



Older Wiser Loving Saints

The O.W.L.S Newsletter

July - September 2023

Upcoming Events

July: Lunch and Learn – Balance and Fall Prevention

Description: A Balance and Fall Prevention Seminar will be presented by the Greene County Council on Aging. Luncheon will include salads and “make your own” sub sandwich.

Date: Thursday, July 13th

Times: Luncheon at 11:00 a.m.; presentation at 12:00.

Location: The Commons at Hillside Chapel

Cost: None. Free-will offerings for the meal are welcome.

August: Mound Museum Tour

Description: Tour the Mound Cold War Discovery Center to view fascinating displays of technology, such as NASA components that went to the moon.

Date: Thursday, August 10th

Times: Arrive at 10:45; tour begins at 11:00; Restaurant afterward.

Location: 1075 Mound Rd., Miamisburg, OH

Cost: \$5 per person for the Mound guide. Self-pay at restaurant in Miamisburg.

***If riding the van – Be at church at 9:45 a.m.** To reserve a van seat, contact Diane Warden.

Upcoming Events, Cont’d

September: “Brunch and Learn” Lawn and Landscape – Part 2

Description: Seminar – Learn the best trees and shrubs to plant (and what *not* to plant).

Date: Thursday, September 28th

Times: 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.; brunch at 11:30

Location: Hillside Commons

Cost: None. Free-will offerings are welcome.



Recent Events



On April 27th, 25 OWLS walked the beautiful trails at **Charleston Falls Preserve** in Tipp City, Ohio. Afterward, everyone enjoyed a great lunch at the historic Harrisons restaurant.



On June 15th, over 40 OWLS attended the OWLS Picnic at Rotary Park in Beaver Creek. Great homemade food was provided and folks enjoyed games afterward.

Save the date: -- Hillside Owls Retreat
in 2024: May 21, 22, and 23

Over →



Why and When To Prune Plants?

Most shrubs and trees require minimal pruning, but they can benefit from

pruning to improve their shape and structure. Keep in mind that pruning isn't bad because it keeps them stronger with less risk of disease and pests. Think of it as a cosmetic haircut for plants.

Plant health is the primary reason for pruning.

You should start by removing dead, dying, diseased, or damaged branches. Also look for spindly or weak growth, as well as any branches that are crossed or rubbing together. Pruning can make plants hardier and help them over winter.

Often, a plant needs pruning to control its size.

Overgrown shrubs can be brought back to a desired size, while trees can be thinned out to let more light through. Most trees and shrubs will produce more blooms and stronger growth if you trim them back at certain points during the year.

Prune spring flowering shrubs and trees right after they bloom in the spring. These plants develop their buds on old wood branches that grew last year. By fall, they've already formed their flower buds; if you cut off the flower buds, you won't get any spring blooms. **Pruning after they bloom** gives new growth plenty of time to mature before winter and bear flowers next spring. These plants include magnolias, forsythias, mock orange, crab apples, red buds, etc.

Prune summer flower woody plants while dormant from late fall to late winter to encourage more new wood to form in the spring. These plants form flower buds on new growth next season, not the old growth of last year. These plants include some magnolias, Rose of Sharon, roses and fruit trees.

Deciduous shade trees should never be pruned in the spring and summer months, only when they are dormant. Pruning the wrong time of year makes them susceptible to disease and insects. It also encourages suckering and weak branches at the site of pruning. Tree pruning companies will prune year round if you let them -- so beware.

Evergreen trees and bushes should only be pruned in the spring when new growth has begun. They won't withstand severe pruning, so don't overdo it with evergreens. As always, there are exceptions to the rule, so you may need to research specific pruning practices for specific plants.

Note: Dead, diseased or damaged branches should be pruned immediately.



Ray Miller