



April 2024



The Germinator

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Gardeners,

Happy Spring, Gardeners - even with the most recent snow, it still feels like Spring is in the air - and on the ground! Our snowdrops are almost done, crocuses and daffodils are adding color to our gardens and robins have returned! I do love this annual transition from the dreariness of Winter to the bright colors of Spring. Although, this transition also means additional work! Did you get your peas started by St. Patrick's Day? Have your seeds arrived and did you get them in pots under grow lights? It's exciting to watch as they pop up out of the soil.

I enjoyed hearing the Green Team update from Lou Vega. It's especially interesting that we may be gifted compost once their new machine is up and running.

April will be our first dinner meeting of the year - A La Cart Catering will provide the dinners, the cost is \$15 per person. Entrees will be stuffed chicken breast with baked shells in a marinara sauce, salad, roll & butter. Desserts and beverages will be supplied by members - Pat Murphy is looking for volunteers! The date is Tuesday, April 2nd, 6pm in the Stacey Pavilion at Austintown Park.

Also in April is the Central Great Lakes Regional Garden Club on April 20th. It will be held at Kingwood Gardens in Mansfield, look for details inside, or call Tom Arens - 330.402.2700.

Clare

Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, April 2nd

Stacey Pavilion

Austintown Township Park

Board Meeting – 5:30pm

All Members Welcome

Dinner with a Meeting – 6pm

Vittles by A La Carte Catering

All Members & Guests Welcome

Membership Meeting, 7 pm

Speaker: Gavin Switzer from

Next Nature

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GOGY Annual Spring Plant Sale

Thursday thru Saturday, May 8th – 11th

Greenhouse at Bev Rd. and South Ave., Boardman, OH



We'll need full club participation for transplanting, watering and servicing customers on sale days. Call Bruce Brungard to see how you can help.

Check out our friend, Dennis James, at D J's Gardens, 1004 East Lake Rd., Transfer, PA, 724-962-1230, djsgreenhouse.com. He offers classes & events April thru November. Advanced Registration Required

April 8th – Succulent Garden Class, 6pm - \$35

April 9th – Salad Bowl Class, 6pm – materials \$16, otherwise free

April 13th – Opening Day April 23rd – Scones, Fruit, Jams & Desserts

April 29th – Talk about new plants, guided tour - free

TO THE THAWING WIND BY ROBERT FROST

Come with rain, O loud Southwester!
Bring the singer, bring the nester;
Give the buried flower a dream;
Make the settled snowbank steam;
Find the brown beneath the white;
But whate'er you do tonight,
Bathe my window, make it flow,
Melt it as the ice will go;
Melt the glass and leave the sticks
Like a hermit's crucifix;
Burst into my narrow stall;
Swing the picture on the wall;
Run the rattling pages o'er;
Scatter poems on the floor;
Turn the poet out of door.



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Club News

New Members

Beverly and John Dupuy live in Struthers and are retired. Their gardening interests include flowers and gardens. They are also members of the Newcomers Club and enjoy league bowling. Sponsor: John Schinker

David Duffill lives in Girard with his wife, Charlotte. He is an electrician. His gardening interests include flowers, trees and his veggie garden. To relax, he enjoys walking his dogs in the woods.

Welcome Aboard

Spring Plant Sale Inventory

Planting is underway under the direction of Bruce Brungard and John Schinker. Rodney Toth gave a tutorial on how to separate and transplant dahlia bulbs donated by John Taylor. Also transplanted trimming were vinca, dusty miller and salvia starts.



This year's inventory also includes red and Green-leaf Begonias; red, white and mixed Impaciens; yellow and orange Marigolds; Adjeratum; Allysum; red and gold Celosia; purple, red and white Vinca; Zinnia profusion; Coleus; Spikes; Dahlias; Brugmansia; Cannas, and a nice mix of tomatoes, peppers and herbs.

We'll still need members to help transplant, especially during the last week of March and first week of April, and to water and assist customers on days of the sale. Contact Bruce to sign up. We also need half and one gallon pots.

Regional Spring Meeting

The Central Great Lakes Region of The Gardeners of America will hold its spring meeting on Saturday, April 11th at Kingwood Gardens in Mansfield. There is a speaker and lunch will be served. You will also enjoy touring the gardens as many of the spring flowers should be in full bloom. Want to carpool? Contact Tom Arens. [Page 2](#)

Recycling with the Green Team

Mahoning County Recycling Director Lou Vega addressed our March membership meeting on the latest news regarding the county's recycling efforts. The main facility is located at the former county developmental disabilities workshop on South Ave., Boardman. The newest addition is a monster shredder capable of chewing up a large daily load of everything from food to metal appliances.

The facility takes in large amounts of food products donated to food banks by supermarkets. If the food cannot be distributed before it spoils or is past sell-by date, it is shredded and the moisture squeezed out by the machine. The results are transferred to several large compost bins. The process takes approximately two months with the resulting compost donated or sold. The process is monitored by several government agencies.

Electronics are accepted on Wednesdays by appointment April thru October. However, people wishing to donate items during other months can call to set an appointment, and those items will be recycled when enough piles up. There are also times and dates for other donations including items like automobile tires, propane tanks, construction materials and latex paint.



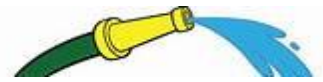
Other household items that can be recycled either in residential recycle bins or dropoff points around the county. These include non-shredded paper, rinsed-out food cartons, metal cans, plastic bottles and jugs, and glass bottles and jars. All should be empty, rinsed out and caps discarded. Cardboard only accepted at drop-off stations.

Some items like latex paint, household hazardous waste, needles, medications and fluorescent bulbs require special handling. Contact the Green Team, 330-740-2060, for when and where they can be dropped off. The Canfield Fairgrounds hold periodic dates for these items. Items that are not recyclable are styrofoam, takeout food containers, hoses and rope, durable plastic, plastic lids and utensils and broken ceramics. Just put these in the trash.



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Water in the Age of Climate Change



It is difficult to be optimistic regarding the future health of our planet as another Earth Day draws our attention to the many difficulties imperiling life as we know it. Industrial and agriculture chemicals along with loss of habitat are causing mass extinctions and disrupt ecosystems. Industrial overfishing not only destroys ocean habitats but threatens a vitally important food source. Human activity continues adding greenhouse gases to the atmosphere destabilizing Earth's climate. Even if we bring these emissions down to zero, the amounts already in the atmosphere will continue to increase global warming.

Man searches the heavens for past or present extraterrestrial life with the greatest concentration on planets where water may exist. And while we indulge our natural instinct to explore, our changing climate threatens existing life on Earth. Terrestrial life as we know it can't exist without this precious liquid. Human beings, for example, can live only two to seven days without water. The intensity and frequency of extreme drought and rainfall events has sharply increased over the past 20 years. The result has been crop failure, infrastructure damage and humanitarian crises. Higher temperatures over extended periods has caused wildfire of unprecedented size on the U.S. West Coast, Central Canada and Texas.

Many natural and man-made surface and underground storage systems including ice and snow have been significantly depleted. The recent civil war in Syria was partially caused by a long-lasting drought. Mexico City, one of the world's most populated cities (22 million), is presently rationing water with the complete collapse of its system quite possible. A long-lasting drought in Central America is among the problems facing its residents and has led to mass migrations north. Climate related migrations are becoming increasingly frequent resulting in pushback from destination nations. The situation can lead to serious conflict and, worst case, wars that could expand exponentially.

Climate change threatens not only the quality of source water through increased runoff of pollutants and sediment, but also its availability due to draught and saltwater intrusion. Projected heavy downpours will increase pollutant runoff and sedimentation not only polluting rivers, lakes and streams, but complicate treatment and increase expenses at purification facilities. Increased pollution and contamination threatens us and our food sources, and higher temperatures promote water borne diseases like malaria and toxic algal blooms.

Increases in population and higher standards of living correspond to increased demand for human and industrial consumption of water. The stable climate mankind has enjoyed and flourished from over several millennia means relatively predictable and mild wet/dry cycles. Climate change impacts the water cycle by influencing when, where and how much precipitation falls. In recent years, California suffered a years-long drought. Recent torrential rains so intense that significant damage was done to infrastructure and crop lands. Death Valley actually flooded.

Increase global temperatures cause water to evaporate in larger amounts, which leads to higher levels of atmospheric water vapor and more frequent, intense rains than soil and plants can absorb. The remaining runoff drains into waterways picking up contaminants like fertilizer and eroding topsoil. This pollutes downstream water bodies, the source of drinking and irrigation water. Fertilizers promote rapid, toxic algae growth that water purification systems cannot fully mitigate the threat to humans, wildlife and industries. Algae also diminishes oxygen levels in rivers, lakes and the oceans killing aquatic animals.

As oceans warm, freshwater glaciers begin to melt at increasing rates resulting in rising sea levels. This is particularly true of Antarctica and Greenland where temps are rising much faster than at lower latitudes. Sea water can then contaminate underground aquifers and backflow into rivers especially when significant climate events like hurricanes strike. These events are predicted to become more frequent and severe. In the Northern



Hemisphere, snowfall has been an anticipated water source as it slowly melts in warmer months. Warmer winter temps mean less snow fall and

spring water for irrigating crops.

There is no more important issue than drastically lowering our use of fossilized carbon, improving flood control and finding ways to eliminate greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. The United States has been called 'the essential nation'. When disaster strikes, many look to our nation to help find remedies. We should be taking the lead in dealing with this existential threat. While life on Earth will never be extinguished, the beauty and variety of life as we know it is under severe threat.



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Growing Degree Days

Growing degree days (GDD) measure the growth and development of plants and insects during the growing season. Calculations begin when a base temperature (50 degrees Fahrenheit) occurs. The GDD affecting various plants and animals depends upon the species. In addition to GDD, other factors may influence an organism's development including direct sunlight/shade, soil nutrition, weeds, and precipitation.

As spring advances, gardeners should monitor Buckeye Yard and Garden Line (BYGL) <https://weather.cfaes.osu.edu/gdd/default.asp>. Enter your zip code to obtain a daily calendar of all phenological events occurring in your area, or enter a specific date to learn when specific events are expected.

For its weekly newsletter, send an email to bygl@osu.edu. Email bygl-alert@lists.osu.edu for alerts using the phrase "subscribe to BYGL alerts" in the subject line. To calculate GDD yourself, there are 3 methods of doing so at this website but why bother when the website will do it for you.

We picked March 8th as an example. For this year, the GDD was 61 degrees due to above average recent temperatures for our area. A continued cold snap will lower that number affecting organisms that have already begun development but natives have evolved to mitigate the effects. Historically, GDD for March 8th in Youngstown has varied wildly with that date averaging 26 degrees over the past 20 years. Last year it was 56. In 2017 it was 82, and in 2010 it was 0 degrees.

Soil temperature is another important factor when sowing seeds. Once seedlings emerge, air temps become more important. Here's a list of minimum/maximum Fahrenheit temps for sowing some vegetables: Peas 40/75; Lettuce 40/80; Squash 45/75; Carrots 45/85; Cauliflower 45/85; Radish 45/90; Cabbage 45/95; Beet 50/85; Chard 50/85; Onion 50/95; Beans 60/85; Tomato 60/85; Corn 60/95; Cucumber 60/95; Pepper 65/95; Pumpkin 70/90; Squash 70/95; and Melon 70/95.

For our area, the minimum temperature is most relevant as, by the time soil temps reach the maximums listed, it is usually too late in the growing season to expect a decent harvest.

At least two veggies, spinach and parsley, benefit from late summer planting as they will emerge in early spring giving them an early start toward harvest.

Spring Has Sprung

Spring is when you feel like whistling, even with a shoe full of slush.

Doug Larson

April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.

William Shakespeare

Spring unlocks the flowers to paint the laughing soil.

Bishop Reginald Heber

In the spring, I have counted 136 kinds of weather inside of 24 hours.

Mark Twain

Now every field is clothed with grass, and every tree with leaves; now the woods put forth their blossoms, and the year assumes its gay attire.

Virgil

When spring came, even the false spring, there are no problems except where to be the happiest. The only thing that could spoil a day was people, and if you keep from making engagements, each day has no limits.

People were always the limiters of happiness except for the very few that were as good as spring itself.

Ernest Hemingway



April Foolishness

Babies born on March 31st are the easiest to prank on April Fool's Day because they were literally born yesterday.

An easy prank involves putting black electrical tape over the TV remote sensor and watch the reaction when someone tries to change the channel.





**Thank you to the Gardeners of Greater Youngstown's Friends for their Civic Fund donations.
Members are urged to give them a visit.**

Agnew Lawn & Garden

7700 Market St
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330.758-.114
www.agnewfarm.com

Amish Market

6121 South Ave.
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330.248.7034
www.theamishmarket.net

Baird Brothers

7060 Crory Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330.533.3122
info@bairdbrothers.com

Blooming Crazy

8277 Market St.
Youngstown, Ohio 44512
330-758-8131
www.bloomingcrazyflowers.com

Bluestone Perennials

7211 Middle Ridge Rd.
Madison, Ohio 44057
www.bluestoneperennials.com

Bread Chef

800 E Western Reserve Rd
Youngstown, Ohio 44514
330-729-990

Burton Floral & Garden

13020 Kinsman R.,
Burton, OH,44021
www.burtonfloralandgarden.net

Colonial Gardens

1419 Youngstown-Kingsville Rd.
Vienna, Ohio
330-539-5500
www.colonialgardensohio.com

Marketplace at Creekside Gardens

3680 N River Rd NE
Warren, Ohio 44484
330.856.1641
https://www.creekside-gardens.com/

Crouse True Value Hardware

1178 Market St.
North Lima, Ohio 44452
330-549-2144
www.truevaluetrains.com

Davidson's Restaurant

3636 Canfield Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-793-0030

Delaquadri Lawn Maintenance

1270 Trumbull Ave.
Girard, Ohio 44420
330-759-3121
www.delaquadrilandscape.com

DJ's Greenhouse

1004 East Lake Rd.
Transfer, Pennsylvania 16154
724-962-1230
www.djsgreenhouse.com

Edward Jones Salem, John Wise

2380 Southeast Blvd.
Suite B
Salem, Ohio 44460
877.335.9521

Elliot's Garden Center

1283 W. Western Reserve Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44514
330-758-8889
www.elliottsgardencenter.com

Frame Depot Gallery

1043 Youngstown Warren Rd
Niles, Ohio 44446
330.652.7865
theframedepotgallery.godaddysites.com/

Gardening-Indoor

9215 Market St.
North Lima, Ohio 44452
330-758-0272
www.gardening-indoors.com

Gilmore's Greenhouse

2774 Virginia Ave SE
Warren, Ohio 44484
330.369.4515
www.gilmoresgreenhouse.com

Handel's Homemade Ice Cream Niles

5140 Youngstown Warren Rd
Niles, Ohio 44446
330.505.0865
https://handelsicecream.com/

Heritage Country Store

364 Lisbon St.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-5551
www.heritagecountrystore.com

Home Again Consignment Furniture

7689 South Ave.
Boardman, Ohio 44512

L & M Greenhouse

43091 Columbiana-Waterford Rd,
Columbiana, Ohio 44408
330.482.3209
www.lmgreenhouse.com

Lowe's Home Improvement

940 Niles Cortland Rd SE,
Warren, Ohio 44484
330.609.8000

L'Uva Bella Winery

6597 Center Rd
Lowellville, Ohio 44436
330.536.6450
https://luvabella.com

Outdoor Recreation Equipment

5316 Market St.
Boardman, Ohio
330-782-2004

Parks Garden Center

9010 Youngstown-Salem Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-7278
parksgardencenter@aol.com

Piccadilly Parlour

114 S Broad St,
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330.533.4749
https://piccadillytearoom.com

Petitti Garden Center

5509 South Ave.
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330-788-0733
www.petittigardencenter.com

Dennis Toth

Tractor Supply
6225 Mahoning Ave.
Austintown, Ohio 44515
330-792-8235

Southside Community Garden

PO Box 258
New Springfield, Ohio 44515
330-792-8235

Village Ace Hardware

10395 Main St,
New Middletown, Ohio 44443
330.542.2802

Village Quilts

17 W. Main Street
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-0545
www.villagequiltscanfield.com

Whitehouse Fruit Farms

9249 Youngstown-Salem Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-4161
www.whitehousefruitfarm.com

Youngstown Cityscape

250 E Federal St
Suite 432
Youngstown, Ohio 44503
330-742-4040
https://youngstowncityscape.org



April 2024

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Gardeners of Greater Youngstown
c/o Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 612 • North Jackson, OH 44451
www. GG-YO.org



Calendar of Events



- April 2 2024 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- April 2 2024 Dinner Mtg 6:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- May 5 2024 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- May 5 2024 Membership Mtg ... 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- May 8-11 2024 .. Plant Sale 10AM-6PM.. Greenhouse South Ave at Bev Road
- June 4 2024 Plant Auction 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- July 2 2024 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- July 2 2024 Membership Mtg .. 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park

Please Join Us!

The purpose of the Gardeners of Greater Youngstown is to create a better understanding of gardening and to encourage and promote the beautification of our community. In order to meet this endeavor, several civic projects are completed each year.

Members receive a monthly newsletter, "The Germinator," which has timely gardening hints, club news and other local and regional horticultural events. Members also become members of The Gardeners of America.

Membership is open to residents of the Mahoning Valley and surrounding communities with an interest in gardening.

To join, contact us at: Gardeners of Greater Youngstown
% Membership Committee P.O. Box 612
North Jackson, OH 44451
or on our website at www.gg-yo.org



THE GOGY 2023 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Clare Neff

clare_neff@mac.com • 330.503.6988

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Pat Murphy

pjmurphy0900@aol.com • 330.635.8180

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Lisa Nicklash

lisanicklash@yahoo.com • 412.500.1981

TREASURER

Terry Voland

voskater@aol.com • 330.881.8467

RECORDING SECRETARY

Ron Fasano

ronf10@msn.com • 330.502.9989

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Michael Banks

330.707.9089 (H) • 330.565.0592 (C)

mcbankspaint@yahoo.com

GERMINATOR STAFF

David Campana, Editor

mgygerminator@gmail.com

Clare Neff, layout

Tom Arens