 11 AM:** Lane Ave. Gardens
CONTACT Joe Stewart: gardenjoestew@gmail.com
- **1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 9 – 11 AM:** Cancer Survivors Plaza
CONTACT Hope Weber: jhopeweber@gmail.com
- **Thursdays, 9-11 AM:** Learning Gardens
CONTACT Chris Tilton: ctilton@columbus.rr.com

iNaturalist Biodiversity Monitoring

- Take photos of any living or previously living plant, insect, fungi, or animal and upload to our [iNaturalist project](#).
CONTACT Temple George curiousmonkey55@gmail.com

Tours and Outreach Opportunities

Want a fun way to volunteer, share your passion, and raise awareness for Chadwick Arboretum?

Tuesday, March 28: 12 – 4 pm

Teach students how to take cuttings of pothos plants at the Sustainability Fair at Ohio Union. (2 shifts, 2 volunteers)

Friday, April 7: 10 – 11 AM

2nd and 3rd grade students would love to learn about trees and plants of Ohio! Looking for 4 volunteers to split this group into 4 sections.

See the full list and signup here:

go.osu.edu/chadwickoutreach



Spring Plant Sale and Auction Fundraiser

Planning for the Spring Plant Sale has been underway since last September, but now things are getting serious. With over 10,000 plants ordered (so far), along with all of the tents, tables, and other necessary items that go into planning one of the largest pop-up plant sales in Central Ohio, we can't wait for May!

Interested in volunteering this year? We will have an All-Volunteer Info Session to answer all of your questions about:

- Dates/times of activities
- Updates on the 2023 sale
- The volunteer roles and how to sign-up

Monday, March 27, 5:30 p.m.

[RSvP Here](#)



Help Spread the Word!

36th Annual Spring Plant Sale and Auction Fundraiser

May 11 – 13, 2023

Visitors can peruse a selection of about 16,000 new and tried and true edible and ornamental plants as well as plant containers, garden tools, native plant kits, and more. Proceeds from the event benefit the OSU Chadwick Arboretum, student organizations, and local businesses.

go.osu.edu/springplantsale

Note, we accept credit cards only.