

Woodcrest Villa Flower Factory, Nature Trail & Arboretum

<http://rhodyman.net/WCV>

August 2020 Newsletter

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Thanks to generous donations, Lew's shed is delivered.

Thanks to all who contributed to pay for the equipment shed for the Nature Trail Crew. It arrived Tuesday afternoon, July 28. Lew Kauffman and Jim McCoy had already prepared the site, so its installation went very smoothly. It is a 10'x12' high-wall, barn style shed with vinyl siding and synthetic shingle roof.



Clockwise: Jim McCoy and Lew watch the final placement. Lew presents the installer from Glick Sheds payment in full. Dennis Good, Jerry Lawrence, the shed installer, Lew, and Jim pose in front.

Meadowlark Victory Over COVID Garden

Dennis Good planted two disease resistant American Chestnut trees in a gap in the woods across from Meadowlark near Nature Trail Head. These trees are hybrids bred to resist the blight that arrived in the US around 1904 and decimated Americas Chestnut forests. First, Dennis, along with Tony Harnish and Bruce Metzler cleared the site of brush and Ailanthus trees which host SLF. Then Dennis, along with John Sayko and Jerry Lawrence, worked ten yards of mushroom soil in so flowers could be planed. Finally, P.J. Esbenshade, Shirley Harms, Bev Trauger, Jerry Lawrence, Elsie Nissley, Harvey Meyer, and Nancy Good worked with Dennis to establish the flowers that bring a stunning display to those entering or leaving the Nature Trail. [photo:



Dennis and Jerry Lawrence pose with a Chestnut tree.]

Fall Tree Planting and Dedication Service



Preliminary Arboretum Plan

Our first two Honor/Memorial Trees were planted last November. Our tree service who plants the Honor/Memorial Trees, Tree of Life Services, recommends planting the four new trees in late September or Early October. Hence, we hope to

have a Dedication Service for all 6 trees in October. We will announce a date so that loved ones can be invited to attend. Of course, all Covid-19 precautions will be in place.

Thanks Woodcrest

Woodcrest Villa has made the Nature Trail and Arboretum possible. Even though both the trail and arboretum were created, funded, and are maintained by resident volunteers, WCV has worked with the volunteers however possible to make sure they were successful and that the project was kept within the overall plans for the campus. We are perhaps the only retirement campus in the area that has both an Arboretum and Nature Trail. We especially need to thank VP Dan Mortensen and his Facilities Managers Brad Getz and Rick Werkheiser for working with us.

Create Riparian Buffer Along Swarr Run



Jerry Lawrence & John Rosenfeld in Arboretum

The Arboretum and Nature Trail both border Swarr Run, which means we have an opportunity to improve the riparian buffer, that is, the

vegetative border along Swarr Run. This involves removing some dense shade so that stream-bank holding vegetation can be established. In doing this we have the opportunity to replace native plants that were forced out by aggressive invasive plants such as bush honeysuckle. Trail Crew members, Lew Kauffman, Bruce Metzler, Dave Warfel, John Carpenter, and Tony Harnish have removed most bush honeysuckle and opened up the edge of Swarr Run and spots along the trail so that we can establish riparian trees such as American Beech, Princeton Elm, Black Willow and White Oak. Then between the trees plant shrubs such as Oak-leaf Hydrangea. Jerry Lawrence has consulted with John Rosenfeld of Go Native Tree Farm to develop a plan to establish the riparian buffer.

If you would like to help fund the purchase of plants for the riparian buffer and the trail, mail a check to

**Dennis Good
Woodcrest Villa Trail Board
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