

Woodcrest Villa Nature Trail & Arboretum

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June 2022 Newsletter

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Woodcrest Villa Arboretum is Dedicated To Those Recognized with Trees

Look At What's Blooming!



Bush Honeysuckle

This shrub has beautiful fragrant flowers rich in nectar sought after by honey bees. The flowers open white and eventually turn yellow. By midsummer the bushes will be covered with red berries which birds eat in the winter. It is invasive and thrives in sunny areas on the edge of the forest. It was brought here from Europe and East Asia. The trail crew has removed enough of it along Swarr Run that you can see the creek.

Mayapple

Each spring, Mayapple is one of the first native plants that reminds us that spring is here. The large leaves emerge from the shady forest floor. If you look carefully you can see that each stem produces one solitary showy flower which is usually hidden under the large leaf [see flower in inset]. Flowers that bumble bees pollinate will produce a small "apple" that ripens to a golden color tinged with pink or purple.





Black Raspberry

The wild black raspberry is native to Pennsylvania. Now it is coming into bloom with a simple white flower. This summer these plants will bear yummy black raspberries. The fruit is also prized as a food source by birds and mammals. The raspberry bush is a sprawling shrub that grows in sunny areas at the edge of the forest. There is a large patch near the Romarin entrance to the nature trail.

Dames Rocket

Something that is blooming now that is not always white is Dames Rocket. It seems to be blooming in most any sunny location that is undisturbed. The showy flower clusters come in white, pink, and violet. Often all colors are seen growing in the same area. This plant is in the mustard family. This is another common Pennsylvania plant of Eurasian origin.



Honor/Memory Trees in Fall

In the past we planted a couple Honor & Memory trees in the Spring. We can't do that anymore. The Fall has always been the best time, but now it is the only time. We are fortunate to have Tree of Life to plant the trees and excellent nurseries nearby to supply the trees, but now the planting must be done in the Fall.

Editor: Steve Henning: acer103@earthlink.net

Those interested in dedicating an Honor or Memory tree should contact Steve Henning at 717-735-7116 or acer103@earthlink.net.

Make Nature Trail & Arboretum contributions out to: 'WCV Nature Trail & Arboretum'.
Send contributions to

*WCV Nature Trail and Arboretum
David Suh, Treasurer
2001 Harrisburg Pike, PH 202
Lancaster, PA 17601.*