



# Cincinnati Wild Flower Preservation Society

Founded 1917

Southwestern Ohio Chapter of the Ohio Native Plant Society

[www.cincywildflower.org](http://www.cincywildflower.org)

## Newsletter for May - September 2012

What a spring! We never know what to expect from Mother Nature. Last year our hikes were early to see the spring wildflowers and this year we were late. We're bound to get it right next year!

Be sure to note that the **dates have changed** for the Shaker Trace Wetlands field trip led by Dr. Denis Conover, which is now **July 15** and the Great Outdoor Weekend event, the Miami Whitewater Creek Walk, is **September 23**.

We have some very interesting field trips planned. I'm really looking forward to seeing these new and unique environments and hope to share them with many of you.

I recently heard Rodger Norcross, Chief ODNR Div. of Watercraft, speak. He mentioned something very basic, but it really hit home with me. He mentioned that first comes the outdoor nature **Experience** which then allows one to gain an **Appreciation** of nature and in many of us has led to a lifetime of **Commitment** to protect that which we have grown to love. What was your first experience that led you on this journey? So remember, Experience  $\Rightarrow$  Appreciation  $\Rightarrow$  Commitment and that once a friend, family or co-worker is offered the opportunity of that nature Experience you may be amazed how it can change that life.

The Society is saddened by the sudden loss of Jim Durrell on April 17. Elizabeth and Jim Durrell have been steadfast members who have come to most of our events and have been such nature lovers who had the Commitment. Jim will be missed.

The Cincinnati Museum Center has just published a new book, *On the Edge - A History of the Edge of Appalachia Preserve System*. This book, co-authored by our Society's Anita Buck, tells the story of the creation of this wonderful preserve, including our Society's part in this history. It also includes excellent plant drawings, great photos and lists of flora and fauna in the preserve. If interested, you can purchase a book from Bob Bergstein for \$15.

At our annual meeting in March, the Society re-elected Steve Albert, Anita Buck, and myself for another three-year term. Our annual donations were \$100 to sponsor the Midwest Native Plant Conference, \$200 to Arc of Appalachia (for land acquisition), \$200 to Western Wildlife Corridor (for land acquisition), \$200 to Avon Woods (for a projector screen) and \$260 for a student to attend Science Camp at the Cincinnati Museum Center's Edge of Appalachia in Adams County.

Hope to see you on the trail soon!  
Christine Hadley, President

### General Notes

We welcome visitors and guests. If you're not already a member, please consider joining the Society. Individual memberships are \$12 and family memberships are \$20. Not only would we would love to have you belong, but these modest fees provide our operating budget for the

year. Write the check to "Cincinnati Wild Flower Preservation Society" and mail to Rob Repasky, Treasurer, 607 Rosebud Circle, Walton, KY 41094. Thank you!

If you would like to receive e-mail reminders of events, write this on your membership form or email [bbergstein@fuse.net](mailto:bbergstein@fuse.net).

Our Friday evening lectures are held at Avon Woods Nature Center (a Cincinnati city preserve), 4235 Paddock Road, Cincinnati 45229. From the Norwood Lateral (SR #562), drive 9/10 mile south on Paddock to the Avon Woods Park driveway, which is in the middle of the Avon Field golf course. Turn sharp right onto the drive next to the park sign (on the west side of Paddock) and go to the lodge at the end of the long dark drive. If you're coming the other way, the driveway is 4/10 mile north of Paddock's intersection with Reading Road. For a map, click [here](#) .

Dinner meetings – our December holiday and March members' meetings, both potlucks followed by a lecture – are held at Northern Hills Fellowship, 460 Fleming Road, Cincinnati 45231. For a map, click [here](#) .

Please remember our motto: "Enjoy: Do Not Destroy." It is up to Society members to set the standard for the rest of the public: respecting all rules at the places we visit, staying on trails when required, and not collecting seeds or plants without permission or permits.

### Events

Note: Events identified with \*\* are sponsored by or with other organizations.

Remember that all event information is up to date and available on our website, [www.cincywildflower.org](http://www.cincywildflower.org) . Clickable links of driving maps are available on *this Website Version of our Newsletter*, as well as in our Email Reminders.

----- May 2012 -----

### **Saturday and/or Sunday, May 5 & 6, 2012, 10 am: Field Trip, Carter Caves State Park, Carter County, Kentucky**

I hope you can join us for our weekend trip to Carter Caves. Our guides, Judy and Ray Komorowski, will lead us to some of the park's beautiful places to see the amazing spring wildflowers. You may join us for one or both days, but be sure to RSVP to Christine Hadley at [ChristineHadley@earthlink.net](mailto:ChristineHadley@earthlink.net), or 513-850-9585.

**Directions (2 hours & 45 min):** Take exit #77 off of I-275. Get on AA Highway (Rt. 9) and drive 85 miles east. When about 5 miles past Vanceburg, turn right to stay on Rt. 9 and drive 15 miles. Turn right onto Rt. 2 West and drive 5 miles. Turn left to stay on Rt. 2 and drive 3 miles. Turn left on Rt. 182 (Carter Caves Road) and drive 4.5 miles. Turn right on Cave Branch Road and drive 1 mile to the Visitor Center. On Saturday, we will meet at the Visitor Center/Gift Shop at 10 am. On Sunday, we will meet at 10 am at the pool parking lot (which is 5 minutes from the Visitor Center). For a driving map click [here](#) . For a park map, click [here](#) . For trail descriptions page with map links, click [here](#) .

**Alternate (less scenic directions):** From Cincinnati, drive 80 miles south on I-75. Exit onto I-64 east and drive 80 miles to exit #161. Turn left at bottom of exit and drive 1.5 miles. Turn left on Carter Caves Road and drive 2.7 miles. Turn left on Cave Branch Road and drive 1 mile to visitor center. For a map click [here](#) .

**Accommodations:** You may book your own room at the park lodge or in Grayson (20 minutes away) or Morehead (35 minutes away).

**Saturday, May 12, 2012, 10 am: Field Trip, Shoemaker State Nature Preserve, Adams County, Ohio**

Rick Gardner, ODNR botanist, will lead us on the Society's first hike at this new nature preserve, dedicated in 2009. With luck, highlights might include the most impressive American columbo display you will ever see. Rick says, "I have never seen a more dense population of the plant anywhere else." The number of flowering plants is unpredictable, so we can't say how many we'll see in bloom. There's a nice population of the *Plantago cordata* (heart-leaved plantain, a state endangered plant), a natural arch, and a good variety of spring wildflowers and some prairie species. Please let Christine Hadley know if you will be attending at 513-850-9585 or [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net).

**Directions:** Take St. Rt. 32 eastwards from I-275 on the east side of Cincinnati area for about 50 miles. From the St. Rt. 32 & St. Rt. 41 junction (Peebles) continue on Rt. 32 for another 3.8 mi. and turn right on Portsmouth Rd. Travel 1.1 mi. and just after going under a conveyor belt turn right on Pine Gap Rd. Drive another 0.2 mi. and the Preserve's gravel parking lot will be on the right. The address is 165 Pine Gap Rd, Peebles, OH 45660. For a map, click [here](#) . Driving time from Downtown Cincy is about 1 hour and 25 minutes.

----- June 2012 -----

**Sunday, June 3, 2012, 1:00 pm: Field Trip, Fernald Preserve, Hamilton County, Ohio**

The Fernald Preserve is a former uranium-processing facility that was shut down in 1991. Site remediation and subsequent ecological restoration have converted the site from an industrial production facility to an undeveloped park, encompassing wetlands, prairies, and forest. The site was renamed the Fernald Preserve in 2007 and a seven-mile trail system is now open to the public.

John Homer, with S.M. Stoller Corp., contractor to DOE, will lead us on this hike to explore several of the restored wetland, prairie, and restored forest projects that are not accessible by trail. A variety of prairie grasses and forbs should be in bloom, along with wetland sedges and rushes. The hike will be off-trail at times and may be muddy, so dress accordingly. Please let Christine Hadley know if you will be attending at 513-850-9585 or [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net).

**Directions:** Take I-275 to exit 33A/33, US 27 (Colerain Avenue). Head north on US 27 for 5 miles to the Hamilton-Ross exit. Turn left on St. Rt. 128 (Hamilton-Cleves Highway) through Ross for about 3 miles to Willey Road. Turn right on Willey Road, 1/4 mile to the Fernald Preserve. The address for Fernald Preserve is 7400 Willey Road, Harrison, OH 45030. Follow the drive through the preserve to meet at the Visitor Center. For map click [here](#) . Driving time from I-275 is about 15 minutes.

**\*\* Sunday, June 10, 2012, 12 noon: Potluck Picnic with Northside Greenspace Inc. and CWFPS at Keystone Flora in Wooden Shoe Hollow, Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Ohio**

Join us at native plant nursery Keystone Flora, located in historic Wooden Shoe Hollow, whose greenhouses and truck farms once provided fresh produce to urban Cincinnati. Diana Boyd will demonstrate how to propagate woodland seed. There will also be informal tours of the nursery, prairie, bioswale, and some of the properties that have been purchased by the native plant conservationists who are slowly colonizing the neighborhood.

Bring a dish to share. Carpooling is encouraged, but plenty of field parking is available. Contact Diana Boyd at 513-921-2250 if you have questions and Keystone Flora at 513-961-2727 if you get lost.

**Directions:** From I-75, take the Mitchell Avenue exit (exit #6). If traveling north on I-75, turn left at end of ramp, heading north on Mitchell Avenue. If coming south on I-75, turn right at end of ramp, heading north on Mitchell Avenue. Turn left onto Spring Grove Avenue (the first major intersection). Turn right onto Winton Road (at second traffic light). Turn right onto Kings Run (at third traffic light). Turn left onto Winton Ridge (at first intersection). Veer left onto Wooden Shoe Hollow Lane (about 1000 feet from turn onto Winton Ridge). Follow Wooden Shoe Hollow Lane for 0.3 miles. It goes straight, then curves to the right, goes straight until entering a wooded canopy area curving left. As soon as you come out of the trees you'll see a red mailbox numbered 5081. The address for Keystone Flora is 5081 Wooden Shoe Hollow Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45232. For a map from I-75 click [here](#) (driving time from I-75 is 7 minutes).

**\*\* Saturday, June 16, 2012, 9 am-3 pm: *What's Up Under Your Trees? Native Shrub Workshop*, Earth Connection, Delhi, Ohio**

Please join us to learn more about native plants that grow under the canopy of large trees in Eastern Forests. Plants in the understory layer consist of a mixture of seedlings and saplings of canopy trees together with understory shrubs and herbs. This is a vital layer when recreating natural habitats in landscapes. You will learn what shrubs work well in your yard or restoration project, and what to plant to provide food for birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Learn the best way to eradicate invasive species and what plants best replace them. We'll also talk about conservation, local efforts to monitor our state nature preserves, and how you can help! Speakers: Chris McCullough, Christine Hadley, Debi Wolterman and more. Some shrubs will be for sale. Hikes to see native shrubs and understory trees in native wooded habitats will be led by Tim Sisson. Presented by Cincinnati Wildflower Preservation Society, CCCV (Connecting Community Conservation Volunteers), Greater Cincinnati Wild Ones, Midwest Native Plant Society and Western Wildlife Corridor. Native shrubs will be available for purchase from Keystone Flora. \$8.00 (includes lunch). RSVP with Kathy McDonald at [Kathy@cincinnatibirds.com](mailto:Kathy@cincinnatibirds.com) or call 513-941-6497.

**Directions:** Earth Connection, 370 Neeb Road, Cincinnati, OH 45233 (across from Mt. St. Joseph College in Delhi). About 20 minutes from downtown Cincinnati. Go west on Route 50, River Road (the Sixth Street viaduct). Stay on River Road until you reach the traffic light at Fairbanks. Turn right (Fairbanks becomes Delhi Ave.) and go just over 4 miles to Neeb Road. Turn left on Neeb, and then turn left into the very first driveway. Go up the hill and turn right. Earth Connection is the leftmost building across the parking lot. If you get lost, call Kathy at 513-748-0281. For a map from Downtown Cincy to the driveway, click [here](#) .

----- July 2012 -----

**Sunday, July 15, 2012, 1 pm: Field Trip, *Shaker Trace Wetlands*, Hamilton County, Ohio  
(note corrected date)**

Dr. Denis Conover will lead us on this field trip to the prairie and wetland area that he has studied for years, the Shaker Trace Wetlands of Miami Whitewater Forest. The terrain is flat. Please wear long pants (and your shoes may get wet), a hat, and bring water as we explore on and off the trail. Please let Christine Hadley know if you will be attending at 513-850-9585 or [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net).

**Directions:** Take I-74 west from Cincinnati to the Dry Fork Road exit (Ohio exit #3). Turn right off the exit ramp and drive 2.3 miles. Turn slight right onto New Haven Road and drive 0.7 mile. In the settlement of New Haven, turn left onto Oxford Road, and drive 200 feet. Turn left on Baughman Road and drive 0.7 mile to a small gravel parking lot on your right. For a driving map click [here](#) , or for a park map click [here](#) . Driving time from downtown Cincy is about 35 minutes.

**\*\* July 27-29, 2012, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Native Plant Conference, Bergamo Center, Dayton, OH**

This excellent event, hosted by the Midwest Native Plant Society, has many speakers as well as a variety of field trips and a July 28<sup>th</sup> plant sale from 9 am - 4 pm. The cost for the full weekend, which includes all meals, speakers and field trips, is \$150 if you register by June 25. Day passes are also available and cost less. For more info, visit [www.midwestnativeplants.org](http://www.midwestnativeplants.org).

----- August 2012 -----

**Saturday, August 4, 2012, 10 am: Field Trip, Sand Ridge Prairie Conservation Area, Calvary Cemetery, Montgomery County, Ohio**

Dave Nolin, of Five Rivers MetroParks, and Dr. Don Geiger, of the Marianist Environmental Education Center (MEEC), will lead us on this walk. Dave and Dr. Denis Conover discovered this rare prairie about 1997. An esker, a glacial sand ridge formed by the retreating Wisconsin Glacier about 17,000 years ago, provides the habitat for the sand prairie. The species growing there are uncommon and many are state listed: Plains Muhlenbergia grass (*Muhlenbergia cuspidata*), green-flowered milkweed (*Asclepias viridiflora*), Carolina whitlow grass (*Draba reptans*), rough pennyroyal (*Hedeoma hispida*), hairy ruellia (*Ruellia caroliniensis*) and sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*). This promises to be a very interesting adventure. Please let Christine Hadley know if you will be attending at 513-850-9585 or [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net).

**Directions:** Access to the Sand Ridge Prairie site is through Calvary Cemetery. Take I-75 to exit 51, Edwin C. Moses Blvd. Turn right and head east, then north. Turn right onto the Stewart Street bridge. After crossing the bridge, turn right onto South Patterson Blvd. Head south past Carillon History Park up the hill and enter Calvary Cemetery (a right turn). Turn left and go uphill on St. Paul Drive, then St. Mark Drive, that bears left onto St. Gregory Drive. Stop at the maintenance area where we will meet. The address for Calvary Cemetery is 1625 Calvary Dr., Moraine, Ohio 45409. For a map from Cincy to St. Gregory Drive, click [here](#) . Driving time from downtown Cincy is about 1 hour and 10 minutes.

**Saturday, August 18, 2012, 10 am: Field Trip, Komorowski Creek Walk, Campbell County, Kentucky**

Come on down to ol' Kentucky to take a nice cool walk in the creek, or along the creek if you'd prefer. The walk is approximately 1.5 to 2 miles round trip with one big hill down (and back up) through the field and Post oak meadow. Judy and Ray maintain a trail along their section of creek, after that, it is critter trails and tall vegetation. Who knows what we may see this year due to the early blooming of many species. However, typically in mid-August, we might see mistflower, sneezeweed, swamp milkweed, great blue lobelia, fringed loosestrife, American water willow, green-headed coneflower, various early goldenrods and asters, and maybe a stray phlox or lizards tail still holding on. There are button bushes and nine-barks along the

stream and there is also a stand of big-tooth aspen. There may be species that surprise us. The creek offers the possible findings of pickerel, green, peeper and cricket frogs in addition to snakes, salamanders, turtles and birds. It also has some very cool rocks such as “wave” rocks and “designer” rocks made by water flow. The walk will terminate at the stand of Kentucky cane, where we will turn around and splash our way back to the house.

We use “walking sticks” to aid us in our blindness of depth perception in the creek (also slipperiness of the rocks) so you may want to bring one. If you do not have one we have extras and can find more as needed. Wear shoes that are sturdy and can get wet. Prepare your equipment, such as cameras or binoculars, in case of a slip or fall. The creek has pools deep enough to swim in but they can easily be avoided. If you’d like to stay and grill out please make an edible food contribution to share with the wildflower groupies. If we don’t see all we hoped for on the creek perhaps Judy’s mostly native gardens and the view will enhance your visit. There is an above ground pool for those who may want to skip the walk and just swim!

Please let Christine Hadley know if you will be attending at 513-850-9585 or [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net).

**Directions:** Take I-471 south to Route 27 south (the highway turns into US Route 27 upon entering Highland Heights). Follow Route 27 for approximately 25 miles, through Highland Heights, Cold Springs and Alexandria. The “new” highway goes down to one lane and you will pass A.J. Jolly Golf Course on the left. Stay on 27 a few more miles and turn right onto Kentucky Route 1936 (Clay Ridge Rd.). There is a Clark station at this intersection. Go to the first stop sign (at the Grants Lick Bar) and take a right onto Kenton Station Rd. (also Route 1936). Follow this to the next stop sign and go straight through it onto Boone-Smith Rd. (you will leave Route 1936 at this 3-way intersection). Take this to its end and turn left onto Pleasant Ridge Rd. The house is the 6<sup>th</sup> one on the left. It is a white double-wide with a split rail fence and a travel trailer in/along the driveway. The address is 12945 Pleasant Ridge Road, Alexandria, KY 41001. For a map from Cincinnati click [here](#) . Driving time from downtown Cincy is about 40 minutes. Hope to see ya’!!!

**Saturday, August 25, 2012, 10 am: Field Trip, *Visit to Eulett Center and Roadside Botanizing, Adams County, Ohio (Near West Union, Ohio)***

Most of us are familiar with the natural wonders of Adams County, including the 14,000-acre Edge of Appalachia Preserve owned and managed jointly by the Cincinnati Museum Center and The Nature Conservancy. The Eulett Center, which opened in 2008, is the Preserve’s newest addition. This beautiful, modern building overlooking the Ohio Brush Creek valley is used for scientific research and administrative purposes. The staff has kindly offered us a half-hour tour.

We will then head out to explore the amazingly varied plants that grow close to Adams County’s roadsides. We’re sure to see many unusual plants as we follow our leader, Vic Soukup. If you know you are coming, please contact Bob Bergstein at 513-477-4438 or [bbergstein@fuse.net](mailto:bbergstein@fuse.net). Please bring a lunch.

**Directions:** We will meet at the Eulett Center at 4274 Waggoner Riffle Road. From I-275 on the east side of Cincinnati take exit #63 to get onto OH-32 east. Drive 41 miles to OH-247 and turn right (south) at the traffic light, toward West Union. Drive 9.7 miles to OH-125 (Main Street) and turn left (east) at the traffic light. Drive 6.4 miles to Waggoner Riffle Road (immediately after crossing Ohio Brush Creek). Turn right (south) and drive 1.3 miles to the Eulett Center, on your left. Most cars can go up the very steep driveway, but you can also park at the bottom and walk up. Driving time from downtown Cincinnati is 1 hour and 35 minutes. For a map from downtown Cincy, click [here](#)

----- September 2012 -----

**Friday, September 14, 2012, 7:30 pm: *Member Photo Sharing Program, Avon Woods Nature Center***

Please bring your photos (on thumb drive or CD) and slides, to share with friends. We will have a digital projector and computer, and cookies and coffee, too. Come early, at 6:30 pm, and bring a picnic dinner, if you like. Call Bob Bergstein (513 477-4438) for computer information.

**Directions:** Avon Woods Nature Center is a Cincinnati City Park at 4235 Paddock Road, Cincinnati 45229. From the Norwood Lateral (SR #562), drive 0.9 mile south on Paddock to the Avon Woods Park driveway. Turn sharp right onto the drive next to the park sign (on the west side of Paddock) and go to the lodge at the end of the long dark drive. See page 2 for map.

**\*\* Saturday, September 15, 2012 : *Ohio Sustainable Landscape Symposium, Dawes Arboretum, Newark, Ohio***

Learn about the benefits of native plants, their importance to the green industry and practical approaches to sustainable landscaping at this exciting symposium! Featured speakers include: Allan M. Armitage, *Armitage's Native Plants for North American Gardens*; Charlotte Aldeman, *The Midwestern Native Garden*; and David Brandenburg, *National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to Wildflowers of North America*. See [www.dawesarb.org](http://www.dawesarb.org) for more info.

**\*\* Sunday, September 23, 2012, 10:00 a.m.: *Great Outdoor Weekend: Miami Whitewater Creek Walk, Miami Whitewater Forest, Hamilton County, Ohio* (note corrected date)**

Join hike leaders *extraordinaire* Wayne Wauligman and Denis Conover for this popular hands-on program and great family activity for the Great Outdoor Weekend sponsored by the Society. If Dry Fork Creek lives up to its name we will walk up the dry stream bed searching for riparian plants and exploring their relationships with a floodplain environment. With luck, we may find glacial relict trees from 12,000 years ago, now exposed by erosion. Be prepared once again to walk in shallow water.

This area has the highest local diversity of breeding birds, with 112 recorded species, more than most other blocks in the State, in the recently completed Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas. Insects, especially dragonflies and butterflies, will be abundant, along with fish, reptiles and amphibians.

**Directions:** Meet at the Miami Whitewater Forest Horse Trail Parking Lot along Mt. Hope Road near the bridge over Dry Fork Creek. This location is 500 yards south of the intersection of Dry Fork Road and New Haven Road.

**More specifically,** take I-74 west from Cincinnati to exit 3 (Dry Fork Road). Turn right at the bottom of the exit and drive 2.3 miles. Take slight right onto New Haven Road and drive 200 ft. Turn right on Mt. Hope Road and drive 0.3 miles to the Horse Trail Parking lot on your left. For a map click [here](#) , or for a park map click [here](#) . Driving time from downtown is 35 minutes.

Contact Christine Hadley at 513-850-9585 or [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net) if you have questions.

Look for the next newsletter coming in September.