



2022 Tri-State Green Industry Conference
Thursday, February 3, 2022

Sharonville Convention Center
11355 Chester Road
Sharonville, OH 45246

The Tri-State Green Industry Conference is a collaborative educational effort between:

Ohio State University Extension
Purdue Extension
University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
The Boone County Arboretum
Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden
Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum

TRI-STATE GIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Heather Wiggins Augustine	Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
J.T. Benitez	OSU Extension, Butler County
Joe Boggs	OSU Extension, Hamilton County
Scott Beuerlein	Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden
Ramona Burns	Evans
Julie Crook	OSU Extension, Hamilton County (Retired)
Mark Deacon	Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
Gail Emley	
Dave Gressley	Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum
Pat Greeson	Natorp's
Jennifer Goldschneider	OSU Extension, Hamilton County, MGV
Brian Grubb	University of Cincinnati
Jenny Gulick	Urban canopy Works, LLC
John Hawley	Purdue Extension, Dearborn County
Brian Heinz	Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum
Brian Jorg	Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden
Dave Koester	Boone County Cooperative Extension
Kim Martini	OSU Extension, Hamilton County
Gigi Neal	OSU Extension, Clermont County
Pat Simmons	Turpin Farms
ShaLise Simmons	OSU Extension, Learning and Organizational Development
Kris Stone	Boone County Arboretum
Mary Jo Vesper	OSU Extension, Hamilton County, MGV
Kyle Weaver	Purdue Extension Switzerland County

TRI-STATE GIC EDUCATIONAL SCHEDULE

7:00 – 8:00 Registration & Trade Show Opportunities

8:00 – 8:15 Welcome & Announcements, Rooms 101-104

8:15 – 9:15 Keynote - Rooms 101-104

***The Rockdale Story: Connecting the Green Industry to
Communities***

***Steve Foltz, Director of Horticulture, Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical
Garden (CZBG)***

Description: There are numerous terms used to describe what people do with plants in urban communities. What's "urban agriculture?" It can mean different things to different people. Is it just about growing food? And where does the "Green Industry" fit into the picture? Equally important, how do we connect the dots to provide a clear picture to young people, the future of our Green Industry? The Rockdale Story provides a model for how the Green Industry can provide a hands-on experience to PreK-6 students by tapping into all facets of horticulture – from food to trees – to connect schools and communities to the Green Industry and vice versa. It's a model for growing the Green Industry.

General Pest & Disease Management

Rooms: 101-102

Moderators: Dave Koester & J.T. Benitez

9:30 – 10:30 “Communicating with Customers About Pesticides”

Speaker: David Gardner, OSU Horticulture and Crop Science

Description: Proper application of pesticides and fertilizers has been important for turf management for many years. However, there are a lot of controversies associated with the use of these products due to concern over misapplication and the potential harm to humans, animals, or the environment. This session discusses these in the context of how to answer common questions about your use of these products.

10:30 – 11:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

11:00 – 12:00 “Aquatic Weed Identification and Management”

Speaker: Eugene Braig, OSU Extension, SENR

Description: Artificial ponds, including those built to manage storm water, are an increasingly common feature of residential areas. We'll discuss dealing with some of the challenges that the residential or urban environment pose to aquatic plant management, water quality, and the pond-aging process.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Dessert with Exhibitors

1:30 – 2:30 “Tree and Shrub Insect Pest Update”

Speaker: Jonathan Larson, UK Entomology

Description: In 2021: A Pest Retrospective, attendees will hear about the bugs that defined the last year. The biology of arthropods like the fall armyworm, periodical cicadas, and more will be discussed. We'll also cover the trials and tribulations of management and how we can prepare for these types of issues in the future.

2:30 – 3:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

3:00 – 4:00 “Plant and Pest Clinic: What's Hot”

Speaker: Julie Beale, UK Plant Pathology

Description: A review of plant disease trends in landscape ornamentals will be presented with emphasis on field diagnosis and sample collection and developing management strategies that effectively combine both cultural and chemical options. Early detection and mitigation techniques for new and emerging diseases of ornamentals will also be discussed.

4:10-5:00 “Industrial Vegetation Management”

Speaker: Joe Boggs, OSU Extension, Hamilton County / OSU Entomology

Description: This presentation will focus on weed identification coupled with weed biology. Participants will learn why the application of this knowledge is so important to the success of short-term and long-term Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) strategies including herbicide efficacy.

Turfgrass Management

Rooms: 103-104

Moderator: Gigi Neal

9:30 – 10:30 “High-Profile Athletic Field Management”

Speaker: Jeff Hermes, Purdue Extension

Description: As an athletic fields manager you only have one chance to build something correctly. Design and construction affect the future maintenance of your facilities including the need for pesticide interventions. This talk will focus on the common mistakes made in the planning, designing, construction and maintenance of athletic fields to ensure safety.

10:30 – 11:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

11:00 – 12:00 “Turfgrass Weed Management Update”

Speaker: David Gardner, OSU Horticulture and Crop Science

Description: Several new products are on the market for control of grasses, sedges and broadleaf weeds. This session discusses these products, their potential uses, and how they might fit into your turfgrass weed management program.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Dessert with Exhibitors

1:30 – 2:30 “Insect Pest Management Update”

Speaker: Dave Shetlar, Emeritus, OSU Entomology

Description: New turfgrass insecticides have been registered over the last year and this presentation will discuss the usage of these as well as more traditional insecticides. A review of the fall armyworm invasion of 2021 will be presented as well as a review of management strategies for managing white grubs, billbugs, and chinch bugs.

2:30 – 3:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

3:00 – 4:00 “Fall Armyworm: What Happened and What Does the Future Hold?”

Speaker: Curtis Young, OSU Extension, VanWert County

Description: Fall armyworm (FAW) exploded across much of the eastern United States in the summer and fall of 2021. Even for the southern states, 2021 was an exceptional year for FAW. The presence of FAW in northern states including Ohio, left farmers and landscape managers alike scrambling for answers. This presentation will look at the what's, why's and how's of FAW and management recommendations.

4:10-5:00 No Presentation in This Track

Garden Center & Greenhouse Innovation

Room: 105

Heather Augustine & Pat Greeson

9:30 – 10:30 “Current Advances for the Management of Mites on Greenhouse Crops”

Speaker: Luis Canas, OSU Entomology

Description: Mites, especially the two spotted spider mite, attack many greenhouse crops, including ornamental and vegetable crops. Dr. Canas will discuss examples of tactics that can be used to develop a strong Integrated Pest Management program to control mites in ornamental plants and other crops. Tactics will include sanitation, use of biological control agents, and development of insecticide rotation programs. Examples will be provided of new techniques been developed at Ohio State and elsewhere.

10:30 – 11:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

11:00 – 12:00 “Sunny Side Up: Sunflower Disease Management for Everyone”

Speaker: Janna L. Beckerman, Purdue Plant Pathology

Description: Sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus* hybrids and cultivars) are plants with wide appeal and a growing fan base. Unfortunately, sunflowers may be attacked by a range of fungal plant pathogens. This talk will focus on protecting sunflowers through propagation, production (for plants or cut flowers), for gardens, and even birds, though the use of cultural and chemical controls.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Dessert with Exhibitors

1:30 – 2:30 “2021 Pests of the Year and How to Treat”

Speaker: Janna Pemberton Schmidt, Pemberton Greenhouses

Description: Managing pests in interior Plantscapes presents unique challenges. Top pests and their management are discussed including the use of targeted insecticide applications and when to apply other strategies.

2:30 – 3:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

3:00 – 4:00 “Ohio’s Approach to Regulation of Invasive Plants”

Speaker: Dan Kenny, Plant Health Division Chief, Ohio Department of Agriculture

Description: Non-native invasive plants are an international environmental issue. As we’ve seen first-hand in Ohio, they can have significant negative impacts on both terrestrial and aquatic ecologies. This presentation describes ODA’s practical partner-based approach to regulating non-natives invasives with a focus on building consensus between various stakeholder groups and Green Industry professionals.

4:10-5:00 No Presentation in This Track

Landscape Ecosystems

Room: 107-108

Moderators: John Hawley & Pam Simmons

9:30 – 10:30 “The Boyer Farm Story: Native Plant Selection, Propagation, and Advancement Towards Production”

Speaker: Brian Jorg, Horticulturist, Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden (CZBG)

Description: In this presentation we will look at the growth of Native Plant Program at the Cincinnati Zoo’s Bowyer Farm. Donated as a farm, this property has partially been restored into wetland and prairie, and also home to the Native Plant Program. This growing facility grows over 250 species of native plants for use at the Zoo, as well as for sale to the public.

10:30 – 11:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

11:00 – 12:00 “Turfgrass – is it a Green Desert or a Lilliputian Rain Forest”

Speaker: Dave Shetlar, Emeritus, OSU Entomology

Description: Turfgrass habitats are often criticized by environmentalists as being ecological wastelands. Studies using insecticides to determine their adverse effects on non-target animals reveals that there are thousands of arthropods per square meter of turf, but they are all small and usually unnoticed. Also, their populations rebound quickly, even after applications of broad-spectrum insecticides.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Dessert with Exhibitors

1:30 – 2:30 “Organic Amendments to Urban Soils, Contamination Mitigation, and Revitalization”

Speaker: Nathan Shoaf, Urban Agriculture State Coordinator, Purdue Extension

Description: Urban farm composting can provide many benefits including recycling of vegetable residues that can be applied to enhance soil properties and increase organic matter. Urban agriculture also faces the potential risks from human exposure to soil contaminants. This presentation will focus on techniques for building soil health and reducing human exposure to contaminants in urban agriculture.

2:30 – 3:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

3:00 – 4:00 “Panel Discussion: Managing Landscapes for Multiple Bosses”

Speakers: Dave Gressley (Director of Horticulture, Taxonomist, Spring Gove Cemetery & Arboretum); Brian Heinz; Manager of Horticulture (Spring Gove Cemetery & Arboretum); Kris Stone (Director, Boone County Arboretum)

Description: In the green industry most of us are pleasing multiple bosses. Whether its the client, the board, or the general public there are lots of expectations to meet. Join us for a brief overview of operations at Spring Grove Cemetery and Boone County Arboretum and the various "bosses" they please. The audience is encouraged to share their stories as we help each other out in our never-ending quest.

4:10-5:00 No Presentation in This Track

Emerging Ideas and Issues

Rooms: 109-110

Moderators: Julie Crook and Joe Boggs

9:30 – 10:30 “Stormwater Management”

Speaker: Gigi Neal, OSU Extension, Clermont County

Description: Regardless of where the nutrients or pesticides are being used, agricultural or residential, runoff is a concern for the water supply. During this presentation we will discuss factors to manage stormwater runoff in turfgrass applications. Fertilizer and pesticide application practices of the 4Rs and proper application per the chemical label are important for the green industry.

10:30 – 11:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

11:00 – 12:00 “Laurel Wilt – Implications for the Future of Landscapes”

Speaker: Ellen Crocker, UK Forestry & Natural Resources

Description: Laurel wilt disease is a new invasive threat to sassafras and spicebush. This session will introduce this disease, its causes, likely implications, and potential management strategies.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Dessert with Exhibitors

1:30 – 2:30 “Wildlife Updates: What’s Happening in Ohio?”

Speaker: Marne Titchenell, OSU Extension, SENR

Description: A mysterious bird illness in Ohio and elsewhere in the U.S. dominated the news in 2021. However, that was not the only concern with wildlife in Ohio. What’s happening with white-nose syndrome and bats? What about chronic wasting disease and deer? Will rabbit hemorrhagic disease affect Easter? And are wild hogs making their way into a landscape near you? From bats to birds to hogs, this presentation will provide updates on these and other wildlife concerns in Ohio.

2:30 – 3:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

3:00 – 4:00 “Fruit Trees in the Landscape: The Opportunities and Challenges”

Speaker: Dave Koester, UK Boone County Cooperative Extension

Description: We will address the mistakes made in Tree Fruit Production in the Tri-State area. Best Cultivars, Rootstocks, Sensible Spray Schedules, and production techniques which will provide your clients the opportunity to harvest quality fruit.

4:10-5:00 There is No Presentation in This Track

Annuals & Perennials

Room: 201-202

Moderators: Scott Beuerlein, Brian Jorg, and Brandon George

9:30 – 10:30 “To Every Season... A Celebration! Cycling bulbs with annuals”

Speaker: Kyra Back, Head Gardener, CZBG

Description: Learn how CBGZ cycles our display beds to hold seasonal interest and how this method can provide commercial benefits.

10:30 – 11:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

11:00 – 12:00 “Nurture with Nature”

Speaker: Andrea Mueller, Inside Out Landscape Design

Description: Plants have many purposes. Growing annual and perennial herbs and plants in the landscape are not only beautiful but many are medicinal as well. After all, plants have been used as cures for thousands of years. Grow your business with these in-demand, popular, easy-to-use medicinal herbs! Note: I am not a medical professional, and this is not medical advice.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Dessert with Exhibitors

1:30 – 2:30 “Fool-Proof Perennials”

Speaker: Pat Greeson, Natorp’s

Description: Once you've bought it from the supplier you own it. What if it's not going in the ground right away? How long before it goes downhill? We asked garden centers, growers and hort institutions, "If you were stuck on that desert island again, and you could only have 1 perennial, which one would it be?" Learn from the experts their picks for the plants that look best the longest.

2:30 – 3:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

3:00 – 4:00 “Perennial Plant Sociability Metrix: How Do Plants Get Along in the Landscape”

Speaker: Brandon George, UK Kenton County Cooperative Extension

Description: In this presentation, the concept of perennial plant sociability is explored as a means to help predict plant behavior and performance in a man-made garden setting. A definition of plant sociability is provided, along with an explanation of three systems of plant performance/sociability metrics that are used to understand and subsequently predict the behavior of perennial plants.

4:10-5:00 There is No Presentation in This Track

Tree & Shrub Care

Room: 203-204

Moderators: Kris Stone, Jenny Gulick, Dave Gressley, and Brian Heinz

9:30 – 10:30 *“Best Trees for Greater Cincinnati: Reflections from the Field”*

Speakers: Dave Gressley (Director of Horticulture, Taxonomist, Spring Gove Cemetery & Arboretum); Kris Stone (Director, Boone County Arboretum)

Description: Spring Grove and Boone County Arboretum are Greater Cincinnati's two largest and most highly acclaimed Arboreta. Join us as we show and discuss of our combined list of our favorite trees. We'll compare younger specimens and mature specimens respective of our horticultural institutions of those trees that we highlight.

10:30 – 11:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

11:00 – 12:00 *“Detecting Defects Before the Branch or Whole Tree Fails”*

Speaker: Bill Fountain, Emeritus, UK Horticulture

Description: When a client says, "...and the tree just suddenly fell without any warning." should we have been able to recognize the anatomical body language of the tree? Though it is not possible to predict a time of failure, arborists can recognize defects that increase probability of failure. Sudden branch drop, shakes, physical structure, and other visible physical defects will be discussed.

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Dessert with Exhibitors

1:30 – 2:30 *“Spotted Lanternfly Update”*

Speaker: Amy Stone, OSU Extension, Lucas County

Description: Since its discovery in 2014 in eastern Pennsylvania, the spotted lanternfly has been found in multiple eastern states including Ohio. SLF poses a serious threat to forest, agriculture, and tourism industries. This presentation will provide an update on this non-native invasive with a focus on identification, biology, and management as well as tips on how participants can spot and report spotted lanternfly.

2:30 – 3:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

3:00 – 4:00 *“Herbicide Label Changes to Avoid Liability vs. Best Management Practices”*

Speaker: Jim Mason, Horticultural Management Inc. President

Description: Most things you need to know are printed on the label. This presentation will provide practical information from the label to use products safely with minimal impacts on the environment. Directions for use will be discussed including PPE and general information on how herbicides work.

4:10-5:00 There is No Presentation in This Track

Worker Safety

Room: 106

Moderator: Ramona Burns

9:30 – 10:30 *“TITLE”*

Speaker: Cody Dunkin, Technical Field Coordinator, Bryan Equipment Sales Inc.

Description: Attendees will gain knowledge of how to safely operate a STIHL chainsaw, the proper PPE to wear and the reactive forces at play when cutting.

10:30 – 11:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

11:00 – 12:00 There is No Presentation in This Track

12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Dessert with Exhibitors

1:30 – 2:30 *“Underground Utilities Safety”*

Speaker: Gene Barbour, SW OHIO811 Liaison, Ohio Utilities Protection Service

Description: Attendees will learn the importance of having all underground utilities marked before any work begins. It can be a matter of life or death.

2:30 – 3:00 Break/Trade Show Opportunities

3:00 – 4:00 There is No Presentation in This Track

4:10-5:00 There is No Presentation in This Track