

Woodcrest Villa Nature Trail & Arboretum

<http://rhodyman.net/WCV>

March 2024 Newsletter

[Color PDF of Newsletter](#)

Woodcrest Villa Arboretum is Dedicated To Those Recognized with Trees

Woodcrest's Landscape Crew Earns Conservation Landscape Certification



Conservation Landscape Certification

A conservation landscape is a garden that improves water quality of nearby streams and promotes and preserves plant species that promote wildlife. The purpose of Crew's Conservation Landscape Certification is:

1. To build awareness for why we need conservation landscaping in the multi-acreage landscapes that crews manage.
2. To bolster the hands-on skills on how to rebuild native habitats for the crew.
3. To confidently create conservation landscaping solutions with the crew.

One technique is to use "green mulch," that is live ground-cover plants in place of inert mulch.

A second technique is to remove plants that are of very little benefit to birds and butterflies and replace them with plants that are more beneficial to wildlife.

In doing this, changes will make the campus more attractive and less labor intensive to maintain. Any changes on campus will be gradual. Hopefully the campus will become even more beautiful and the numbers of song birds and butterflies will come back to levels only seen in the past.

Bluebirds Return to Woodcrest



Tony Harnish photographed bluebirds laying claim to a bluebird house built by Mike Fritz and put up by Mike and Rick Benson.

Accepting Requests for Honor & Memory Trees for Fall Planting



Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*): A deciduous conifer with a unique, feathery appearance. Tolerates wet soil & drought. Used by birds for nesting and seed. Native.



Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*): Notable for its unique tulip-shaped flowers & leaves. Flowers & seeds attract wildlife. Used by birds for nesting. Yellow Fall color. Full Sun. Native.



White Oak (*Quercus alba*): A majestic native oak with attractive leaves and acorns. Great for wildlife, especially butterflies and song birds. Red-brown Fall color. Native.



River Birch (*Betula nivea*) Attractive curling bark. Flowers attract humming birds. Food source for song birds and pollinators. Tolerates wet soil. Full sun to part shade. Native.



Yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*) Fragrant flowers attract pollinators. Yellow Fall foliage. Drought tolerant. Used by

birds for nesting and seeds. Attracts pollinators, Full Sun. Native.



Kentucky Coffee Tree (*Gymnocladus dioica*) Attractive shade tree. Not a food source for wildlife. Used by nesting birds. Full Sun. Native.

Arboretum Expansion Area is Open for Honor & Memory Trees

The original arboretum area became full and an expansion area was opened. Now that the bridge to the expansion area is open, we are accepting requests for trees. These trees will be planted in

the fall. Contact Steve Henning at acer103@earthlink.net or X 7116 for more information. Also planting along Harrisburg Pike is open for Honor & Memory Trees in fall.

Thanks for Donations

Thanks to those who donated for the Trail Crew to buy supplies for the Nature Trail & Arboretum such as saw blades for trimming, wood chips for the trail, and service for the tractor.

Make donations out to:

Mennonite Home Communities

with the note:

WCV Nature Trail & Arboretum

Send all donations to:

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

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