

Woodcrest Villa Flower Factory, Nature Trail & Arboretum

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May 2022 Newsletter

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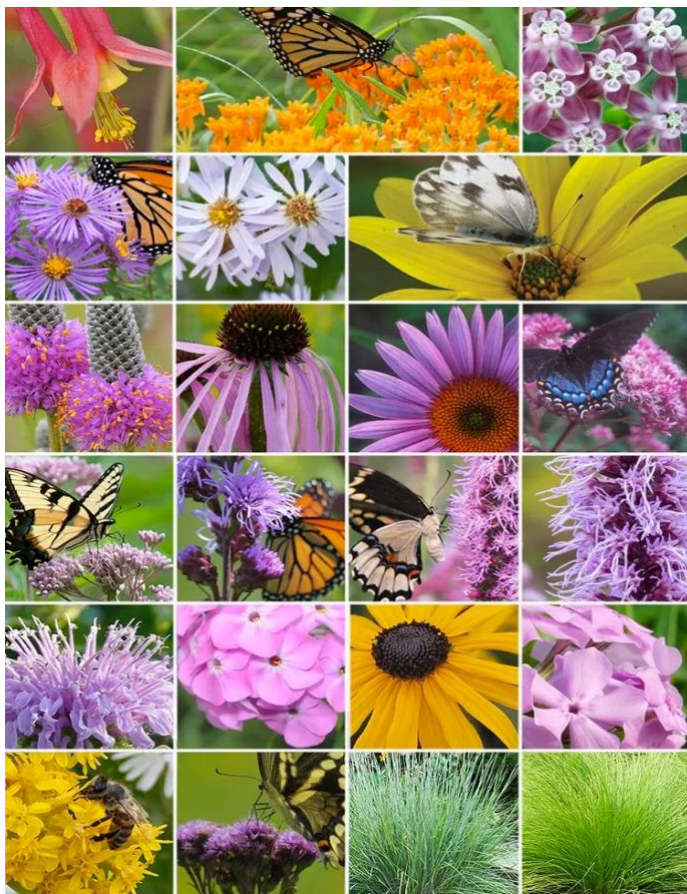
Woodcrest Villa Arboretum is Dedicated To Those Recognized with Trees

Earth Day Celebrated in Arboretum by Planting Butterfly Garden



Volunteers Turned Out On Earth Day

Jerry Lawrence (below) obtained 3 flats of wild flower seedlings to create a butterfly garden in the Arboretum. People turned out during the day to work and they finished it up by watering all of the 96 plants. These plants represented 23 varieties of nectar-rich plants and pollinator host plants.



Native Redbud Trees Provide Brilliant Display Each Spring



Throughout the Woodcrest Campus redbud trees are among the first to bloom with flowers that are rosy pink with a purplish tinge. What is unique is that the flowers bloom on woody twigs and even old trunks before the leaves come out. Notice the buds on the tips of branches are still closed and are vegetative buds, not flower buds.

Eastern redbuds (*Cercis canadensis*) are understory trees in the Pea family. Native from southern Pennsylvania to eastern Texas, they're admired for their beauty because of the flowers.

In the wild it is typically found in open woodlands, thickets, woodland margins, and along streams and bluffs, often on limestone soils.

The fall foliage color is variable, but can be a good, clear yellow. Eastern redbud is in the Fabaceae (legume) family, so the fruits are brown to black pods typical of that family. While most members of the legume family are able to fix nitrogen from the atmosphere, eastern redbud lacks the nodules and bacteria necessary for that process.

Eastern redbud grows 20-30 feet tall and 25-35 feet wide, with dark green leaves.

The redbud in the Arboretum is a cultivar called "Forest Pansy" that is unique in that the leaves remain reddish-purple throughout the season.

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.

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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

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