

Woodcrest Villa Nature Trail & Arboretum

<http://rhodyman.net/WCV>

October 2025 Newsletter

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Woodcrest Villa Arboretum is Dedicated To Those Recognized with Trees & Benches

Golden Days Ahead: A Fall Color Preview for Lancaster

When to Expect Peak Color

In Lancaster County, peak color usually arrives mid to late October (sometimes lasting into early November if the weather is mild).

Dry, sunny days and cool, crisp nights bring out the best reds, oranges, and yellows. Prolonged rain or early frost can dull or shorten the season.

Local Show-Stoppers



<<== Sugar Maple
fall colors range from brilliant yellow and orange to vibrant red. Leaves in full sun often turn redder than those in shade.

Red Maple ==>>
fall color ranges from brilliant red to orange or yellow, depending on the specific cultivar, soil conditions, and climate.



<<== Pin Oak
features a beautiful spectrum of red, scarlet, bronze, and russet tones. The foliage changes as the weather cools. The trees can display their colorful leaves often into winter.

Hickory ==>>
tree fall color is yellow and gold, though the intensity can vary each year from a more subdued to a brilliant display especially striking when lit by afternoon sun.



<<== Tulip Poplar
trees reliably display a stunning golden-yellow fall color creating a beautiful golden display in the forest.

Dogwood ==>>
Small trees with deep reddish-purple foliage, along with bright red berries.



<<== Sassafras
trees display a stunning range of fall colors, with leaves turning vibrant yellow, orange, red, and even purple. The foliage often shows multiple colors, sometimes even on the same tree.

Why Leaves Change Color

Leaves aren't really turning colors in the fall — they're losing their green. All summer, chlorophyll masks the other pigments. Shorter days and cooler temperatures signal trees to stop producing chlorophyll, a green pigment. As chlorophyll breaks down, yellow and orange carotenoid pigments already present in the leaves become visible.

Some trees also produce red and purple pigments called anthocyanins under specific conditions, resulting in the varied colors of fall foliage.

Carotenoids (already in the leaves) show up as yellows and golds.

Anthocyanins (produced late in the season) give us the reds and purples.

If the weather cooperates — sunny days and crisp nights — the colors pop. If it's warm and rainy, things get duller.

So, fall color is basically nature peeling back the green curtain for one last show.



Campus Bench



Arboretum or
Trail Bench

Honor & Memory Benches Available

Now, both the original arboretum and the expansion area are filled with honor and memory trees. A new opportunity to honor or remember a loved one is with a bench, either a campus bench or an arboretum/nature trail bench. Each bench includes a plaque where you can place your message. For more information contact Steve Henning at acer103@earthlink.net or call 7116.

IN MEMOR OR HONOR OF SOMEONE

Message Here (up to 55 characters & spaces per line)
...remembrance, dedication, sponsorship, inspiration...

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, mulch for the trail, and service for the tractor.

Make donations out to:

Tandem Living

with the note:

WCV Nature Trail & Arboretum

Send all donations to:

Bruce Metzler, Treasurer
WCV Nature Trail & Arboretum
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