

CINCINNATI  
WILD FLOWER  
PRESERVATION  
SOCIETY

100 Years  
1917-2017



## 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 September 2023 – December 2023

Hope you all enjoyed the summer and visited friends as well as new sites and wildflowers. I made some wonderful trips to AL, TN, NC, MI and NY that allowed me to meet lifers and visit friends that I have not seen for a while as well as making new friends. It is a joy to spend time with like-minded folks with a passion for nature and wildflowers.

With so many options for weekend events and field trip locations, some of us have struggled and discussed local events as usual; hopefully adding more structured weekday local events will appeal to folks. You will find me enjoying parks and preserves throughout the greater Cincinnati area and I invite you to join me for bimonthly Wednesday Wanders or be inspired to make time for some local sites on your own. While we are not adding these to the official schedule, you can find the sites on our website, <http://Cincywildflower.org>, or on our Facebook page events.

The past 12 months have been filled with new plant discoveries and additional lands dedicated as state nature preserves as well as ARC of Appalachia, Cardinal Land Conservancy and TNC acquisitions. Trails are being added, trail crews need volunteers and parks still need our help with invasive removal.

The board has decided to continue presenting speakers in a hybrid environment so you can enjoy remotely or join us in person! Check our website one week before events to register and receive the zoom link.

Hope to see you at a future event or on the trail.

For the Society,

Angela Carter, President, [amcarter@fuse.net](mailto:amcarter@fuse.net)

#### General Notes

We welcome visitors and guests. If you're not already a member, please consider joining the Society. Individual memberships are \$12; family memberships are \$20. Not only would we love to add you to our membership, but these modest fees provide our operating budget for the year. Write the check to "Cincinnati Wild Flower Preservation Society" and mail to Randy Johnson, Treasurer, 947 Volterra Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45206. There is now an option to join or renew your membership online at [cincywildflower.org](http://cincywildflower.org) and thank you for your support!

If you would like to receive e-mail reminders of events, write this on your membership form or email [bergstein123@gmail.com](mailto:bergstein123@gmail.com).

Most 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 0.9 mile south on Paddock to the Avon Woods Park driveway, which is in the middle of the Avon Fields 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 0.4 mile north of Paddock's intersection with Reading Road.

The December and March dinner programs will be held at the Gathering at Northern Hills, 460 Fleming Road, Cincinnati 45231.

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). We also have a Facebook page.

----- September 2023 -----

### **Saturday, Sept. 2, 2023 at 11am: Jean's Glade, Madison County, Ky**

Jean's Glade is a private location where dozens of the endangered cream gentian, *Gentiana alba*, bloom. Ann Longworth will host our visit to her gentian patch which is the second largest population in Kentucky. Her plot, containing 189 species of other native plants as well, was the subject of a published scientific study of the imperiled flower. She has maintained the appropriate environment for these wildflowers to flourish for over 20 years. This is an extraordinary private property and our host will be providing some refreshments so please RSVP to Angela Carter at [amcarter@fuse.net](mailto:amcarter@fuse.net) or 513-300-2787 by Friday, September 1st. We will meet off I-75 and caravan and/or carpool depending on interest and number of attendees. Driving directions will be provided upon registration. Note the later starting time due to the flowers opening at midday.

### **Friday, September 8, 2023 at 7:30 pm: Members' 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, tea, and snacks, too. Come early, at 6:30 pm, and bring a picnic dinner, if you like. Call Bob Bergstein at 513-477-4438 for computer information. Zoom available also.

----- October 2023 -----

### **\*\* Sunday, Oct. 1, 2023 at 10am Great Outdoor Weekend: Howard Creek Walk at Miami Whitewater Forest, Hamilton Co, OH**

Great Outdoor Weekend(s) will now run throughout the year. Most of these free events are currently for **Sept 23 and 24** but ours will be on Sunday Oct 1. Go to <https://www.greatoutdoorweekend.org/featured-events> for details of our event (and all the others). On our Howard Creek Hike, we walk in the creek, looking for fish, frogs, etc; and is for *only for families with kids*. This is our Society's only event oriented totally for families, whether members or not. RSVP to Bob Bergstein at [Bergstein123@gmail.com](mailto:Bergstein123@gmail.com) 513-477-4437

### **Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023 at 10am: Hazeldell Meadow, Pulaski County, KY**

Please join Dave Kuehner who will lead us through Hazeldell Meadow. Hazeldell Meadow Nature Preserve is Kentucky's only protected Highland Rim Wet Barrens, a rare ecological community that does not occur anywhere in Ohio. It is a unique type of prairie that possesses characteristics of both a grassland and a wetland. It is about two acres in size. It was originally purchased by The Nature Conservancy and is currently owned by Pulaski County. We will see the gorgeous Soapwort Gentian, *Gentiana saponaria*, an endangered species in Ohio found only in the Oak Openings. We will also target Nodding Ladies'-tresses, *Spiranthes cernua*, as well as Dwarf Sundew, *Drosera brevifolia*, Kentucky's only carnivorous plant species. Hazeldell is Kentucky's only known site for this diminutive rarity which occurs nowhere in Ohio. We should also see Bushy Bluestem, *Andropogon glomeratus*; Flat Topped Aster, *Doellingeria umbellata*; Roudleaf Thoroughwort, *Eupatorium rotundifolium*, as well as other unique species.

This is an easy to moderate field trip since there are no trails once we enter the meadow. Plan on packing water, snacks and a potential lunch since this is approximately 2.5 hours from Cincinnati.

Please contact Angela Carter, [amcarter@fuse.net](mailto:amcarter@fuse.net) or 513-300-2787, for directions or if you have any questions.

### **Friday, October 13, 2023 at 7:30 pm: Lecture Program, Avon Woods Nature Center (and by Zoom) "Rare Encounters in Southern Ohio" by John Howard**

Join John Howard for a guided tour of some of the unusual and rare plants and animals of southern Ohio. From obscure tiny mustards to showiest of orchids, from tiny insects to timber rattlesnakes, this presentation will take you through many habitats and show many of the things that few people ever get to see. As always, you will the opportunity to meet our speaker afterwards, and the refreshments are great. Google maps knows the location Avon Woods Nature Center, 4235 Paddock Road. Use 4235 Paddock for Apple maps.

**\*\* Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 9 am-noon: Give Back Day, Honeysuckle Blitz at Caesar Creek Nature Center, Warren County, Ohio**

Janet Lasley was one of the founders of the Dayton Area Wild Ones and its first president. Her sudden and unexpected death in January was a tremendous loss to our community. Janet was involved in our community in many ways, but what gave her the most satisfaction was the volunteer work she did at the Caesar Creek Nature Center. To honor her memory, a major renovation of the grounds at the Caesar Creek Nature Center is underway. Join the Cincinnati Wild Flower Preservation Society, the Dayton Area Wild Ones and other supporting groups as we remove invasives to assist this project. Lunch will be provided.

RSVP to Christine Hadley at 513-850-9585 or [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net).

**Directions:** Meet at the Caesar Creek Nature Center at 4006 Pioneer Village Road, Waynesville, OH 45068. Take I-71 to Wilmington Road (exit 36). Head east on Wilmington Road. Take the first left onto Olive Branch Road (crossing over I-71). Take the first right onto Jeffrey Road. At the first stop sign, turn right onto Oregonia Road. Turn left onto Pioneer Village Road following the signs to the Caesar Creek Nature Center.

**\*\* Sunday, October 29, 9 am-noon: Give Back Day, 15th Annual Honeysuckle Blitz at Caesar Creek U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gorge Spillway Tail Water Area, Warren County, Ohio**

Join the Cincinnati Wild Flower Preservation Society, Cincinnati Wild Ones, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and supporters as we sponsor this volunteer effort in its 15th year to help remove that invasive alien, bush honeysuckle, from the Caesar Creek Lake Spillway Tail Water area.

Come help your friends and kindred spirits continue the protection of this natural treasure. One of the area's prime features is a gorge formed by glacial meltwaters cutting down through the bedrock. Steep walls formed, rising 180 feet above the river, with more than two miles of Caesar Creek flowing through the gorge. We will be working in the diverse habitat of this natural area, which features heavily wooded hillsides above the gorge of beech, maple, hickory, oak and a luxuriant herbaceous-flora-covered floodplain. The Cincinnati Wild Ones have been working in this area for the past 14 years with a very positive impact to wildflower diversity.

**This is a terrific social, educational and work activity, with a great lunch provided.**

Your RSVP is greatly appreciated. Please contact Christine Hadley at email [christinehadley@earthlink.net](mailto:christinehadley@earthlink.net) or at 513-850-9585, for more information. Chainsaw & steel blade trimmer operators must be pre-registered.

Bring your favorite tools: gloves, loppers, saws, trimmers, and protective gear for power equipment. We will provide tools & safety equipment to volunteers new to honeysuckle removal. Stump treatment will be furnished.

**Directions:** Meet at the Gorge parking lot off Clarksville Road. Take I-71 to Wilmington Road (exit 36). Head east on Wilmington Road. Take the first left onto Olive Branch Road (crossing over I-71). Take the first right onto Jeffrey Road. At the first stop sign, take Oregonia Road; jog right and then jog left onto Clarksville Road. Follow across the dam, turn left at the gorge sign, and drive to the parking lot. We'll meet near the gorge shelter. (Note: if you're looking at Google Maps, our parking area is called Caesar Creek Fishing Pier. DO NOT go to the state nature preserve area off Corwin Road.) Look for signs directing you to the event.

----- November 2023 -----

**Friday, November 10, 2023 at 7:30 pm: Lecture Program, Avon Woods Nature Center (and by Zoom)  
*"Lighting up the Shadows: Fireflies in the Midwest"* by Matthew Speights.**

Learn the illuminating science of firefly biology, taxonomy, behavior and conservation. Matthew will describe common local species as well as his research and field work, while also discussing conservation issues, site management and tourism. As always, you will the opportunity to meet our speaker afterwards, and the refreshments are great.

**Directions-** Google maps knows the location Avon Woods Nature Center, 4235 Paddock Road. Use 4235 Paddock for Apple maps.

**Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 9 am: Give Back Day, Hazelwood Botanical Preserve**

Join us to help eradicate invasive bush honeysuckle in the preserve. Volunteers need to bring their gloves, loppers, and other implements of destruction. Spray bottles with glyphosate will be furnished. Dress appropriately for the weather.

The Harris M. Benedict Nature Preserve, aka Hazelwood Botanical Preserve, owned by the University of Cincinnati Department of Biological Sciences, was designated a National Natural Landmark in 1977 by the Department of the Interior for the study of plants and animals in eastern deciduous forests. This preserve, unique for its location and diverse habitat, has a wonderful mature forest. Interestingly, Harris Benedict was chair of the UC Botany Department at the time of his death in 1928, when a streetcar struck his auto. Benedict was E. Lucy Braun's doctoral advisor. Braun studied Hazelwood.

Many of the mature trees were destroyed by the lethal April 9, 1999, F4 tornado, drastically altering the landscape. Although our members have successfully removed honeysuckle here for 16 years, the honeysuckle experienced a great resurgence after the tornado opened the forest canopy to sunlight.

For more information, contact Christine Hadley at 513-850-9585 or christinehadley@earthlink.net.

**Directions:** From I-71, take exit #15 (Pfeiffer Rd). Drive east for 0.7 mile. Turn left (north) on Deerfield Road for 0.8 mile to the "T". Turn left (west) STILL on Deerfield Rd. for 0.1 mile. Meet at the Johnson Nature Preserve parking lot on the right. Google maps knows the address 10840 Deerfield Road, Montgomery, Ohio. Driving time from downtown Cincinnati is 20 minutes.

**\*\*Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 10am: Give Back Day, Avon Woods Nature Preserve**

This preserve is only 15 minutes from downtown Cincinnati. Your assistance on this project directly benefits our Society, since we now have a written agreement allowing our use of Avon Wood Nature Center for five meetings per year in exchange for our volunteer hours working in Avon Woods (and other Cincinnati Parks). There is a new program to train (and test) volunteers about invasive identification. More about this will be posted on our website soon. Google maps knows the location Avon Woods Nature Center, 4235 Paddock Road.

----- December 2023 -----

**\*\*Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 10am: Give Back Day, Avon Woods Nature Preserve**

This preserve is only 15 minutes from downtown Cincinnati. Your assistance on this project directly benefits our Society, since we now have a written agreement allowing our use of Avon Wood Nature Center for five meetings per year in exchange for our volunteer hours working in Avon Woods (and other Cincinnati Parks). See more info at the similar event on November 19.

**Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 3:00 pm: Annual Hardy Souls' Hike, Triple Creek Park, Hamilton County, Ohio (followed by the holiday potluck and program)**

Join us for a winter hike at Triple Creek, a Hamilton County Park. Angela Carter will lead us on this 0.8-mile moderate trail that takes you past a prairie and through a beautiful, mature forest. We will meet in the parking lot next to Triple Creek Pond and the address for Triple Creek is 2700 Buell Road, Cincinnati, OH 45251

**After the hike you may proceed to the Gathering at Northern Hills (only 15 minutes away), at 460 Fleming Road. Wine and fellowship at 5:15; dinner at 5:45.** Bring a dish of your choice: appetizer, main or side dish, or dessert.

**Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm: Lecture, Gathering at Northern Hills (and by Zoom)  
"Connect the Dots: Plant Diversity, Pollinators, & Pest Management" by Joe Boggs**

Protecting plant pollinators is commonly viewed as just an insecticide issue. However, how does the abundance of flowering plants translate into fewer plant pests? How do pollinators themselves play a critical role in the reduced need for insecticides? Pest management and plant pollinators are two sides of the same coin in urban landscape ecosystems. This presentation reveals the multi-layered connections between pollen, nectar, and a parade of unsung insect heroes that can keep pests in check in the gardens of the future.

**Next Newsletter will be available in January 2024**