



# Here's The Scoop!

Sandusky Ottawa County Master Gardener Volunteers – December 2024/  
January, 2025



## The Latest Scoop

~The next scheduled Master Gardener general meeting is Monday, February 10 at the OARDC building located at 1165 Gonawein, Fremont, Oh 43420, Corner of County Road 43 and State Route 53, Fremont, Oh 43420, 1-419-332-5142. The meeting place is a one-story house

at 9:00 am. No one is scheduled for the after the meeting informative talk. The Board will meet at 8:00 in the same room. I have not received word that anyone is scheduled for the after the meeting educational talk.

~If you are a designated News Messenger/News Herald Master Gardener article writer, don't forget to submit your gardening article to Sue La Fountaine, lafountaine.5@osu.edu, no later than 11:00 am the Monday morning of your assigned week.

-Master Gardeners are asking for topics from the past newspaper publications to be printed in the monthly "Here's the Scoop". The Master Gardener Sandusky Ottawa County past article this month is "Coffee Grown in the United States," authored by Christine Michael. It was in the January 12, 2022 newspaper issue.



## THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

### Our Mission



*We are The Ohio State University Extension trained volunteers empowered to educate others with timely research-based gardening information.*

### Our Initiatives



*Integrated Pest Management with a focus on teaching correct techniques in the garden and landscape*

*Invasive Species with a focus on the potential damage they may cause to the environment, and teaching ways to manage/eradicate*

*Backyard and Local Foods with a focus on community gardens, councils policy, urban agriculture—farms and teaching/demonstrating how to grow vegetables*

*Environmental Horticulture with a focus on varieties of horticulture such as storm water management, rain gardens, good plant selection practices, demonstration gardens and more!*

NAME THAT HERB

This month's herb is a staple to Italian cooking. If you know your way around the kitchen, you have already guessed it's name but you will have to wait till next month for the answer. This herb is used in a variety of meat, fish and vegetable dishes and is in all the tomato sauce recipes. How about the roasted eggplant, zucchini, egg dishes? In the Middle East, thyme and marjoram are also added while in Greece it is used to flavor lamb and moussaka in the kitchen and out of the kitchen the leaves are selected for potpourri and flower arrangements. It belongs in the mint family. What am I?

2025 General Meetings Sandusky Ottawa County  
Master Gardeners  
All meetings start @ 9:00 am  
Board meets at 8:00 am

Monday, February 10, OARDC, 9:00, Board 8:00

Monday, March 10 Ottawa, 9:00, Board 8:00

Monday, April 13, Sandusky, 9:00, Board 8:00

Monday, April 28, Sandusky, 9:00

Monday, June 9, Ottawa, 9:00, Board 8:00

Monday, August 11, Ottawa, 9:00, Board 8:00

Monday, September 8, Sandusky, 9:00, Board 8:00

Monday, October 13, Ottawa, 9:00, Board 8:00

Monday, November 10, Sandusky, 9:00, Board 8:00

Monday, December 8, Ottawa, 9:00, Board 8:00

Sandusky Ottawa County  
Master Gardeners  
All meetings start @ 9:00 am  
Board meets at 8:00 am

Oak Harbor, Oh 43449  
419-898-3631

Creek Bend Farm  
720 S Main Street  
Lindsey, Oh 43442  
1-419-334-4495

OARDC  
1165 Gonawein  
Fremont, Oh 43420  
Corner of County Road 43 and  
State Route 53  
Fremont, Oh 43420  
1-419-332-5142

Schedel Arboretum & Gardens  
9255 W Portage River South Rd  
Elmore, Ohio 43416  
419-862-3182

Hayes Presidential Spiegel Grove  
1337 Hayes Avenue  
Fremont, Oh 43420  
419-332-2081

577 Foundation  
577 East Front Street  
Perrysburg, Oh 43551  
419-874-4774

## 2024-2025 LUNCH & LEARN SCHEDULE

<https://mastergardener.osu.edu>

Click on Horticulture Webinars—click the one you want to attend or watch

**Tuesday, October 8, 12 noon till 1:00 pm. Growing Teachers Throughout the Seasons: Techniques and Learning Connections for Growing Foods at Schools in Almost Any Climate. Tim McDermott, Extension Educator, Franklin County, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, October 15, 12 noon till 1:00 pm. Major Color For Minor Bulbs. Ann Chanon, Extension Educator, Lake County, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, October 22, 12 noon -1:00 pm. Caring For House Plants and Holiday Plants Throughout the Winter. Beth Scheckelhoff, Extension Educator, Putnam County, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, November 19, 12 noon -1:00 pm. The Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic: Your Partner in Plant Health. Francesca Rotondo, Program Director, C. Wayne Ellet Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, November 26, 12 noon – 1:00 pm, Promoting a Healthy Lawn Using Minimal Inputs. Dominic Petrela, Assistant Professor, Turfgrass Management, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, December 10, 12 noon - 1:00 pm. Navigating Differences in Pesticide Recommendations. Drew Jeffers, Horticulture Agent, County Coordinator, Clemson University.**

**Tuesday, January 7, 12 noon - 1:00 pm. Best of the Best: Top Performing Annuals Over the Years. Pam Bennett, MGV Director, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, January 14, 12 noon - 1:00 pm. What Lies Beneath—A Look at Soil Management. Amanda Douridas, Extension Educator, Warren County, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, February 11, 12 noon - 1:00 pm. The Aftermath of Drought – Weeds Gone Wild!. Grey Meyer, Extension Educator, Warren County, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, February 25, 12 noon - 1:00 pm. Common Amphibians of Ohio. Marne Titchenell, Program Director, Wildlife, School of Natural Resources, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, March 11, 12 noon - 1:00 pm. Phenology For Gardeners. Denise Ellsworth, Program Director, Pollinator Education, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, March 25, 12 noon -1:00 pm. Crash Course on Tree Identification. Carrie Brown, Extension Educator, Fairfield County, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, April 8, 12 noon - 1:00 pm. Easiest Cut Flowers for Beginners. Sabrina Schirtzinger, Extension Educator, Knox County, The Ohio State University.**

**Tuesday, April 22, 12 till - 1:00 pm. Asexual Cuttings Propagation: Techniques and More. Harold Firster, Master Gardener Volunteer, Trumbull County, The Ohio State University.**

## Con't Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, May 6, 12 noon -1:00 pm. Soil Testing: Interpreting the Results. Fern Maria Gulley, ANR and 4H Program Coordinator, The Ohio State University..

Tuesday, May 13, 12 noon till 1:00 pm. Native Alternative to Popular Landscape Plants. Dave Gardner, Professor, Turfgrass Science, The Ohio State University.

Tuesday, May 20, 12 noon - till 1:00 pm. Moths, Butterflies and Skippers: What's the Difference. Curtis Young,, Extension Educator, Van Wert County, The Ohio State University.

Tuesday, May 27, 12 noon—till 1:00 pm. Small Scale Hydroponics. Amanda Bennett, Extension Educator, Miami County, The Ohio State University.

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY CALENDAR

**Every Wednesday Mulberry Creek offers a video. Go to facebook and click the one you want. There is a new one each Wednesday.**

**Wednesday, January 22—Spilling the Tea, 1:30-3:00 pm. Creek Bend Farm, Homestead House. Spend the afternoon learning about life in the 1930's. Each month will focus on a different tea and a new year. Read diary entries, search through old photographs and letters to get a glimpse of our past. Register on line. Meet at the Wilson Nature Center 720 S. Main, Lindsey, Oh. Spilling the Tea will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month.**

**Saturday, January 25—Winter Spa Day, 10:00-12:00 noon. Creek Bend Farm, Wilson Nature Center, 720 S Main, Lindsey, Ohio. Feeling worn down by the winter weather? Spend the morning at Creek Bend Farm learning how to make your own winter self-care products. We will be making lip balm for those wintertime chapped lips, eucalyptus oil blend for relieving congestion, antistatic spray, and a body scrub for exfoliation and moisturizing. For ages 12 and up. Registration is \$10 and can be done on line.**

**Don't forget the Toledo Grows Seed Swap on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Registration starts at 11:30 am and doors open to the event from noon till 3:00. Located at Scott High School, 2400 Collingwood Ave., Toledo, Ohio. Five free tickets will get you five seed packets. You can bring your seed packets for an even exchange. They must be dated 2023, must be labeled in individual envelopes, no bulk seed accepted. Workshop at 1:00 - "Seed Saving in Your Home Garden" by the 577 Foundation in Perrysburg. There is great food, raffles, children's activities, and gardening displays.**



2025 Newspaper Articles by Sandusky Ottawa County Master Gardeners  
 Hey Sandusky Ottawa county Master Gardeners we need your gardening articles.  
 Articles should be 500-800 words and relate to any gardening subject.

Personal experiences are especially welcomed.

Email or call me with questions.

lafontaine.5@osu.edu

419-297-3749

Your gardening article will be published in the Fremont News Messenger and  
 the Port Clinton News Herald newspapers every other week.

Date	Author	Title
Jan 1		
Jan 15		
Jan 29		
Feb 12		
Feb 26		
Mar 12		
Mar 26		
Apr 9		
Apr 23		
May 7		
May 21		
Jun 4		
Jun 18		
Jul 2		
Jul 16		
Jul 30		
Aug 13		
Aug27		
Sept 10		
Sept 24		
Oct 8		
Oct 22		
Nov 5		
Nov 19		
Dec 3		
Dec 17		
Dec 31		5

## Coffee Grown in the United States

By Christine Michael, Sandusky/Ottawa Master Gardeners, January 12, 2022

I love the smell of freshly made coffee. Although I do not drink it, the aroma evokes childhood memories of waking up in the morning and my parents getting all the children ready for a new day.

Coffee is America's beverage of choice and not surprisingly, the United States is the world's largest importer of coffee beans, according to the National Coffee Association, founded in 1911 to represent the U.S. coffee industry.

Coffee is offered in every imaginable combination and is also included in many culinary dishes. It can be found 24/7 in the best restaurants as well as any fast-food shops and gas station/convenience stores. Many specialty coffee shops are thriving as customers of all ages are interested in what they offer.

There are over 120 species of the *Coffea* plant each containing varying levels of caffeine. Caffeine is a natural stimulant according to the Food and Drug Administration and an average 8-ounce cup of coffee contains 60-100 mg caffeine. Health officials recommend adults limit daily caffeine intake to less than 400 mg per day.

As a stimulant caffeine is quickly absorbed through the intestines, resulting in a burst of energy which is the brain's response to caffeine blocking neurotransmitters that normally make you sleepy.

Coffee is grown in 50 tropical countries with South America leading in world production. The four identified world regions have a specific flavor profile. These are the Americas: crisp and clean, smooth sweetness, balanced, and bright acidity; the Caribbean: balanced, smoke and wine notes, mild acidity, and rich and smooth flavor; Africa: extremely fragrant, floral and fruity notes, vibrant and bright flavor; and India and the Pacific: full-bodied, musty and earthy notes, mild acidity, and smooth flavor.

The two most common species are *Coffea arabica* and *Coffea canephora*, more commonly known as Arabica and Robusta. Many brands of coffee are actually blends whereas a single-origin can be traced to a specific farm.

If recent supply chain issues stopped the delivery of international coffee, could the U.S. find a domestic source?

Hawaii already produces Kona coffee, but Puerto Rico's once flourishing coffee industry has been decimated by recent hurricanes and is being replanted. More recently, coffee entrepreneurs are growing plants in California and Florida micro-climates.

It takes three to five years for a coffee tree to mature, produce flowers, and fruit. The fruit, called a "coffee cherry," houses the coffee bean. There are only one or two beans in each cherry. Typically,

here is only one annual harvest, and most is by hand. It takes about 4,000 cherries to make one pound of roasted coffee.

Commercial growers explain there are seven steps in coffee production: growing, harvesting, hulling, drying and packing, bulking, blending, and roasting. Then the beans are sold for distribution.

Mark your calendar for the Toledo Grows Seed Swap Saturday, February 22, 2025 from noon till 3:00 pm.

Registration at 11:30. Free admission, five free packets of seeds, children activities, food available for purchase.

**Master  
Gardener  
Members  
Sandusky/Ottawa**

Allen Gahler, Educator

Dennis Bohland  
Deb Camp  
Johnette Cellier  
Joy Ceraldi  
Fran Chapman  
Dorothy Clarke  
Belinda Cytlak  
Sharon Devine  
Karen Fuller  
Charles Gaydos  
Brenda Gilbert  
Bob Horton  
Susan Jenkins  
Judith King  
Joyce Konieczny  
Susan La Fountaine  
Rebecca Mathews  
Christine Michael  
Daniel Millinger  
Patty Semer  
Sara Sherick  
Linda Twarek  
Jennifer Weland  
Nancy Ziemke  
Susanne Zunk



In November 2024, eight individuals from surrounding counties completed the requirements to become a Master Gardener. Does this interest you? Is it on your Bucket List? Are you envious of people who recognize flowers, plants, and trees? Fill out the form and return it to our office. Get on the Sandusky Ottawa county Master Gardener monthly newsletter email list. The next class is planned for 2026. Talk to a friend and both join.

## MASTER GARDENER CLASS

I am interested in becoming a Sandusky/Ottawa County Master Gardener

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

Sandusky/Ottawa County Master Gardener

C/O OSU Extension Office

2000 Countryside Drive, Suite D

Fremont, Oh 43420

419-334-6340