

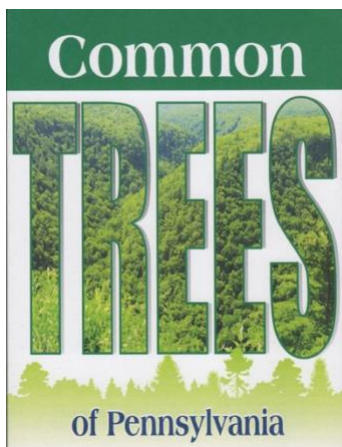
Woodcrest Villa Nature Trail & Arboretum

<http://rhodyman.net/WCV>

September 2023 Newsletter

[Color PDF of Newsletter](#)

Woodcrest Villa Arboretum is Dedicated To Those Recognized with Trees



Gifts for Scavenger Hunt Participants

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Tree Scavenger Hunt. We have gifts for everyone who participated including the book *Common Trees of Pennsylvania*.

Gifts will be given out to everyone who participated on Friday, September 8, from 9:00 AM until 12:30 PM in the Viva reception area.

Some residents found all 44 trees and some even found 2 labeled trees that were not on the list, Slippery Elm and Box Elder.

If you can't come on Friday, contact Steve Henning at X7116 or Acer103@earthlink.net.

For the Birds by Mike Fritz



Ruby Throated Hummingbird

The Ruby Throated Hummingbird weights little more than a penny, but can make the 500-mile journey across the Gulf of Mexico in less than a day when they migrate to Central America. During migration a hummingbird's heart beats up to 1,260 times a minute, and the wings flap 15 to 80 times a second.

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Eastern Bluebird

The departure date for northern bluebirds varies widely. For example, Minnesota bluebirds leave breeding grounds anywhere from September to late November or early December. The peak of the fall migration to the Southern US or Mexico takes place in October.

Thanks for Donations

Thanks to those that donated for us to buy supplies such as mulch for the trail, saw blades and service the tractor for the Nature Trail & Arboretum.

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

Where is the Spotted Lantern Fly?



Where have the Spotted Lantern Flies gone? The experts jokingly say Pittsburg because the adults are emerging in large numbers there and in West Virginia.

The worst is over for us. They are still here but in smaller numbers. The experts say that their heavy feeding ability can kill Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) and grapes vines, but most of the other types of plants they feed on like Maples are not severely threatened. They feed on a wide variety of plants except when their favorites, Ailanthus or grapes, are available. Efforts in Pennsylvania are primarily aimed at protecting the state's vineyards.

The Spotted Lantern Fly problem originated in Northern Berks County in 2014 when they were brought from Korea in a shipment of ornamental stone. They are now found in 14 states from Rhode Island to Michigan and Connecticut to North Carolina.

Cicadas are Noisy, Very Noisy



Why is it so noisy outside, especially near trees like along the nature trail?

It isn't crickets, it is cicadas. It is the annual Cicadas which have black eyes.

In the evening they seem to buzz all at the same time and then pause and keep repeating that cycle.

When there are many male cicadas in an area, they synchronize their songs so they propagate sound further and attract more females. But this is not started nor stopped simultaneously. Usually one begins the song and the others nearby join in. They stop one by one as well. Listen and you can hear that.

We won't see many periodical cicadas which have red eyes until next summer, 2024. They typically appear every 13 or 17 years, but there are different broods, so we see them more frequently.

The Honor/Memory Tree Program has a new option

There are now 2 options. Trees may be placed

- 1) in the Arboretum expansion area as long as space is available, or
- 2) on the entire WCV campus in locations chosen by WCV.

The varieties of trees must be ones chosen by WCV and the WCV Nature Trail & Arboretum Committee.

The trees will be ordered for planting in the Fall.

For more information contact Steve Henning at acer103@earthlink.net or X 7113.