



GARDEN SCOOP

WGC

June 18 Potluck/Plant Exchange

10:30 a.m. at the Clague Cabin in Clague Park. *The Cabin is close to the Hilliard entrance to Clague Park.* The date and time are as usual: *third Wednesday of the month* at 10:30 a.m. See article, this page.

Pollinator Garden Team

Wednesday June 25

Pollinator Garden: weeding and dividing, **Community Center 9:00 a.m.** Come, join our team!

Board Meeting

Wednesday July 2 in the Westlake Room, **Porter Public Library (upstairs) 10:30 a.m.** All are welcome. Board meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of the month, 10:30 a.m. at Porter.

Dean's Greenhouse Fundraiser

May 1 to June 30. Support your garden club by mentioning WGC before they ring your sale.

WESTLAKE IN BLOOM

July 6 to July 10. See page 2.

Potluck and Plant Exchange Wednesday, June 18, 2025

Please come to enjoy a potluck picnic at the Cabin in Clague Park. It will be a time for fellowship and good food.

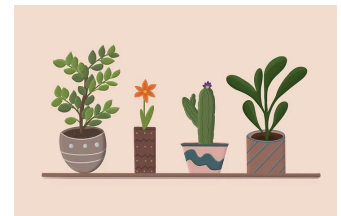
We will also have an opportunity to exchange those perennials that need dividing for something new and different from a fellow member's garden. No garden space these days? —how about exchanging a houseplant or even some gently used plant pots?

For the potluck:

- **Bring a dish to share** along with **serving utensils.**
- Bring a non-alcoholic **beverage.**
- Water and tableware will be provided.

For the exchange:

- Bring **1-4 plants** that you love in your garden.
- Please label them with the plant name, sun or shade, and also your name. When it looks gorgeous in someone else's garden, they will want to thank you.
- First choice goes to those who bring plants to exchange but if you don't have plants, there are often some left for you to take.



The Revolutionary Generation and How They Gardened

Do you know someone who gets up at 5 a.m. to explore their garden on horseback or better yet, a gardener who has dug a 10 foot ditch to keep out wild animals?

Actually, we all do. The early riser was George Washington and the ditch digger was Thomas Jefferson. Thanks to **Marge Emblom's** thorough presentation in

May, we learned a lot about our founding fathers as gardeners who used innovative farming methods, both aesthetic and useful, to express the freedom of our new country. Marge's talk was based on the book, Founding Gardeners by Andrea Wulf. It is available online at both the Cuyahoga County and Westlake Porter libraries. Many thanks to Marge for a fascinating talk.

2025 Westlake in Bloom

Westlake in Bloom is the week after July 4th, **July 6-10**. Judges work in 2-3 person teams, from a checklist, and teams may schedule their own times and days to visit the gardens. Interested in volunteering to be a judge or have questions? Reach out to Deb Dougherty for more information (deb dougherty2771@yahoo.com, (440-506-0237) Judges get a first-hand up-close look at some of the beautiful hidden gems of gardening in the City of Westlake.



Trees for our Westlake Canopy

The City of Westlake has some leftover saplings from their Arbor Day project last month. These are nice trees to improve Westlake’s canopy. I participated and was surprised that these were 4 ft saplings—I had expected something in a zip-loc bag! The remaining trees are predominately oaks. Interested? Contact Deb Dougherty (440) 506-0237 or deb dougherty2771@yahoo.com

P. S. Oak, a keystone species, supports more life-forms, including fungi, insects, birds and mammals, than any other North American tree genus.



Weeding Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Pollinator Patch Update/Invitation

Many of you have responded to our need for help in the pollinator gardens and we so appreciate your efforts. A shout out to **Bill Hock, Deb Dougherty, Mary Ann and Rich Coblentz, Linda Freeman, Brenda Klein, Kathleen Maciuszko, Sylvia Sherma, Debra Stewart and Lavinia Cozmin**. The Clague garden beds are in good shape. We do need to keep at it as the rain and cooler spring have been great for all of our plants and that does include the undesirable ones.

The last few times the group finished in about an hour to an hour and a half. It is not a huge commitment of time but an important one. Of course, the more hands the quicker the work goes. You are free to come and leave at will. Every pair of hands helps to beautify our 3 gardens. The gathering is a nice way to get to know other members as chatting is encouraged. You might also learn a thing or two about plants and take away a few gardening tips. Next time: **Wednesday, June 25, 9 a.m. Meet at the Community Center.**



Mary Ann, Kathy, Brenda, Linda & Kathleen, photo by Deb, 06.04.25

Welcome New Members, Brenda and Sasha



Brenda Klein and **Sasha Goodman** have recently joined the club. We hope to introduce them at the next event. Brenda found out about the Westlake club at the Rain n' Garden Show in April and has already been a major help in the care of our pollinator gardens. Sasha lives in Westlake and has known about the club for a while. She enjoys all types of gardening: edibles, perennials, and natives. She is also interested in incorporating edibles with ornamentals. Brenda and Sasha, we are delighted to have you in the group.

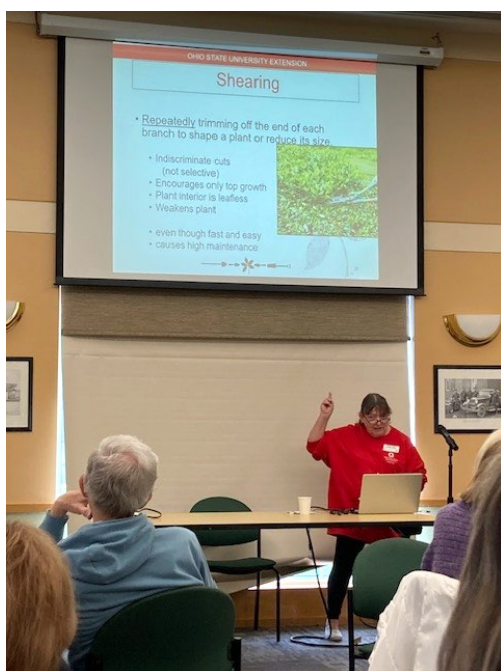
April Meeting

Pruning Plants: Why, When and How

Master gardener, Sue Gold, had a full-house audience for her presentation on pruning in April. The timely topic as well as effective publicity by Teri Lyons brought in many non-members who had specific questions about their own gardens. Sue's talk included her top ten tips for pruning, maintenance pruning, general guidelines and how to disinfect & clean garden tools. A few of the most essential take-aways from the presentation are:

- Only prune when you have to —make sure that there is a good reason for the pruning.
- Avoid shearing.
- Be aware that plants will always try to reach their natural size—don't plant what doesn't fit.

Sue gave good illustrations on actual pruning cuts and explained in detail when and how to do it. The Master Gardeners are a great resource for all of us. You may consult them via hotline from April to October (216-429-8200) or website, <cuyahogamg.org>.



Thanks to all who brought food to our April and May meetings. Marge and Carolyn provided the snacks in April and Mary Ann and Linda treated us in May. A few others dropped off some extra goodies. Thank you! As you can see above, we have been well fed.

Western Reserve Historical Society Tour May 22, 2025

Besides gardening with a passion, **Linda Freeman** also volunteers at the Western Reserve Historical Society Research Library where she helps people who are doing research in genealogy. The tour that Linda arranged for us in May was outstanding. **Ann Sindelar**, Acting Library Director and Reference Supervisor, guided us through the library, showed us collections and stacks not normally open to the public, and also gave an overview of the Cleveland History Center.

In the research library, we were able to peruse garden-themed collections that were specially selected for our gardening group. There were documents about the Cleveland Cultural Gardens, flower shows of the past and old nursery and seed catalogs. We were even able to check out some Cleveland Street Directories from 1921 and 1931 and find the names of some of our own relatives. The Cleveland History Center had some fascinating exhibits on Cleveland as well as the old Euclid Beach Carousel, two historic mansions and the Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum. It was a lovely day out with garden club friends and we learned a lot. Thank you, Linda.



CBG Cleveland Botanical Garden Holiday Show

Summer has barely begun and we are already thinking ahead to Frost, the Cleveland Botanical Garden holiday show. Westlake Garden Club is participating by making a wreath as we have for the past 2 years. Linda Freeman has offered to chair the group and has already come up with a few good ideas. The theme this year is **Changing Seasons** “centering around anthropomorphized seasonal forces”. The wreath is due before Thanksgiving and we already have one ready to trim. Our WGC specific theme is “Whispers of Spring” Below are some photos that will be used as inspiration pieces. Please help out by saving pinecones, especially the round, fatter ones or the very small ones. There will be a craft day announced as the design is finalized and we are closer to the time of making the wreath.



Affiliate Day at the Cleveland Botanical Garden

At the spring affiliate meeting the new president and CEO of Holden Forests and Gardens, Edward Moydell, gave an overview of the history of the Botanical Gardens. He also told about the goals of the administration and how it changes to meet the current needs. As you probably know, some of the priorities include research, collections and engaging the public. The second half of the program was a presentation by the head of horticulture at the Cincinnati Zoo, Scott Beuerlein. He is a top notch speaker and very knowledgeable horticulturist. The gardens there have won many nationwide awards. It was a very entertaining morning.

Sally Knurek

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET that we get a 20% cut of anything that you purchase from **Dean's** in Westlake. This is a good fundraiser for us. Remember to mention the club **before** the sale is rung. This offers goes until the end of June.

It takes the same amount of work to care for 10 plants as it does for 20, so go ahead and get 50. That's plant math. . . . found on Facebook.