

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

Newsletter for January 2024 – April 2024

As I'm starting to write this, Cincinnati is experiencing below freezing temperatures and I'm feeling a typical winter yearning for the spring ephemeral wildflowers, which are my favorites (along with our native orchids). Of course, the urge to get out into the field has increased as I have been going through photos on Facebook, when creating events for the Society; and reflecting on the upcoming treasures that we will see this year, both locally and further afield. Ohio continues to have outstanding plant discoveries and you may help discover something new or different by being curious, taking photos and uploading to iNaturalist. The weather may bring an early spring for the plants as well, from the Facebook posts that I have seen as well as my own after-work wanders.

As promised, I have worked on some local sites for us to visit on Wednesdays. Please join me on these casual "Wednesday Wanders" to see how the spring wildflowers progress; I anticipate a 4:45-5pm start on the trail depending on traffic. Contact me at the email below with any questions about the meeting place or time.

Wednesday Wanders					
March	20	Newberry Wildlife Sanctuary	April	17	Richardson Forest Preserve
March	27	California Woods	May	1	Buttercup Valley
April	3	Bender Mountain	May	8	Miami Whitewater
April	10	Caldwell Nature Preserve			

I am excited about the new preserves and additional acreage acquired by ODNR, Arc of Appalachia, AOA, and our local land trusts. We hope to visit one of these new sites, when possible, on each schedule, as well as bringing back some member favorites. As always, I would appreciate your comments and interests on past or future events and here's to encountering new and old friends along the trail.

For the Society,

Angela Carter, President, 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 an option to join or renew your membership online at cincywildflower.org and as always 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.

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. We also have a Facebook page.

----- January 2024 -----

Friday, Jan. 12, 2024 7:30 pm Lecture Program, Avon Woods Nature Center (& Zoom)
"The Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub: More Ways to Recycle in the Queen City" by Colleen McSwiggin, Director

We all recognize the value of protecting our environment. One positive action we each can do every day is to reuse and recycle. The Cincinnati Reuse and Recycling Hub is one of the best kept secrets in Cincinnati. Come learn who they are, a little bit about their history, what they do, what they accept and their impact, as well as their plans for the future! Their facility is located southwest of Union Terminal. Their website is <https://www.cincinnati recyclingandreusehub.org>

----- February 2024 -----

Sunday Feb. 4, 2024 at 11:30 am, Indoor Tour "Nature in Art" – Free Guided Tour at the Cincinnati Art Museum

Nature (including flowers and plants) plays a major role in the world's art, just as it does in people's lives and the world's diverse cultures. Landscapes, both peaceful and dramatic. Still lifes, flowers and all. Ceramics and decorative arts including from Asian to American Rockwood. Nature is everywhere in the artwork at the Cincinnati Art. Join us for this hour long docent-guided tour, as our guides show us some examples in the variety of art at the Cincinnati Art Museum.

RSVP required for Tour and optional Lunch - Contact Bob Bergstein at Bergstein123@gmail.com or 513-477-4438 and he will confirm your spot on the tour and optional lunch.

Friday, Feb. 9, 2024 7:30 pm: Lecture Program, Avon Woods Nature Center (& Zoom)

"Masters of Deception: Non-Photosynthetic Plants of Southeast Ohio" by Matthew Klooster

Join us via Zoom or in person for a fascinating presentation about *Monotropa* and relatives and a general discussion about non-photosynthetic plants of the region, their biology, and traditional uses!

Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024 2pm RSVP (Limited to 14)

Richardson Forest Preserve, Hamilton Co, OH

Join Angela Carter and Nick Ludwig to one of our favorite locations to view one of the first wildflowers to bloom. This trail features a stream crossing along the forested pathway of the preserve so plan on bringing a hiking stick as well as wearing rubber or waterproof boots since the water levels may be close to or above your ankle. Due to the rocky creek crossing, this is considered a moderate trail. Directions and confirmation will be sent via email. Please contact Angela Carter, amcarter@fuse.net or 513-300-2787, if you have any questions and register by 2/16/24.

----- March 2024 -----

Friday, March 8, 2024: Potluck, Annual Meeting & Lecture, The Gathering at Northern Hills, 460 Fleming Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231

Come to any part or all of the annual meeting that will also be available via Zoom. Contact Bob at Bergstein123@gmail.com for the zoom link.

5:15 pm Appetizers and fellowship

5:45 pm Covered dish potluck dinner

7:00 pm Annual Meeting and Program

“Biodiversity Collapse and the Future of the Eastern Deciduous Forest Biome”

Dr. Walter Carson

As part of a new research initiative, Dr. Carson's lab has surveyed 20 old-growth forests remnants across Pennsylvania to evaluate whether these systems are threatened with biodiversity collapse. Their findings show that these systems, once thought to represent examples of primeval forest, are on a successional pathway leading to near mono-dominance.

Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 10 am: Versailles State Park, Ripley County, Indiana

Versailles State Park is Indiana's second-largest state park and snow Trilliums are very rare and local in almost all of the 16 states in which it occurs. Nick Ludwig and Angela Carter will lead you on part of the Creekside Trail for the smallest of trilliums, and other wildflowers along the trail. Indiana State Park fees are \$7 In-State Daily Entrance and \$9 Out-of-State Daily Entrance. Plan on meeting at the Schimmerhorn Shelter parking lot.

Please contact Angela Carter, amcarter@fuse.net or 513-300-2787, if you have any questions.

----- April 2024 -----

Saturday April 6, 2024 at 10 am: Kamama Prairie, Adams County, OH

John Howard will guide us along the trail in search of some of the early and rare mustards (Michaux's gladecress, *L. uniflora*, and *Draba* spp.) found in Ohio. Afterwards we may go down to the Ohio River to view early woodland wildflowers.

Please bring water and a lunch or snacks since you may want to spend the day visiting the numerous preserves in the area. Cell reception may be spotty; contact Angela Carter at 513-300-2787 or amcarter@fuse.net if you have questions and plan on attending before the field trip.

<https://www.arcofappalachia.org/kamama-prairie>

Saturday, April 13, 2024 at 10 am: Quiverheart Gorge Preserve, Adams County, OH

Marjie Becus and Ann Geise will lead us on the 2-mile loop Quiverheart Trail in this new Arc of Appalachia Preserve with a profusion of wildflowers. We'll first hike down into the large scenic gorge and along one side of the stream. Crossing the stream we'll hike up and along the ridge on the other side. We will be hiking a narrow, rocky and possibly muddy trail amidst numerous wildflowers and various habitats. Bring your lunch, and we'll stop and eat along the trail.

Directions: From I-275 take exit 63 onto OH-32 E/State Rte 32 E towards Batavia for 51 miles to Steam Furnace Rd. on your right. Go 2.3 miles on Steam Furnace Rd and find the Quiverheart parking lot on the right just past the Black Diamond Country Store.

Sunday, April 14, 2024, 11 am: Kope Hollow Nature Preserve, Brown County, OH

Dan Boone will guide us through Kope Hollow, one of Cardinal Land Trust's newest preserves, that he has been surveying with over 150 species. This will be a moderate hike through mesophytic woods with waterfalls. You will have an opportunity to brush up on tree, grass and sedge ID and we hope to see Miami Mist and wild hyacinth in bloom. <https://cardinallandconservancy.org/kope-hollow-nature-preserve/>

Please RSVP and contact Angela Carter at 513-300-2787 or amcarter@fuse.net if you have questions.

Directions: Follow I-75S or I-71S to I-471 S. After 4.9 miles stay left to take exit 1A for I-275E toward Columbus/Ohio.US-52. Drive 3.9 miles and take exit 71 for US-52 toward New Richmond. Continue straight onto US-52 and drive 30 miles to 5051 US-52; Kope Hollow will be on your left. Google maps knows the address “Kope Hollow Nature Preserve, 5051 US, US-52, Ripley, OH 45162”

Saturday to Sunday, April 27 - 28, 2024: Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area

Please join naturalist, Dave Kuehner, on one or both days. Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area encompasses 125,000 acres of the naturally beautiful and biologically diverse Cumberland Plateau in Kentucky and Tennessee. It is characterized by scenic gorges, waterways, sandstone bluffs and impressive natural features. It is a splendid area for botanizing. The native flora is plentiful and diverse, including plants not found in Ohio.

We will seek out wildflowers along the Angel Falls and Leatherwood Ford trails on Saturday and along the Burnt Mill Bridge Trail on Sunday. We will target the following species: Pink Azalea, *Rhododendron periclymenoides*; Gaywings, *Polygala paucifolia*; Eastern Sweetshrub, *Calycanthus floridus*; Sweet Betsy, *Trillium cuneatum*; Shrub Yellowroot, *Xanthorhiza simplicissima*; Mountain meadow-rue, *Thalictrum clavatum*; Box Huckleberry, *Gaylussacia brachycera*; Dwarf Ginseng, *Panax trifolius*; Dutchman's Pipe, *Aristolochia macrophylla*; and many, many others.

Accommodations are available in Oneida, TN. We will meet at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center, accessible from TN-297 and 15 miles west of Oneida. Please allow 4 hrs from Cincinnati with start times of 10am. RSVP and contact Angela Carter at 513-300-2787 or amcarter@fuse.net with questions.

----- May 2024 -----

Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 10 am: Caesar Creek Gorge State Nature Preserve, Warren County, OH

Marjie Becus will guide us on the trails and areas within the Caesar Creek Gorge SNP in the area just below the dam, down the Access Road off Clarksville Road. This is the opposite end of the preserve from where we have been pulling garlic mustard and one of the best natural woodlands with a fantastic display of spring ephemerals near Cincinnati. It is a moderately strenuous hike with hills. This is the location where we have partnered with Debi Wolterman for 15 years of our Autumn Give Back Days removing invasive bush honeysuckle in the Gorge. *Now we get to enjoy the results of our work.*

Directions: From I-71 N Take Exit 28 for OH-48 N toward Lebanon Raceway/Lebanon. The road name changes to US-42 N BYP. Turn right onto US-42 N and go north for 7 miles. When you come into the town of Waynesville, turn right at the light, onto State Route 73 E. Drive one mile and turn right onto Clarksville Rd. Proceed for 2.5 miles to the entrance of Caesar Creek State Park on your left, continue 700 ft past this road and take the Caesar Creek Gorge Access Road to the right. Drive to the end and park in the parking lot, where we will meet. If on Clarksville Rd., you get to the fossil area, you've gone too far. Google maps knows this location as Caesar Creek Fishing Pier.

Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 9 am–noon: Give Back Day, Garlic Mustard Pull at Caesar Creek Gorge State Nature Preserve on Corwin Road, Warren County, Ohio

Join us to pull the invasive garlic mustard plant, which is easy to recognize and yank out of the ground. No experience is necessary. We want to help DNAP (Ohio Division of Natural Areas and Preserves) preserve this lovely area where so much work has already been done on the bush honeysuckle. Bring gloves and enthusiasm. We'll furnish bags.

Note that we will be working at the Caesar Creek GORGE STATE NATURE PRESERVE and NOT the nearby Caesar Creek STATE PARK. Meet in the parking lot. The address is 4080 Corwin Rd., Oregonia, OH 45054. Contact Christine Hadley at 513-850-9585 or christinehadley@earthlink.net if you have any questions. Google maps knows the location as Caesar Creek Gorge State Nature Preserve, 4080 Corwin Rd, Oregonia, OH 45054.

Next Newsletter will be available in May 2024