



CZBG

Garden Gazette

April 2019

Welcome to this month's
Horticulture Volunteer Newsletter!

◆ **Hotline**

513-559-8307

◆ **Email**

natasha.dobias@cincinnati-zoo.org

Save the Dates

Thursday, April 4 - 12:30-2:00

First Thursday Education Session, Maple Syrup, Safari Lodge

Tuesday, April 16 - 5:30-8:30

Twilight 'N Tulips, Tickets available online, Location TBA

Thursdays, April - 5:00-9:00

Tunes 'N Blooms, FREE

Thursday, May 2 - 12:30-2:00

First Thursday Education Session, Herbal Medicine, Safari Lodge

Spring - TBA

Gardening for Wildlife Station Training, Location TBA

May - TBA

Tulip Sales & Public Garden Day

Welcome Back Gardeners!

Spring has arrived! The tulips are popping. The cherries, magnolias, and redbuds are ready to bloom. Pretty soon, the azaleas are going to strut their stuff. And . . .

We are getting back in the Gardens! Welcome back all! With the splendor of Spring comes lots to do in the Garden. Here's what to expect as our season ramps up:

Spring Cleanup – cutting back perennials & grasses, raking leaves, & mulching bare spots.

Annual Plug Potting – Annuals will arrive at the beginning of April. We will be potting these at the offsite greenhouse throughout the month of April. Please check the hotline message for potting days and adhere to the guidelines for getting to the offsite facility as listed in your horticulture handbook.

Nursery Unpacking & Set Up – as the weather warms up, we'll need to move our nursery stock out of the quonsets and into their summer homes. We will prepare for annuals to arrive onsite at the beginning of May.

Perennial Plug Potting – potting any perennial plugs that arrive during the spring.

Coming up in May – Digging Tulips, Tulip Sales, Public Gardens Day, Annual Display Plantings & Containers



Warm Welcome to New Volunteers

Shout out to our new folks in Horticulture!

We're excited to have you onboard and look forward to working with you in the Gardens and at Bowyer Farm. Please let us know if there is anything you need.



Parking Notice

Please remember that Horticulture Volunteers are to park in the **Dury Parking Lot**. This will be especially important as the number of visitors in the park increases. The spaces in the front row of the Dury Parking lot have white cones – these spaces are reserved for senior volunteer members and individuals with mobility issues. Please display your parking pass in your rear view mirror for our Security Department. Thank you for your cooperation!



Seeking Volunteers—Gardening for Wildlife Station

We are looking for few more volunteers to help at the Gardening for Wildlife Station. This station offers an amazing opportunity to engage visitors with plants and get people excited about gardens, the value of plants for other wildlife, and the steps they can take to promote wildlife in their own backyards. The Gardening for Wildlife Station is not only the welcome wagon of the Garden, but a prime location to transfer information from the Gardens to everyday people.

The Gardening for Wildlife Station reaches adults, children, avid gardeners and plant novices. Most interactions at the station are short (30 seconds to 1 minute), yet, impactful. These interactions may include:

- ◆ Talking about a plant in the What’s Blooming Ladder,
- ◆ Playing a botanical game with a child,
- ◆ Talking to visitors about pollinator plants and the Plants for Pollinators Challenge,
- ◆ Providing visitors with Zoo’s Best brochures,
- ◆ Answering gardening questions or providing resources for where a visitor can find answers,
- ◆ Chatting about some of our garden programs,
- ◆ Being an overall ambassador for our gardens.



In general, most visitors are not looking for highly technical answers, but rather a point in the right direction. Many visitors are simply seeking a way to connect with our beautiful Gardens and the wildlife that they serve.

Volunteers interested in working at the Gardening for Wildlife Station will receive a training specific to the station (**date and location TBD**). Scheduling for the station will be worked out as we get further into Spring. If you are considering the Gardening for Wildlife Station, but are on the



fence, you are welcome to attend the training to learn what the station is all about and shadow other volunteers.

If you are interested in attending the Gardening for Wildlife Station training and/or becoming a station volunteer, please contact Deb or Tosh so we can add you to the mailing list.



Join us in planting for pollinators! The Plants for Pollinators Challenge is an initiative of the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden’s Pollen Nation program. This public engagement campaign aims to increase pollinator habitat in the urban landscape by inspiring people to plant for pollinators and register their gardens on the Cincinnati Zoo website.

Our first year goal is to register at least 500 pollinator gardens in the Greater Cincinnati area. Register your Garden today!

For more details and to register, go to:

www.cincinnati-zoo.org/plant-for-pollinators

CZBG Connect

Check out the CZBG Connect website for the CZBG Volunteer Newsletter (all Zoo departments) and other exciting Zoo happenings.

The link for the CZBG Connect website can be found on the MVP homepage.

www.myvolunteerpage.com



Annuals at Fidelity



Spring Tulips at CZBG