April 4, 2013
This is the first 2013 edition of the Buckeye Yard and Garden Line (BYGL). BYGL is developed from a Tuesday morning conference call of Extension Educators, Specialists, and other contributors in Ohio.

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Plants of The Week »

*Perennial - Snowdrops (Galanthus nivalis)*

This flowering bulb normally blooms in central Ohio landscapes beginning in early February. This year, it started blooming in mid-March and is still in bloom now due to cooler spring temperatures. The snowdrop's name is appropriate as cold temperatures and snow isn't a problem. In fact, in the west central part of the state, snowdrops were in full bloom under the 8" of snow on March 25, 2013.

Because it shows up so early, when there is little else in bloom, it is very visible in the landscape. The white bell-shaped flowers hang down from 4 - 7" stems. The name comes from the Greek words *gala* (milk) and *anthos* (flowers) referencing the milky white flowers. Plant the bulbs in the fall in masses, in full sun or partial shade, and eventually they give a wonderful display of fairly maintenance-free bulbs that stick around for years, spreading as they age. They can be used to fill in around shrubs and trees, in a rock garden and to fill in spots in a perennial bed for early spring color. Snowdrops, in the amaryllis family, are typically deer and rodent resistant, as are many plants in this family.

For More Information:
Missouri Botanical Garden Kemper Center for Plant information on snowdrops
Washington State University information on Snowdrops
http://www.pnwplants.wsu.edu/PlantDisplay.aspx

*Woody - Common Witchhazel (Hamamelis virginiana)*

Witchhazels are large shrubs that have many desirable characteristics and offer four-season interest in the landscape. If left unpruned, witchhazel has the potential to grow to 25 - 30', becoming tree-like. It is a valuable shrub for use in a naturalized border, under the tall canopy of mature shade trees; however, it will tolerate full sun in moist soils. Witchhazel has no serious disease or insect problems. The botanical name, *Hamamelis*, translates to "together with fruit," which refers to the fact that the fruit and flowers occur on the same plant at the same time. The leaf arrangement is alternate with simple, broadly ovate leaves. They are medium-green during the summer months turning to yellow in the fall, which can be spectacular. In the early winter after its leaves have mostly fallen, witchhazel produces fragrant, yellow flowers that have four ribbon-like petals.
**Vegetable - Kale (Brassica oleracea var.acephala)**

Kale is one of the many garden vegetables that can be planted now, despite cooler soil temperatures. It is rich in vitamin A and C and can be used fresh in salads, as a garnish, or stir-fried. Kale tolerates summer heat but the best production is in spring and fall. Plant now and then again in the mid-summer for a fall harvest. You may have to start with seeds for the fall harvest as it's not as readily available in garden centers for a fall planting.

At this time, it's best to plant the plants as opposed to seeds. Seeds should be started indoors in early March to be planted in the ground in April. Plant in full sun with rows 18 - 24" apart; space plants 18 - 30" apart. You can successfully plant kale in shade to encourage continued production in the heat of summer but you won't get as much production as you would in full sun. Kale is a fairly low-maintenance crop; however, watch for cabbage moths in the summer and fall as their caterpillars riddle the leaves with holes. Harvest leaves when they are young and tender (around 8 - 10" long, depending on variety) and continue to harvest until production diminishes. Common varieties include Red Russian, Winterbor, Dwarf Curled, and Dwarf Blue Scotch Curled.

**For More Information:**
Cornell University Vegetable Growing Guide on Kale
http://www.gardening.cornell.edu/homegardening/scene57dc.html

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**Weed - Poison Hemlock (Conium maculatum)**

This non-native invasive weed is among the most toxic plants in North America. The plant contains highly toxic piperidine alkaloid compounds, including conine and gamma-coniceine, which cause respiratory failure and death when ingested by mammals. The roots are more toxic than the leaves and stems; however, all parts of the plant including the seeds should be considered dangerous. Unfortunately, this dangerously toxic plant is becoming more common throughout Ohio, particularly in landscape plantings where close proximity to people increases poisoning risks.

Poison hemlock is a biennial weed that spends the first year as a basal rosette and the second year as an erect, towering flowering plant that can measure 6 - 10' tall. It is a member of the carrot family, so it shares many characteristics with other weeds found in Ohio including native plants such as QUEEN ANNE'S LACE (*Daucus carota*) and other notorious non-native plants such as WILD PARSNIP (*Pastinaca sativa*). All stages of the plant have bluish-green leaves that are 3 - 4 times pinnately compound, and the deeply cut parsley-like leaflets have sharp points. Flowering plants have hairless, light-green to bluish-green stems that are covered with obvious purplish blotches. Clusters of tiny white flowers are borne on structures called umbels that look like upside-down umbrellas.

Poison hemlock can be controlled by mowing, tilling, or by using selective or non-selective post-emergent herbicides including glyphosate (e.g. Roundup). Applications of herbicides made now will control both the first season rosette stage and the second season flowering stage, before seeds are produced.

**For More Information:**
Virginia Tech Weed Identification Fact Sheet
http://www.ppws.vt.edu/scott/weed_id/coima.htm
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Plant Profile
http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile

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**Hort Shorts**

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**Introducing the New Plant Pathology Faculty Member**

Francesca Peduto Hand received a M.S. in Agricultural Science and Technology (2003) and a Ph.D. in Plant Pathology (2008) from the University of Florence, Italy. From 2009 - 2012, she conducted Post-doctoral research at University of California Davis, and in March 2013, she was appointed Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology at OSU where her research, extension, and teaching responsibilities include ornamentals (floral, nursery, landscape) and turf disease problems.
Over the last 10 years, she has conducted research on diseases of woody plants in nursery and crop production systems. Her research has been focused in identifying, characterizing, and managing fungal and bacterial pathogens associated with grapevines and other economically important fruit crops. She used conventional and molecular techniques, combined with greenhouse and field studies, to investigate disease epidemiology, biology and ecology of plant pathogens in an effort to improve disease control strategies with an emphasis on Integrated Pest Management programs.

Let us welcome her and wish her the best in her new position with OSU.

**Them Bushes Are Smokin’**

Or at least that is the way it may appear to some casual observers of yews (*Taxus* spp.) at this time of the year. Yews produce male pollen cones that mature and release their pollen in early spring. As with other conifers that are primarily wind-pollinated, large amounts of pollen are produced and released into the wind to be carried to the female cones. Wind-pollination is less efficient than insect-assisted pollination, requiring larger randomly-dispersed quantities of pollen, to increase probabilities of successful pollination. Thus, when pollen shed occurs in these wind-pollinated plants, the vast quantities of pollen released may give the illusion that the plants are smoking. This event will be repeated by other conifers as spring progresses. Larger species, such as spruces and pines can fill the air with pollen clouds when it comes to their turn for releasing pollen.

Ironically, Curtis Young reported that yews were shedding pollen during the BYGL conference call and shortly after reporting this event, Nancy Taylor from the C. Wayne Ellett Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic sent an email to the team asking if members were observing pollen-shed in *Taxus*. Apparently, someone noticed a powder floating away from a grouping of yews and thought it might be spores from a disease infecting the plants. Not helping the situation is the fact that many conifers are still sporting their winter doldrums, yellow-green coloration. Many conifers look somewhat sickly and could cause the owner concern for the health of the plant. As temperatures increase, becoming more consistently warm into the spring and day-length continues to lengthen, the conifers should return to a more robust green coloration. New growth also improves the appearance of the evergreens.

Male pollen cones on yews are relatively small and somewhat inconspicuous, yet they can produce a fair quantity of pollen. Thus, between the powder-like material floating out of sickly-looking, yellow-green plants and the small size of the male cones (not that most would even realize that yews produce male cones), it is understandable that one might worry for the health of their plants. Fortunately, the yews are only “love-sick” and not “sick” sick. Yews in the Columbus area were shedding pollen at least two weeks ago. Yews in northwest Ohio have not yet begun, but will in the very near future.

**What Do They Say About Ohio Weather? Just Wait a Day (or year) and it Changes!**

BYGL participants discussed the difference a year makes in terms of plant development. Pam Bennett leads wildflower walks in Clifton Gorge (Yellow Springs area) every Friday in March-May and shared photos of plant development (or lack thereof) for this year. Many who had attended these walks last year were surprised at the lack of development compared to last year. WOW, what a difference. In 2012, in full bloom the last week in March in Clifton Gorge were Virginia bluebells, *Trillium grandiflorum*, and Jack-in-the Pulpit. This year during the same week, Pam noted that the only thing in bloom was the snow trillium, a plant that she normally sees in bloom in late February or early March. Last year at this time, Pam was enjoying fresh-cut steamed asparagus from her garden; this year, she just recently cut back last year’s growth and is anxiously waiting to see signs of emergence.

Temperatures this year compared to the same time frame last year were quite different. Take for instance a 3 day period in March 2012, March 19 - 21. Temperatures were in the 80°F’s. This year, that same time period, temperatures were 39°F, 36°F and 29°F and were consistent the days before and after.

Look at the difference in growing degree days (GDD, see article in Weatherwatch below for more details about GDD) in
2012 and 2013 for a few selected days in March and April in Springfield. In Springfield, in 2012, on March 18, 25 and April 1, the GDD were 127, 237, and 275. In 2013, the GDD for the same dates were 33, 33, and 38 respectively. Do GDD have an effect on plant development? You bet! Don't worry, however, things are beginning to progress and before you know it, we'll be complaining about the heat!

For More Information:
Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Centers weather system for information and data around the state
http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/newweather/

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**Spring Clean Up Has Begun**

Baseball had opening day and so do Ohio gardens. Despite the fact that it seems like there isn't much happening in the garden right now, it is time to get into the perennial beds and vegetable gardens and start prepping for the spring. It's coming, believe it or not. First, cut back any plants that you didn't get to last fall. Old asparagus fronds in the vegetable garden should be cut back to the ground. In the perennial beds, any plants that you left for winter interest (ornamental grasses, sedum, etc.) should be cut before spring growth begins. It's a lot easier to do it when you don't have the new tender growth to worry about. If any plants have been pushed out of the ground or "heaved" due to freezing and thawing of the soil, replant them. DO NOT step on them to push them back into the ground! Dig them up, dig an appropriate hole, and replace the plant.

Spring is a good time to transplant or divide any perennials that bloom in the summer or fall. Remember, the general recommendation is to divide opposite of their bloom season. This doesn't mean that you can't divide spring bloomers now, especially if it's a must. You will sacrifice the blooms this season but they won't be harmed for next year. Mums, asters, *Sedum*, *Corylopsis*, daises, *Krudhokia*, and daylilies are examples of plants to divide now. Ornamental grasses should be divided now but be sure to find someone with extra muscle to dig these bad boys up for you! If they have been in the ground a little while, they are quite reluctant to be taken from their home.

Roses should be cut back at this time. The goal in pruning roses is to shape them up and encourage new growth, and to open the plant up to allow air and sunlight to filter into the middle of the plant. Use sharp pruners and cut any broken or damaged branches first. Then, focus on shaping and opening up the plant. Cut branches back to just above a bud, facing in the direction that you want that branch to grow. In other words, if the bud faces inward, the branch will grow that way. Try to select outward-facing buds in order to keep the center as open as possible. Shrub roses tend to be a little more forgiving than do hybrid tea and floribunda roses when it comes to pruning back to just above a bud. Shrub roses can be cut about half way back without too much worry about cutting above the buds.

A final task is to fertilize plants, if needed. Remember, the first thing to do before applying fertilizer is test the soil in order to determine what nutrients are needed. You may find that very little extra nutrients are necessary. In addition, there are some perennials that don't like a lot of nutrients. Instead of doing a general "spread it everywhere on everything," adopt smart gardening practices and only fertilize if needed, according to the results of the soil test.

For More Information:
Iowa State University Extension information on when to divide perennials
http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/RG319.pdf
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chemug County information on dividing perennials

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**Still Time to Rejuvenate Deciduous Shrubs if Needed**

They put out new growth in the spring and look like a brand new plant. Then in the future, you can keep it under control each year if needed.

Rejuvenation pruning needs to be accomplished in the early spring, before new growth begins. Deciduous plants store their sugars or energy in the roots for the winter, sending all of this energy into new branches and leaves for the season. By cutting them back before the new growth begins, all of that energy is directed into the new plant.

This is not a practice that can be done on evergreens shrubs such as *Taxus*, boxwood, *arborvitae*, and others. These plants...
store their sugars in the leaves; cutting these plants back to the ground really slows their development, and in some cases, they may take forever to recover. A good rule of thumb to rejuvenate these plants it so cut back to pencil-sized wood. Or, don't let them get out of hand in the first place!

Plants such as forsythia, shrub dogwood, flowering almond, spiraea, and many others can be rejuvenated in the spring. Because the weather has been so chilly, there is still time to do this now, but don't wait too long!

For More Information:
Colorado State University Extension information on pruning flowering shrubs
http://cmg.colostate.edu/gardennotes/619.pdf

April is Invasive Species Awareness Month
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has declared April as Invasive Species Awareness Month. Greg Rosenthal, Public Affairs Specialist with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), recently posted on the USDA blog about a day in your life with invasive species from morning, noon, and night. Check it out http://blogs.usda.gov/2013/04/02/a-day-in-your-life-with-invasive-species/#more-44935!

The impacts of invasive species are being felt right here in Ohio, and across North America. From the food we eat to the outdoors we enjoy, invasive species are unfortunately becoming more numerous. USDA has developed Seven Ways to Leave Hungry Pests Behind to empower people to protect the things we treasure: America's agricultural bounty and natural beauty. Take a moment learn these seven ways by visiting the USDA Hungry Pests Website http://www.hungrypests.com and then pass the word along to customers, clientele, family and friends.

For More Information:
Hungry Pests Website - What Can You Do
http://www.hungrypests.com/what-you-can-do/

Bug Bytes »

Boxelder Bugs are Afoot - Beware of a Look-Alike

BYGLers in western and southwestern Ohio reported that e-mails and telephone calls are on the rise concerning BOXELDER BUGS (Boisiea (= Lepocorhis) trivittata) appearing in large numbers on and around homes and buildings. This insect is notorious for invading homes en masse in the fall as they search for winter quarters and in the early spring as they emerge from their winter nap. The 3/4” long boxelder bug adults are narrow-shaped, flat-backed, and dark gray or dark brownish-black. They have three highly visible orangish-red stripes running lengthwise on the pronotum, the area behind the head; "trivittata" is Latin for "three-striped". The abdomens of the oblong-shaped nymphs are bright red with a faint orange line running down the middle, and an obvious orange spot in the middle of the line. Their antennae, head, thorax, legs, and wing-pads are bluish-black. When encountered in a home, the nymphs may be mistaken for bed bugs.

Besides sucking juices from boxelder seeds, the bug commonly feeds on seeds of other trees in the genus Acer, as well as on ash. Boxelder bugs have even been observed feeding on alder, apple, buckeye, cactus, geranium, grape, honeysuckle, lilac, linden, oak, peach, plum, spiraea, strawberry, and tulp. As seed-feeders, the bug causes no harm to the health of trees. However, their feeding activity on tree fruit and strawberries has been known to reduce fruit quality. The boxelder bugs wide-ranging feeding activity simply demonstrates that insects pay little attention to their common name.

Last season, we reported on the occurrence throughout Ohio of the GOLDENRAIN TREE BUG (Jadera haematoloma), a boxelder bug look-alike. This bug is another seed-feeder that belongs to the same family (Rhopalidae) as boxelder bugs. They also practice the same nuisance behavior as their boxelder brethren with large numbers appearing en masse on landscapes around homes with the adults trying to enter homes to overwinter. The goldenrain tree bug is very similar to boxelder bugs in size, shape, and overall color. The key to separating the two bugs is included in their scientific names. The specific epithet, "haematoloma," is Greek for "blood-fringed," and clearly describes the deep red "shoulders" (the edges of the pronotum) on the goldenrain tree bugs. Also, as their common name implies, goldenrain tree bugs are specific to their namesake host.
Disease Digest

Just Peachy...Dang Leaf Curl

Usually by the start of the BYGL season, we've already missed the window to manage the fungal pathogen, *Taphrina deformans*, which causes the disease known as PEACH LEAF CURL. The BYGL fruit fanatics were thrilled to have their moment of glory to make things peachy for all the stone fruit growers. Peach leaf curl is a common springtime disease for backyard gardeners growing peaches or nectarines. This fungus most often infects leaves; however, the fruit and young twigs may be affected as well. Infected leaves acquire a puckered, distorted appearance and the infected areas thicken and take on a distinct reddish or purple coloration. As the infected areas mature, they'll turn white, followed by gray as the fungus sporulates on the surface of the leaf. Subsequently, those infected leaves turn yellow, then brown and drop off of the tree within a short time. Of course, if there are only a few leaves left on the tree, the chances of ripening any fruit is very small.

The fungal spores from the leaf surface are either splashed or blown onto the new twigs and buds. These spores will remain lodged in bud scales or crevices in the bark throughout the summer and following winter. In the spring, during periods of frequent rain, the peach and nectarine buds begin to swell and open. As the buds open, the overwintered fungal spores commence the germination process and then initiate infection of young, succulent, expanding leaf tissues. A single, dormant fungicide application containing chlorothalonil or the use of a fixed copper fungicide spray, will effectively manage this disease. The fungicide or fixed copper spray may be applied in late fall as the last leaves fall off or in early spring BEFORE THE BUDS BEGIN TO SWELL! Any fungicide application applied after buds swell and will not be effective because infections have most likely already occurred.

For More Information:
- Ohio State University Factsheet- Peach Leaf Curl-HYG 3006-08
- Cornell University- Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic Factsheet on Peach Leaf Curl
  [http://plantclinic.cornell.edu/factsheets/peachleafcurl.pdf](http://plantclinic.cornell.edu/factsheets/peachleafcurl.pdf)

Turf Tips

Spring Turfgrass Recovery

Unlike the 2012 growing season that started off in March with a roar, the 2013 growing season is making a subdued appearance with lawn mowers remaining silent. However, as several BYGLers noted, the slow start to the season means there is still time to accomplish some lawn care maintenance activities that may have been overlooked last fall, or activities that are always recommended for helping lawns to wake-up from a long winter nap.

Here are a few tips:

- Make sure your lawn mower is prepped and ready for the spring season. This includes engine maintenance such as changing the oil and replacing the spark plug and air filter if they weren't changed last fall, as well as cleaning and sharpening mower blades. Dull mower blades damage turfgrass blades! The new, tender spring grass blades are particularly susceptible to dull blade damage. If mower blades are already sharp, they should be cleaned; residue build-up on mulching mower blades can seriously interfere with the mulching action of the blades contributing to clumping.

- Inspect watering hoses and sprinklers. Don't wait until you need to depend on lawn irrigation in the heat of the summer to discover leaking hoses and dysfunctional sprinklers!

- Make a spring fertilizer application and get your soil tested to provide guidance for future fertilizer needs. Although there is a strong focus on fall fertilization of lawns, spring applications are also helpful, particularly this year with such a long, cold spring. A spring fertilizer application is essential to turfgrass health if no applications were made in the fall.
Spot-seed damaged areas and/or over-seed thinning lawns. Again, although late-summer to early-fall is the best time of the year to sow grass seed, spring is the second-best time of the year! Spring seeding can be used to repair winter damage and it's your second shot at producing a thick lawn if your fall seeding failed to produce good results. Remember that a thick lawn is the best defense against lawn weeds.

Judiciously apply pre-emergence herbicides (e.g. crabgrass control materials). Most turfgrass weeds, including crabgrass, are opportunistic: they do best in open areas or in thinning lawns. In other words, turfgrass weeds are often a symptom of other more critical problems such as a soil fertility problem or an aging lawn that has not been over-seeded in years to introduce new, vigorous plants. If you plan to sow grass seed, be very careful with using pre-emergent herbicides; many will also disrupt grass seed germination and establishment! As always, read and follow label directions and pay close attention to grass seeding restrictions, including whether or not it would be safe to seed in the fall.

Joe Boggs reported that heavy woodpecker damage to ash trees that are densely infested with EMERALD ASH BORER (*Agrilus planipennis*) (EAB) larvae is becoming very evident in southwest Ohio. EAB larvae feed on phloem tissue just beneath the bark. The larvae also spend the winter in the phloem which means woodpeckers don’t have to dig deep to find their quarry; the woodpeckers produce shallow holes in the bark that are bounded by ragged edges. However, on trees with large numbers of larvae, the hole-pecking becomes a feeding frenzy with the woodpeckers ripping away bark plates exposing the light brown to tan colored under-bark. Woodpecker feeding activity on ash occurs throughout the winter with concentrated damage typically appearing in late-winter to early-spring.

The pattern and extent of the woodpecker activity on ash trees can provide a great deal of information about localized EAB population density as well as the chances for success with protecting ash trees against EAB using insecticides. In geographical areas where EAB has just been found, the beetles first target the uppermost and outermost stems; the infestation within the tree moves top-down and outside-in with each successive generation. If population density is depicted on a graph, the population increase over time follows a shallow-sloped linear rise; this is known as the "linear phase" in the growth of localized EAB populations. It may take a number of years for trees to be killed by EAB during the linear phase. Woodpeckers produce shallow holes with their pattern of activity mirroring the yearly top-down and outside-in progression of the EAB infestation within the trees.

However, all localized EAB population densities will eventually transition from the linear phase to a more destructive pattern of population growth. If the localized EAB population density is depicted on a graph, the population will abruptly change over time from the shallow-sloped linear rise to a steep-sloped exponentially increasing surge; this is known as the "exponential phase." During this phase, massive numbers of beetles attack trees often infesting the entire tree in one season and it only takes one year for EAB to kill trees. Woodpecker activity is not only a good sign that an ash tree is infested with EAB, extensive woodpecker damage may signal that localized populations have transitioned to the exponential phase.

For example, Joe noted that some of the trees he observed had heavy woodpecker damage all the way to the base of the tree with no adult emergence holes. This meant that the trees were infested with larvae to their base the previous season; the infestation within the tree did not move top-down and outside-in with each successive beetle generation. Of course, the heavy woodpecker damage also meant that it is too late to protect the trees against EAB using insecticide applications. This is one reason that the "linear phase" is sometimes called the "panic phase!"

### WeatherWatch »

**Current Conditions**

The following weather information summarizes data collected at various Ohio Agricultural Research Development Center (OARDC) Weather Stations spanning the dates from January 1 - April 3, 2013, with the exception of the soil temperatures which are readings from Wednesday, April 3, 2013 at 11:10 a.m.

What a difference a year can make! While many are wondering if spring will ever return, current conditions are closer to the average, compared to the early spring experienced a year ago. The actual year-to-date precipitation totals listed below are less than normal, and have many hoping for spring showers to recharge the moisture needed for the year to come.
### Weather Station Region of Ohio

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Station</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Temp. F</th>
<th>Temp. F</th>
<th>Precip.&quot;</th>
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<td>22.8</td>
<td>4.86</td>
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<td>36.0/32.87</td>
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<td>Wooster</td>
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<td>4.55</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>34.62/35.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoytville</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>21.5</td>
<td>5.21</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>32.03/34.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Central</td>
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<td>25.0</td>
<td>6.16</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>40.47/41.43</td>
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<td>25.3</td>
<td>5.76</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>42.62/39.74</td>
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For More Information:
- OARDC Weather Stations
  [http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/centernet/weather.htm](http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/centernet/weather.htm)

### Growing Degree Days (GDD)

GDD is a measure of the daily maximum and minimum temperature and directly relates to growth and development of plants and insects. The GDD of any zip code location in Ohio is estimated using the GDD of ten OARDC weather stations and available on the web at: [http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/](http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/).

The range of GDD accumulations in Ohio from north to south is 31 to 71.

Following is a report of GDD for several locations around Ohio as of April 3, 2013: Painesville, 31; Cleveland, 33; Toledo, 32; Canfield, 34; Findlay, 32; Van Wert, 33; Wooster, 36; Coshocton, 44; Columbus, 42; Springfield, 38; Dayton, 41; Cincinnati, 62; Ironton, 70; Portsmouth, 71; and Piketon, 68.

To put these GDD accumulations into perspective, the following is an abbreviated listing of plant and insect species with their respective phenological event and average GDD accumulations at which these events occur. Due to variations in weather, temperature, humidity, etc., these events may occur a few days earlier or later than predicted by the average GDD. By looking at a city, town, or village nearby on the above list, or visiting the above website, one can see what is taking place in the landscape.

Silver maple, first bloom, 34; Corneliancherry dogwood, first bloom, 40; silver maple, full bloom, 42; red maple, first bloom, 44; speckled alder, first bloom, 52; northern lights forsythia, first bloom, 58; Japanese pieris, first bloom, 60; red maple, full bloom, 75; star magnolia, first bloom, 83; border forsythia, first bloom, 86; eastern tent caterpillar, egg hatch, 92; Manchu cherry, first bloom, 93; northern lights forsythia, full bloom, 94; and Norway maple, first bloom, 116.

For More Information:
- [Growing Degree Days and Phenology for Ohio](http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/)
- [Understanding and Using Degree-Days](http://ohioline.osu.edu/sc165/sc165_14.html)

### Coming Attractions »

**Southwest Ohio BYGLive!**

The first 2013 Southwest Ohio BYGLive! Diagnostic Walk-About will be held this coming Monday, April 8, at Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. This monthly hands-on training series for Green Industry professionals focuses on diagnosing plant pest, disease, and physiological problems. International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist CEUs and Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System CEUs for Landscape Architects will be available. Visit the following website for registration information as well as driving directions: [http://hamilton.osu.edu/topics/horticulture/byglive-diagnostic-walk-about](http://hamilton.osu.edu/topics/horticulture/byglive-diagnostic-walk-about). You can also e-mail Joe Boggs boggs.47@osu.edu to learn more about this diagnostic training series.

### Urban Wood Utilization Webcast
The USDA Forest Service's Wood Education and Resource Center is sponsoring a webcast next Tuesday, April 9, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The theme of this webcast will highlight general urban and wood utilization marketing activities in the mid-west and will include: Urban Forest Harvesting Standard; SE Michigan Urban Wood Utilization Update; Illinois Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Wood Utilization Team; Missouri's Urban Wood Utilization Update; and Update on Wood Utilization Publication. Additional information, including a detailed agenda can be found on the Regional Emerald Ash Borer Website at http://emeraldashborer.info.

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**Pros and Cons of Urban Mechanized Tree Removal, Emerald Ash Borer University (EABU)**

The EAB University webinar on the Pros and Cons of Urban Mechanized Tree Removal will be live on April 10, 2013 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The session's speaker will be Mr. Don Peterson, president of the Renewable Resources Solution, LCC. He will cover the highlights from a mechanized urban tree removal project/demonstration that was done in Oak Creek, Wisconsin. He will also cover the advantages and limitations of urban mechanized tree removal. Participants can register for this session on the Regional Emerald Ash Borer Website at http://emeraldashborer.info.

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**Landscaping for Wildlife**

The Ohio Woodland Stewards Program is offering an evening program on Landscaping for Wildlife at the Medina County Park District's Wolf Creek Environmental Center, 6100 Ridge Road, Sharon Center, Ohio, April 10, 2013, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Information can be found on the website at [http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu](http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu). Registration deadline is April 5, 2013.

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**Your Woods, Water, and Wildlife**

The Ohio Woodland Stewards Program is offering an all-day program entitled Your Woods, Water and Wildlife at the Crawford County Courthouse's Lower Level Conference Room, 112 East Mansfield Street, Bucyrus, Ohio, April 13, 2013, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Information can be found on the website at [http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu](http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu). Registration deadline is April 5, 2013.

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**Wildlife in Your Woods**

The Ohio Woodland Stewards Program is offering an all-day program entitled Wildlife in Your Woods at the Ohio State University, Mansfield Campus, 229 Redl Hall, 1760 University Drive, Mansfield, Ohio, April 19, 2013, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Information can be found on the website at [http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu](http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu). Registration deadline is April 12, 2013.

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**Spotted Wing Drosophila Workshop**

The Ohio IPM Program and the Ohio Vegetable and Small Fruit Research and Development Program are sponsoring a three hour workshop, April 25, 2013. The workshop will be held at the OSU Museum of Biological Diversity, Room 1000, 1315 Kinnear Road, Columbus, Ohio. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. The target audience is anyone who will be monitoring this pest with traps this summer and may include crop consultants, crop scouts, Extension Educators, fruit growers, AgChem company representatives, and other interested people. There is no fee to attend, but participants must register in advanced by April 8 online at [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SWDReg13](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SWDReg13). There is a limit of 28 participants.

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**Wildlife Conflicts Workshop**

The Ohio Woodland Stewards Program is offering an all-day program on Wildlife Conflicts at the Upper Valley Career Center (UVCC), Room 600, 8901 Looney Road, Piqua, Ohio, April 26, 2013, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Information can be found on the website at [http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu](http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu). Registration deadline is April 19, 2013.

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**New Applicator Training, Fulton County**

The OSU Extension Office in Fulton County will be hosting an Ohio Commercial New Applicator Class on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the OSUE Office in the Robert Fulton Agriculture Center, 8770 State Route 108, Wauseon, Ohio. This class will be geared to municipalities, school maintenance, lawn/landscape companies, property managers, and other government entities.

The morning sessions will review Commercial Core material including but not limited to Ohio pesticide laws and regulations, personal safety and environmental issues, and pesticide formulas and label reading. In the afternoon, the class will be split in two to provide an overview of the weeds, insects, diseases and problem solving that accompanies each of the Industrial Vegetation (Category 5) or Turfgrass (Category 8) tests.
Pre-register with the Extension office by downloading the registration form from [http://www.fulton.osu.edu](http://www.fulton.osu.edu), calling 419-337-9210 or emailing richer.5@osu.edu. Cost for the morning session is $30 and afternoon session is $30, or $60 for both and lunch. The workshop is limited to 30. Registration deadline is April 26.

**Ohio's Non-Native Invasives**

The Ohio Woodland Stewards Program is offering an all day workshop on Ohio's Non-Native Invasives at the Ohio State University, Mansfield Campus, 229 Riedl Hall, 1760 University Drive, Mansfield, Ohio, May 17, 2013, 8:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Information can be found on the website at [http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu](http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu). Registration deadline is May 10, 2013.

**Tree School**

The Ohio Woodland Stewards Program is offering an all-day Tree School at the Ohio State University, Mansfield Campus, 229 Riedl Hall, 1760 University Drive, Mansfield, Ohio, May 18, 2013. Information can be found on the website at [http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu](http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu). Registration deadline is May 10, 2013.

**Ohio's Invasive Species Series, June 2013, OSU Mansfield Campus**

Invasive species come in all shapes and sizes. Whether a plant, insect, fungus or vertebrate, each invasive species impacts their segment of the ecosystem in different ways. This seminar series focuses on some of the key issues associated with non-native, as well as how to identify them and deal with them in your own backyard. *June 4 - This evenings topic will cover two non-native invasive insects impacting Ohio's trees. Learn how to identify emerald ash borer (EAB) and Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) and understand their impact on your trees.*

*June 11 - While EAB and ALB have gotten a lot of attention lately, there are still other non-native pests that you should be aware of. This seminar will cover gypsy moth, thousand canker disease on black walnut, viburnum leaf beetle and hemlock woolly adelgid.*

*June 18 - Non-native invasives don't impact just our trees. This evening seminar will focus on the impacts non-native invasives have on wildlife and the wood products our woodland produce.*

*June 25 - The last seminar session will focus on specific non-native invasive plants. Characteristics for identification will be covered along with control options.*

Registration for each seminar is $15 OR register for all 4 seminars for $45. Information can be found on the website at [http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu](http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu).

**Byglosophy**

"It's spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you've got it, you want - oh, you don't quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!" - Mark Twain

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