



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Hardin County Extension News Release

For Further Information Contact:

Mark Badertscher

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator

Phone – 419-674-2297

E-Mail – badertscher.4@osu.edu

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Spring Garden Seminar

Hardin County – When will this cold weather end so gardeners can go outside and begin the work they all enjoy? There are only so many seed catalogs and garden videos that you can look through while Mother Nature does her thing. Now is the time to get serious about your favorite hobby. Spring is around the corner, and so is the OSU Extension spring garden seminar. ‘Sustaining Our World’ is the planned seminar being offered by the OSU Extension, Hardin County Master Gardeners this year. Get your seat reserved while you can. Plenty will be discovered as you learn ideas and are given the road map to creating a sustainable Ohio environment in your back yard, or your back forty.

This year’s spring garden seminar will feature four expert speakers. Kylee Baumle will speak on "The Monarch: Survival of a Species." Learn details about the life cycle of the monarch butterfly, the challenges it faces, and how each of us can help this iconic insect and pollinator as it struggles to not just survive, but thrive. The life and plight of monarchs has been Kylee’s personal interest and area of study for more than 12 years. Kylee leads an annual tour to the monarch overwintering sanctuaries in Mexico. Kylee is an award-winning horticulture author who writes not only books, but garden columns and trade magazine articles. Her 2017 book “The Monarch: Saving our Most-Loved Butterfly” is now in its 2nd printing.

Dr. Jeff Stachler’s presentation will focus on “Weed Identification and Management.” Identifying the weeds in our gardens help us to know how to manage them so that we can get the most benefit from the plants that we choose to grow. With an undergraduate degree in agronomy and a Ph.D. in Weed Science, Jeff has worked as the Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator for Auglaize County since March 2015.

“Plants & Pollinators” will be the topic of Denise Ellsworth. How bees and other key pollinators help native plants... and what they get in return. What are some of Ohio’s common bee pollinators and how do they work with and help native plants? Denise is the Program Director of Honey Bee and Native Pollinator Education, Department of Entomology/Extension at The Ohio State University in Wooster.

David McPheron will be the final speaker of the day, with his talk on “Why and How to use Native Plants.” We will explore why planting Native Plants impacts pollinators, where we find native plants in nature, and how they can fit into the beauty that we add to our environment. With a degree in Horticulture, Dave is the owner of Star Farms Native Plants. He is gathering local seeds and growing those into plants to sell for landscapes. He has been an active Ohio State University Extension Master Gardener Volunteer for 16 years and served as the Hardin County Volunteer Coordinator since 2013.

‘Sustaining Our World’ will be held March 21 at the Mid-Ohio Energy Cooperative Community Room, 1210 W Lima Street in Kenton. The cost is \$40 which includes a continental breakfast, lunch, handouts and door prizes. For active OSU Master Gardener Volunteers the fee is \$30. Registration opens at 8:30 am and the program starts at 9:30 am. Registration deadline is March 14, class size is limited. For more information call: 419-674-8012.