

Hardin County Extension News Release

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Spring Garden Seminar

Hardin County – This week's warm weather has reminded us that work in the spring garden is coming. Believe it or not, spring is around the corner and so is the OSU Extension spring garden seminar. "Something Old, New, Tried & True in the Garden" is the planned seminar being offered by the Hardin County OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers this year. Get your seat reserved while you can. Plenty of topics are on the agenda for this event which will get your thoughts turned to gardening and away from the cold weather that has been with us for the past few months.

This year's spring garden seminar will feature four expert speakers. Nora Hiland will speak on 'Exotic Invasive Plants.' What are they? Why are they a problem? Rapid growth, high productivity rates, and lack of natural controls have helped non-natives displace native species. Why are some of your favorite landscape plants a problem in natural areas? Nora Hiland earned a B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture from California State University in Fresno. She worked as a research assistant in horticulture then earned a teaching degree and taught biology and general science in grades 7-12. She has been a Master Gardener in Delaware County since 2009 and a member of Ohio Invasive Plants Council since 2005.

Timothy McDermott's presentation will focus on 'What is Compost.' It is the soil amendment of choice to improve soils with organic matter. Learn about the composting process, what nutrients are present in compost, and how you can build your own compost pile to maximize your harvest. Timothy McDermott, DVM, is an OSU Assistant Professor and has been an Extension Educator in Agriculture and Natural Resources for the past seven years. He lectures locally as well as internationally on Local Food Systems and Veterinary Sciences where he spent 20 years in private practice.

'Planting Container Gardens' will be the topic discussed by Candi Scheiderer. Gardening in smaller spaces and with less time. Instant results to achieve plant color around your home and garden. Easily change containers for each season. What containers to use, what plants to choose, how to put together complementary color schemes, and what to use for filler and interest. Candi Scheiderer has always loved making someone's day. From her career as a critical care nurse to her life as co-owner of Scheiderer Farms, Candi finds that nurturing, whether it's people or plants, is the common thread to having a joyful life.

Bradley Allen will speak on 'Growing Hydrangeas.' Learn about all the different types of hydrangeas, including new varieties. How and when to prune, how to turn flowers blue, the planting, care, pests/diseases, folklore, and breeding of hydrangeas. Bradley Allen found a home in the world of plants in the last 5 years. He earned a degree in Landscape & Turf Management from Owens Community College. He got a job at North Branch Nursery as a laborer before being asked to be an assistant grower with a short-term goal of becoming head grower. Life took on a whole new meaning while battling cancer in 2022. Plants remain his major focus.

"Something Old, New, Tried & True in the Garden" will be held March 9 at the Mid-Ohio Energy Cooperative Community Room, 1210 W Lima Street in Kenton. The seminar is open to the public, no matter how much gardening experience you have. The cost is \$50, which includes a continental breakfast, lunch, handouts, and door prizes. For active OSU Master Gardener Volunteers, the fee is \$40. Doors open on the day of the event at 8:15 am, the program starts at 9:00 am and ends at 4:00 pm. The registration deadline is February 23 with a limited class size. For more information about this event, call Kim Thomas 419-674-8012.