

## Woodcrest Villa Nature Trail & Arboretum

<http://rhodyman.net/WCV> December 2022 Newsletter <http://rhodyman.net/WCV/Newsletter.pdf>

*Woodcrest Villa Arboretum is Dedicated To Those Recognized with Trees*

### Six 2022 Honor/Memory Trees Planted - Total is 25 Trees



Left to right: Sweetbay Magnolia in honor of Lucy Eyster by the Go Green Committee, Evergreen Magnolia in memory of Florence & Victor Benner by Kathy Patterson and family, and Cherokee Princess Dogwood in memory of Philip Arthur Lynch by Charlotte Lynch and family.



Left to right: Winter King Hawthorn in memory of Enos L. Groff by Nancy Shenk and family, Swamp White Oak in memory of Ken Ranken by Pat Rankin, and Brandywine Red Maple in memory of Jeffrey K. Alexander by Gail Alexander and daughters.



## Sustainability Workshop Well Attended

On Nov. 18, 7 representatives from Lancaster Clean Water Partners, Lancaster Conservancy, Land Studies, and Landis Homes were greeted by a large group of residents interested in making WCV more bird, butterfly and pollinator friendly.

Birds and Butterflies have a common bond. They both need caterpillars. The birds need them to feed to their babies, and butterflies emerge from the chrysalis of certain caterpillars form each fall.

The present tact has been to plant pollinator gardens. They are good and they provide food, but provide very little shelter during the winter for caterpillars, chrysalises, and pollinators.

The goal is to allow the caterpillars & chrysalises to successfully overwinter. The strategy is to create no-mow areas where caterpillars and chrysalises can overwinter on dry plant material and in leaf litter in brushy areas. Growing grass and mowing it does not support wildlife. Sure, some grass is good, but some no-mow areas are essential to provide for wildlife.

## Where can we have no-mow areas?

One area is the area around the Arboretum and near Swarr Run. No-mow areas are still mowed about once every 3-years on a rotating basis. Hence, 2/3 of each area is not mowed each year.

Another area is the bottom of the detention basins on campus where there is just grass growing and being mowed now. East Hempfield Township regulates how these areas are kept. Hopefully, we will get assistance from environmental groups and neighboring townships to let these regulations become environmentally friendly.

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## WCV Arboretum is Full

On Nov.22, the six 2022 Honor & Memory Trees were planted. The plaques will be placed at a later date. This fills existing space. The Nature Trail & Arboretum committee received permission to expand the arboretum, but a way to access the new area needs to be worked out. Some kind of a bridge will need to be placed between the two areas so residents and the Trail Crew can go between the two areas. Until then no honor or memory trees applications will be accepted.



## Trail Provides Arboretum Access

The Trail Crew is constructing a trail with a gentle slope to access the Nature Trail and Arboretum. You can access it from below Lew's Shed. It starts behind the bus garage and continues behind the bus garage and goes to the Nature Trail and Arboretum near the picnic table that is in the Arboretum. When this was being written it still needed wood chips and signage.

## Donations

All donations for the Nature Trail & Arboretum should be made out to

### **Mennonite Home Communities**

with the note:

### **WCV Nature Trail & Arboretum**

Since MHC is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, all donations made out this way are considered tax exempt donations for tax purposes. Send all donations to:

David Suh, Treasurer  
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