

# 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 through September 2011

It's spring! I have been rained on while hiking this spring more often than not. We had excellent turnouts for the Caesar Creek and Richardson hikes. It was great to see the marsh marigold and skunk cabbage at Richardson. The Devil's Backbone hike in Clinton County held a nice surprise as we saw a variety of wildflowers and very clean woods at a site many of us hadn't known, along with the rare (for our area) American Columbo and Puttyroot Orchid. It always gives me such hope when I see special locations as this, preserved and protected by land owner Ed Terrell, under easement.

The CWFPS sponsored a silent auction at the Ohio Botanical Symposium to raise money to support Ohio's State Nature Preserves. We are happy to report that the auction was popular and raised \$579. DNAP appreciates the Society and those who supported the auction for helping during these difficult times.

DNAP also appreciated the Society sponsoring a last minute garlic mustard pull on April 30 at the Caesar Creek Nature Preserve. Thanks to everyone who helped with the garlic mustard pull and the Green-Up Day at Avon Woods.

Please note that the correct date for the Brookville field trip is Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Also, please note that Jim and Jean Husbands' annual July picnic has changed location to Shawnee Lookout. Please join the Husbands and the Society for a hike and potluck picnic.

I hope to see a few of you at our display during the extremely informative 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Midwest Native Plant Conference, which will be in Dayton in early July. Details below.

Hope to see you on the trail.

For the Society,  
Christine Hadley, President

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. Write the check to "Cincinnati Wild Flower Preservation Society" and mail to Rob Repasky, Treasurer, 488 Crestline Avenue #2, Cincinnati, OH 45205. We would love to have you. 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).

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.

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

Find map links to all of these events at our website, [www.cincywildflower.org](http://www.cincywildflower.org).

----- May 2011 -----

**Saturday, May 14, 10 am: Field Trip, Germantown MetroPark, Montgomery County, Ohio (West of Germantown, Ohio)**

"Germantown MetroPark is the most diverse and significant natural area managed by Five Rivers MetroParks. The size, quality, and age of the woodlands are exceptional. Steep topography and varied moisture gradients make for a variety of forest types and microhabitats surrounding the large Twin Creek Valley". We will be walking in the southern portion of the park in beautiful woodland with a great profusion of wildflowers. Vic Soukup, will be the hike leader. If you know you are coming, please contact Bob Bergstein at [bbergstein@fuse.net](mailto:bbergstein@fuse.net) or 513-477-4438. Please bring a lunch.

**Directions:** From Cincinnati, drive north on I-75 to OH-123 (exit #36). At the bottom of the exit, turn left onto OH-123 N and drive 1.2 miles to the traffic light at Riley Blvd. (road sign reads OH-123 N or truck). Turn right and drive 1.2 miles to the traffic light (road sign reads "123-N, Carlyle," also there is a transmission shop on this corner). Turn left to stay on OH-123 and drive 4.6 miles until OH-123 ends at Route 4. Turn right and drive 1 mile to the traffic light with a sign reading "OH-725, Germantown Business district". Turn left onto OH-725 and drive 3 miles to Conservancy Road. (Conservancy is the next street AFTER Creek Road.) Turn right on Conservancy and drive 1 mile to the parking lot on your left. Google driving time is about an hour.

Map link online at [www.cincywildflower.org](http://www.cincywildflower.org)

**Saturday, May 21, 10 am: Field Trip, Brookville Lake, Franklin County, Indiana**

Judy and Ray Komorowski will lead us on this two-mile hike along a nice trail that has a high diversity of beautiful spring wildflowers. At this time of year, the uncommon *Synandra hispidula* is locally abundant along this trail. The genus name *Synandra* comes from the Greek syn, "together" and andr, "man", in reference to the anthers that are joined in pairs. This plant is also called Guyandotte Beauty.

**Directions:** Take I-74 west to exit #169, Brookville/West Harrison. Take a left at the end of the ramp onto route US-52 west toward Brookville for 14.4 miles. The road forks here. Veer to the right onto IN-101 N for 2 miles to the Brookville Lake Overlook. Do not turn in! Continue for 0.3 of a mile to a nameless road on the left. There is a hike/bike sign on IN-101 just before you get there, and Barton's Bay Marine is across from the road entrance. Drive down to the parking lot (on left) at the end of the road.

There are no facilities at the trailhead, however, there are restrooms and plenty of picnic tables at both the overlook and the boat ramp area. Also, there is no fee in this section of the park. Please let Christine Hadley know if you will be attending at 513-850-9585 or [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net). If you think you're lost, call Ray Komorowski at 859-757-6093.

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----- June 2011 -----

**Saturday, June 4, 10 am: Field Trip, Boone Cliffs, Boone County, Kentucky**

Boone County Cliffs State Nature Preserve is named for its unusual 20- to 40-foot conglomerate "cliffs," situated in a pristine watershed and boasting a rich flora. Now managed jointly by the Boone County park system and the Kentucky State Nature Preserves system, Boone Cliffs contains 46 acres acquired by the Kentucky chapter of The Nature Conservancy as its first preserve. Steve Pelikan will lead us over the preserve's steep hills and dales, two miles of moderate to strenuous trail. Call 513 681-2574 for information.

**Directions:** Take I-75 south to exit #181, KY 18, Burlington/Florence. Turn right (west) onto KY 18, toward Burlington. Drive 10.5 miles to Middle Creek Road and turn left. Meet at the Nature Conservancy parking lot on Middle Creek Road, 2.1 miles, on the left. Estimated driving time from Cincinnati is 38 minutes.

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**Saturday, June 11, 12:00 pm: Field Trip, Mohican State Park, Clear Fork Gorge State Nature Preserve, Ashland County, Ohio (east of Mansfield, Ohio) and Brown's Lake Bog State Nature Preserve, Wayne County, Ohio**  
Stan Lockwood will lead us on a short hike through this preserve, which is one of the best remaining stands of white pine-hemlock forest in the state. This date and location have been chosen with a goal of seeing Large Round-leaved Orchids, *Platanthera orbiculata*. Mohican State Park is unusual in that it is a ridge that is higher than the surrounding area, which allowed it to remain an unglaciated peninsula that extended west out of the Appalachian Plateau.

Following this hike, we will proceed to Brown's Lake Bog. While only about 14 miles northeast of Mohican, Brown's Lake is a kettle lake sphagnum peat bog that was formed by a large chunk of glacial ice. It may be the southernmost example of such a community in Ohio. We should see many sphagnum bog plants from a board walk into this Preserve, and the time should be right to see Rose Pogonia orchids, *Pogonia ophioglossoides*.

**Directions:** From the junction of I-275 and I-71, it is about 170 miles. Allow up to 3 hours travel time. Go north on I-71 through Columbus toward Mansfield. Get off at Exit 165 for OH-97. Turn right (east) on OH-97 through Bellville and Butler. Stay on OH-97 for about 19 miles. OH-97 will end in the park at OH-3. OH-97 will actually enter Mohican State Park at about 15 miles. You will continue on OH-97 through Mohican S.P. for about 4 more miles to the east side of the Park. At OH-3, turn left (north). Go about a quarter mile and turn left (west) into the Mohican S.P. campground. Immediately turn left again and proceed to the picnic area where we are meeting. For those of you who use GPS, go to N40 36.587' W082 15.486'.

**We will depart for the hike at 12:00 pm.** If you want to pack a lunch to eat at the picnic area, arrive earlier. Also, Loudonville is just a couple miles north of the campground on OH Rt. 3, and there are a few restaurants there. There is also a lodge at Mohican State Park with a dining room. If you will be attending, contact Stan at home 513-385-8650 or stanlockwood@yahoo.com or cell on Saturday 513 375-7250.

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**Sunday, July 3, 1:00 pm: Field Trip, *Former Martin Marietta Quarry, Western Hamilton County, Ohio***

This site, managed by Hamilton County Parks (also known as Smith Tract County Park), is a former gravel quarry with lakes in the deeper quarry areas. The land is early in the process of returning to a more natural state. The open, rolling terrain with sandy-gravelly soil has many invasive plants such as the inflated-appearing Bladder Campion, but also several unusual native sedges. It's an interesting site and it's close to home; come explore it with our hike leader, Vic Soukup. Wear a hat or sunscreen. If you know you're coming, contact Bob Bergstein at 513-477-4438 or [bbergstein@fuse.net](mailto:bbergstein@fuse.net).

**Directions:** From I-275 in western Hamilton County, take the Kilby Road exit #21. Turn left (north) at the bottom of the exit and drive 1.7 miles. You will see a nice wooden split rail fence and spruce trees. Turn right into the driveway to park near the tan-colored building. Google driving time from Cincinnati is about 30 minutes.

Map link online at [www.cincywildflower.org](http://www.cincywildflower.org)

**\*\*Friday–Sunday, July 8-10: 3<sup>rd</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. The full weekend is \$150, which includes all meals, speakers, and field trips. Day passes are also available and cost less. The registration deadline is June 29. For more info, visit [www.midwestnativeplants.org](http://www.midwestnativeplants.org).

**Sunday, July 17, 11 am Hike, 1 pm Potluck Picnic (Note: site is changed) Shawnee Lookout Park, Hamilton County, Ohio**

Jim and Jean Husbands cannot host their annual picnic as usual. Instead, please join the Husbands and the Society on a hike and potluck picnic at Shawnee Lookout.

**Directions:** Take I-275 west to Kilby Road, exit #21. Turn right onto Kilby (south) for 1.3 miles. Turn right onto US-50 west for 1.7 miles. Turn left onto Lawrenceburg Road for 0.7 miles, then right to stay on Lawrenceburg for 1.5 miles. Turn left into Shawnee Lookout. Meet at the picnic area with the "Cincinnati Wild Flower" sign. Call 513-850-9585 if you can't find us.

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----- August 2011 -----

**Saturday, August 13, 10 am: Field Trip, *Hershner Reserve & CSX Prairie, Greene County, Ohio***

One of the most recent wetland additions to Greene County's preserve system. This unique site has been allowed to return to the original wet prairie it once was. A simple water grade control device was installed to allow subsequent flooding, encouraging the native habitat to return.

Don Geiger will lead us through this reserve where he and his volunteers have spent countless hours controlling invasives. Come listen to Don as he describes his battle against sweet flag and teasel. We will travel to CSX Prairie from Hershner. CSX Prairie is a great place to see if you have not been before. If you think you're lost, call Christine Hadley at 513-850-9585.

**Directions:** Take I-75 north toward Dayton to I-675N, exit #43. Follow I-675N for 13 miles to US-35 east, exit 13A. Follow US-35 E toward Xenia for 3.8 mi. to Shakertown Road. Turn right onto Shakertown Rd. Travel about 0.5 mi. and look for the Cincinnati Wild Flower sign on the right (north) side of the road. Map link online at [www.cincywildflower.org](http://www.cincywildflower.org).

**Saturday, August 27: 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. Google driving time from Cincinnati is 1 hour and 35 minutes.

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----- September 2011 -----

**Friday, September 9, 7:30 pm: *Member Photo Sharing Program, Avon Woods Nature Center***

The first program of our 2011–12 season at our usual meeting place. 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 9/10 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.

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**Sunday, September 25, 10 am, Great Outdoor Weekend, *Wildflowers and Wildlife Along (and in) the Whitewater River, Hamilton County, Ohio***

When other local parks are parched from drought, the Whitewater River corridor is green and alive. Starting at Campbell Lakes Preserve, our walk goes along and at times into the Whitewater, exploring the shore and the sandbars loaded with unusual plants, butterflies, dragonflies, and other insects. We'll also see herptiles, fish, and lots of birds—maybe even the eagles that nest there. Our guides, Wayne Wauligman and Denis Conover, will take us through water up to 18 inches deep in search of wildlife, so participants must be prepared to get wet.

**Directions:** Take I-74 to Dry Fork Rd. exit #3, turn left (south), cross over the highway, turn right on Harrison Avenue. Turn left on Kilby Road, right on Campbell Road to park entrance on left. Meet in the Campbell Lakes parking lot.

The address is 10431 Campbell Road, Harrison, OH 45030.

Map link online at [www.cincywildflower.org](http://www.cincywildflower.org)

Watch for your next newsletter in September.