



EDELWEISS NEWS

Gardeners of the Bluffton Pandora Area

April 27, 2016

Phenology:

This month we will be having a presentation on phenology by Hancock County Master Gardener Bill Jones. Bill maintains the Phenology Garden for the O.S.U. Extension in Hancock Co. and keeps the records on when things occur in the garden. This is important in that we need to know when things happen so we can do what needs to be done in a timely manner. Phenology records show us how the climate and its ever fluctuating changes affect plants and animals of our area.

I don't know how many times that I have been asked when someone should do something like spray for certain insects, or when it would be safe to plant. Through phenology we should be able to know when insects will emerge and at what growth stage they are properly control them.

If you would like to learn about phenology please come to the Bluffton Public Library on Tuesday May 3, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room. This meeting is free and open to the public so feel free to invite anyone who you think would like to learn about this interesting subject

Bees:

Dwight Wilson gave us a good presentation on honeybees at our April 5th meeting. Honeybees are our major pollinators of fruits and vegetables. Bees produce honey which is made by concentrating nectar with the removal of water in the gut of the bees. Bees also gather pollen which they use as food, but they are so efficient in their gathering that Dwight can harvest it and make it available to those who use it as a supplement. Bees also produce a product called propolis that is used for its medicinal qualities.



Spring Beauties are a sign that the season is progressing beautifully.

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EAGLES vs CROWS:

Thursday April 21 I was finishing up with the morning chores when I heard that unmistakable scream of an eagle. I look up toward the sky where I had heard the eagle and I saw it attempting to land in the honey locust that is next to the Riley Creek. As soon as it landed it was instantly mobbed by a half dozen crows. The eagle took flight after about five minutes but did not leave the area. The Bald Eagle made several low level passes over the Riley as if it were looking at something maybe a fish. All the while the crows kept up their mobbing. After about ten minutes the eagle left but the crows didn't.



Intelligent and now common. They know what they want and they generally get it eventually. Some would say they are a nuisance, but I think not.

2016 Calendar:

Here is the calendar for the upcoming year:

3/1/2016	Seed Starting	presented by Ann Boyd	at the Bluffton Public Library	Done
4/5/2016	Bees	not confirmed yet	at the Bluffton Public Library	Done
5/3/2016	Phenology	presented by MG Bill Jones	at the Bluffton Public Library	
6/7/2016	Roses	presented by Charles Searson	17689 CR 65, Belle Center, OH car pool	
7/5/2016	Co-op Garden	tour Ray Person	Ray's farm	
8/2/2016	Hyper-tufa	Group project	Victoria's farm 7896 Cool Rd	
8/21/2016	Garlic Festival	Field Trip!!!	Jandy's farm Bellefontaine OH	
9/6/2016	Dahlias	Tour of Ken Redd's Dahlias	Pandora, carpool from Family Dollar parking lot	
10/4/2016	Hydrangeas	presented by MG Tim Staley	at the Bluffton Public Library	
11/1/2016	Dried Arrangements	Group project	at the Bluffton Public Library	
12/6/2016	Fall FEAST	Potluck	at the Bluffton Public Library 1 hot 1 cold, optional gift swap	

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