



Ohio State HCS News

HORTICULTURE & CROP SCIENCE IN VIRTUAL PERSPECTIVE - THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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Chadwick Arboretum Showcased To Public



The 2nd Annual Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens Open House introduced hundreds of people to one of the most varied collections of flora in the state.

Central Ohio residents didn't have to go beyond Columbus city limits to enjoy one of the best-kept secrets in horticulture. The 2nd Annual Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens Open House introduced hundreds of people to the home of one of the most varied collections of flora in the state, made up of woody plants, tropical plants, wildflowers, native Ohio plants, perennials and more than 400 cultivars of newly planted annuals.

The public enjoyed the offerings of the 60-acre arboretum during its second Open House event held on July 16th. "We enjoy the opportunity to showcase the beauty that we have here. There is so much to see in our gardens," exclaimed [Mary Maloney](#), Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens Outreach Coordinator. "In addition to our newest garden, the John Peter Minton Memorial Rose Garden, we also have a whimsical outdoor office in our bamboo collection, as well as a vegetable garden that was planted by our Adults with Developmental Disabilities volunteer group. A containerized display of common and unusual weeds drew a lot of attention (near the turn around drive in front of Howlett Hall). This provided a fun way to learn weed identification, but don't touch the poison ivy!"



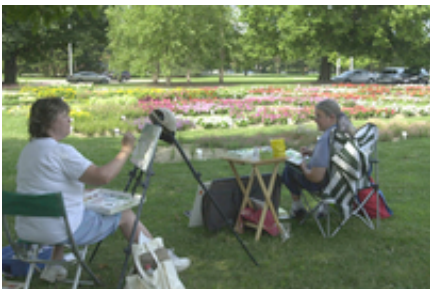
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One of Central Ohio's hottest summer days drew many new visitors to the arboretum. While some participants enjoyed the hourly guided tours, many visitors strolled the gardens at their leisure while enjoying the bluegrass music of Loosely Strung. The Van Fossen Wildflower Garden provided some much needed shade from the sun and rootbeer floats helped visitors stay cool.

Staff from C. Wayne Ellett Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic was on-hand to share displays and diagnose diseased plant material. The Ornamental Plant Germplasm Center introduced people to the USDA funded, state-of-the-art plant preservation facility. Additionally, a garden store, kids crafts, a portable labyrinth and artists-in-the-garden provided visitors with many ways to enjoy the grounds surrounding Howlett Hall.

"The high temperatures did not deter Open House visitors from attending the tours of the sunny Annual Trial Garden and container trial plot," explained [Stephanie Burns](#), Cultivar Trials Coordinator. "The tour consisted of a brief overview of the trials and showcased several outstanding performers of the 400 different varieties planted. The tour also discussed the different plant combinations of the mixed container trial and

different whimsical containers as we passed the Learning Gardens outdoor office. Several Franklin County Master Gardener Volunteers were on hand to answer any questions and give advice on caring for these new plants."



The Annual Trials provided wonderful inspiration for the artists in the garden who painted during the Open House.

The plants are evaluated three times during the summer and fall months for such performances as mortality rate, overall growth, number and quality of flowers and resistance to insects and diseases. Results of the trials are available by logging on to floriculture.osu.edu.

The Chadwick Arboretum consists of three main areas: Learning Gardens, Lane Avenue Gardens and Arboretum North. The Open House mainly featured collections from the Learning Gardens, an area of perennials, annuals, wildflowers, pansies and rare bulb and dwarf conifers.

"The Learning Gardens are designed mainly for teaching and learning, but they can also provide visitors a one-stop place for ideas of what they can add to their garden for diversity," said [Kathy Burkholder](#), Learning Gardens horticulturist. "Through the generous support of donors we've been able to expand the gardens and offer the public more ideas."

The free event was sponsored by Ohio State's Department of Horticulture & Crop Science and the Chadwick Arboretum & Learning Gardens staff and volunteers.