

2026

SPRING HOME & GARDEN

Spirit of Bainbridge



Breathe in the Fresh Air of Springtime!

By Anne E. North

Whew! We're almost there! That tapping sound you hear is me, impatiently tapping my foot, waiting for spring!

Oh, sure the temps will tease and baffle us, but now we can take it. We're on the home stretch!

Surveying winter's damage — tree branches down, garden fencing askew — is part of the early spring process. Our little garden gnome, who holds (what else?!) a book, is in need of a small repair. And it is projects like these that surely keep our hands busy while we wait for planting time!

There is nothing better than teaching a child to love the earth!

There is a saying among gardeners that if you think the season begins in the spring, you are missing the best part of gardening — the wonder of planning your garden in January! There is truth here, folks! Sometimes that planning is the only thing that keeps us gardeners sane during the winter. We are planning grow lights, heating mats and a little greenhouse to begin this trek into spring. Can't wait to see growth on the three-year-old asparagus plants I bought and planted last fall!

Remember to wait until nighttime temps are consistently above 50 degree before you clean up most yard debris! Critters are still using that debris as their over-winter shelter.

It was such a joy when my proofreader, Lisa, sent a text asking about beginning a garden with her granddaughter who is a toddler. There is nothing better than teaching a child to love the earth! I always advise parents and grandparents to begin with green beans, because they are relatively fast growing and most kids like to eat them! And if you garden organically, youngsters can eat them straight from the garden patch!

Scientists discovering that the dirt under your fingernails after gardening contains a bacteria that acts as a natural antidepressant, mimicking strong pharmaceuticals like Prozac. I concur! (Even though it has taken me years to develop the habit of wearing garden gloves!)

Make a note: Place a teaspoon of Epsom salts (covered with a fine layer of soil so it doesn't burn tender roots!) under pepper and tomato plants for the added magnesium.

I admit I sound like a broken record, but I would be remiss if I didn't tell the benefits of making small changes to your daily habits:

Compost. I know, I have preached about this practice annually, but I figure if I can get one new devotee to compost each year, well, that's progress! Just think of all the vegetable and fruits peels, coffee grounds and egg shells you discard in a year. All those nutrients could be replenishing the vitamins in your garden soil!

Recycling. Buy eggs in cardboard cartons instead of styrofoam. (We use cardboard cartons to start garden seeds inside!) Use ground coffee in compostable filters instead of those K-Cups that end up in a landfill. Recycle tissue boxes (after removing the plastic insert) as well as toilet paper and paper towel rolls. (Better yet, buy the non-disposable paper towels!) Do you buy butter in one-pound boxes? Those boxes can be flattened and put in your paper/cardboard recycling. This may sound like "one more thing to do" but trust me. It becomes habit quickly.

I am weaning myself from using paper calendars, entering all appointments into my cell phone calendar. Ditto grocery lists. And lists of books I want to read. If I mistakenly print out a form or letter that I don't need, I keep that paper for in-office use. No one will see it but me, and I feel better knowing I have saved one more piece of paper from the trash. I am trying very hard to send myself emails of notes instead of grabbing yet another Post-It note.

What is your garden plan? When this deadline is over, we will be planting our vegetable seeds indoors, with the help of grow lights and warming mats. The table normally utilized for paperwork, billing and mailing will be transformed. It seems like pepper plants and tomatoes take the longest to grow, so that's where we'll begin. Stay tuned...

Use ground coffee in compostable filters instead of those K-Cups that end up in a landfill.

Whatever the Reason, Whatever the Season... Bainbridge Can Count On Smylie One!



OH LIC #18265



CREATE A COMFORTABLE HOME
WITH A SPECIAL FINANCING RATE
and keep your family comfortable all year long

0% APR
FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS
With \$0 Down Payment

*Subject to credit approval.



SMYLIE ONE UNIVERSITY

Q: Should I have my HVAC Comfort System maintained every year?

A: At Smylie One we believe that there are 6 major benefits of regular HVAC Maintenance.

- 1. Fewer Breakdowns
- 2. Greater Efficiency
- 3. Longer Lifespan
- 4. Healthier Air
- 5. Peace of Mind
- 6. Improved Comfort

Your HVAC system will always break down when you need it most, and repairs / overtime service calls can be costly. Avoid that mistake, call Smylie One!

Pro-Max Tune-Up

Cooling or Heating Inspection

\$20 OFF

Now Only \$109

Over 30 Points on Inspection



Jordan & Steven Smylie



"Three Generations Strong"



Joey & Gary Rosen



"Smylie One has been a family-owned and operated business for over 70 years. Since 1955, The Smylie Family has been delivering honest, friendly, and affordable services from our family to yours.

For Service with a Smylie, Call Us Today!
- Steven Smylie

440-449-HEAT(4328)

www.smylieone.com

8323 Mayfield Rd. Chesterland, OH 44026
*5108 Richmond Rd. Bedford Heights, OH 44146

Valid thru 8/31/26. Limit one per household. During business hours. Not valid on prior sales. Can not be used in conjunction with any other discounts. Gas forced air and electric AC systems only.



Make This Year The Year of Your Dream Yard!



Full Service Landscaping
Spring and Fall Clean-up
Landscape Design & Rendering
Patio Walkways | Landscape Lighting
Water Features | Design/Build
Outdoor Kitchens
Bed and Lawn Installations | Pruning
Bed Maintenance
Weekly Lawn Maintenance

We now offer financing!



Outdoor Living

Your Outdoor Living Specialists
Call or Text for a **FREE ESTIMATE**

440-226-0262

inspiredoutdoorlivingllc@gmail.com • www.inspiredoutdoorlivingllc.com



Call Now to Get Scheduled!

SB 294: Is It Good for Ohio?

By Cecil West

Ohio Senate Bill 294 is based on model legislation from the American Legislative Exchange Council, ALEC, and is sponsored by George Lang of West Chester and Mark Romanchuk of Ontario. It is currently being considered by the Ohio Senate Energy committee. The bill's main purpose is to define and regulate what are considered to be "affordable, reliable and clean" energy sources.

To begin with, Ohio requires solar and wind farms to meet extra requirements that do not apply to fossil fuel or nuclear energy sources. This includes a county's ability to ban such projects while often deferring to local opposition. Opponents to gas and oil rigs often have little say in where those projects are placed.

That said, the bill's definitions often veer from established, common usage or established ways of describing what is in fact "reliable, clean" energy. Evangeline Hobbs, a deputy director of the American Clean Power Association, says, "If Senate Bill 294 were enacted, the Ohio Power Siting Board would be unable to support renewable energy projects under the bill's restrictive definitions. This would put Ohio at a disadvantage." Louisiana passed a similar statute that prioritized natural gas. New Hampshire is also considering a bill that says energy sources must be reliable, meaning not subject to routine daily weather variations. Senator Lang, last October, praised natural gas and admitted the bill was intended to take advantage of the fossil fuel. He stated that renewable energy has yet to meet reliability standards or qualifications as being cheap. He also said that renewable energy isn't really clean...yet. But later he claimed that renewable energy really isn't excluded, saying "there are definitions that need to be met". Those definitions require an energy source to be "readily available" with minimal interruptions during peak usage times. It would also require an energy source to have a 50 percent capacity factor, which is the ratio of its actual power output to its potential maximum. That condition alone would pretty much exclude wind and solar applications. Brendan Pierpoint of Energy Solutions believes that instead of insuring system-wide reliability, a single-minded focus on a high-capacity factor would distort markets and increase consumer costs.

This legislation also muddies the definition of what is clean energy. It states natural gas to be "clean" and the bill's language also could interpret some coal plants as "clean". Solar and wind are only implied to be "clean." (This is referencing federal law that says just that.) Nuclear power is also referred to as "clean" and while it actually is, largely, the waste is not.

Further, the definition of affordable in this bill also varies from its common meaning. Mounting data defines land-based solar and wind to actually have lower lifetime average costs. Recent developments have lowered the cost of storage, as well and that trend is likely to continue. This bill doesn't mention energy storage. Pairing storage with renewable energy raises their capacity factor.

Energy costs are already rising fast. Ohio Senate Bill 294 may well exacerbate that fact. American Clean Power's fact sheet from February 6 found that without more clean energy sources the average Ohio consumer would pay an additional \$6,500 through 2035.

Lastly, energy and its usage is an issue of growing concern for Ohio and America. I do not know how all of our readers feel about this or climate change but I hope you consider these things when voting. Senate bill 294 does not make sense to me but my beliefs do not matter! Yours do! Vote accordingly!

Once again, I wish peace and prosperity for you and yours!!!

Now's the Time to Be "Well" Educated!

Approximately 45 percent of Ohioans and nearly all (98 percent!) of Geauga County residents rely on groundwater wells to provide a constant supply of clean, safe drinking water. Join us during National Groundwater Awareness Week (March 8-14) to become "well" educated by learning more about Geauga County's groundwater resources and ways to monitor and maintain your well to safeguard your home's drinking water supply. The Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District, Geauga Public Health, Geauga County Department of Water Resources, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency are collaborating to present "Well Educated: A Deeper Look at Groundwater and Well Maintenance" on Wednesday, March 11 from 6-8 p.m. at the Geauga County Public Library Administrative Center, 12701 Ravenwood Dr., Chardon, OH 44024. Free and open to the public, this program will feature an overview of groundwater in Geauga County, our role in maintaining water wells, the importance of testing, and helpful resources that are available. Don't miss your chance to learn from local resource professionals and take the first important steps toward groundwater protection.

Gauga SWCD is also offering free total coliform bacteria drinking water tests to Geauga County residents who register and attend this program! Limited quantity, one per household, some restrictions apply. Reservations are required by Wednesday, March 4 due to limited seating and can be made at <https://fs12.formsite.com/GeaugaSWCD/WellEducated26/index>.

For more information contact 440-834-1122, gprunty@geauga.oh.gov, or visit geaugaswcd.com

Getting static about the dry air in your home?
Time for an Aprilaire Whole-Home Humidifier.
 Dry indoor air can mean static hair, itchy skin and cracking, peeling furniture. It can also mean increased exposure to the flu and cold viruses and bacteria that thrive in dry air. An Aprilaire whole-home humidifier delivers perfect humidity to your entire home, automatically. Without the mess and noise of a portable humidifier. All from the leader in whole-home humidification.



Aprilaire Fresh Ideas for Indoor Air®

To find out more, call your heating & cooling professional for the full story or go to Aprilaire.com

Call us today for a healthier, more comfortable home.

JACK STANKUS INC HEATING AND COOLING

FOR A FREE HOME ESTIMATE **440-543-5000**
WWW.STANKUSHEATING.COM



WINTER SPECIAL
\$50 OFF Installation
\$25 OFF Any service
 Not valid with other offer
 Expires 2/28/26

Spring Gale

Now through April 5 Save 15% on Kitchen Craft brand cabinetry. CALL OR VISIT US TODAY!
Minimum purchase applies. See designer for details.



Somrak KITCHENS
 Cabinetry & Counters for Every Room

216-464-6500
 26201 Richmond Rd.
 Bedford Hts., OH 44146
somrakkitchens.com



CROOKED RIVER
BUILDING SUPPLY

216-478-9700

19106 Miles Rd. Warrensville Hts. 44128

WINDOWS • DOORS • MILLWORK • HARDWARE • SIDING



Visit our showroom or our website today to hear about the difference Crooked River Building Supply can make for your renovation.



Please support our Spirit advertisers,
and tell them you saw their ad in
Spirit of Bainbridge!

Geauga Home and Garden Show Showcases the Best in Local Expertise

A celebration of home, garden and local craftsmanship returns to Amish Country!
The Geauga Home and Garden Show returns this spring with its largest footprint yet, bringing together more than 120 vendors across three buildings and two locations in Middlefield.

Now in its 19th year, the annual event will take place Friday, March 27, from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., and Saturday, March 28, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The show will span two buildings at Heritage Marketplace and one large building at nearby Fisher Flooring, offering attendees a full weekend of inspiration for home, garden and outdoor projects.

“This year’s show promises to be better than ever,” said show organizer Paul Wengerd. “Utilizing three buildings across two locations allows us to offer more vendors, greater variety and a truly unforgettable experience for everyone who attends.”

Visitors can expect a wide range of exhibitors, including home improvement professionals, landscapers, builders and specialty contractors, as well as Amish Country artisans offering handmade furniture, garden décor and unique home accessories. Shoppers will also find tools, furnishings and outdoor essentials, many available with show-only pricing and promotions.

In addition to shopping and networking with local experts, attendees will have opportunities to participate in giveaways and silent auctions. Prizes include custom lawn furniture and a storage barn from Pine Craft Storage Barns, along with a variety of door prizes donated by participating vendors.

The Geauga Home and Garden Show will be held at the following locations:

- Heritage Marketplace, 15848 Nauvoo Rd., Middlefield
- Fisher Flooring, 16286 Nauvoo Rd Middlefield, located approximately one mile east of Heritage Marketplace on the same side of the road

Admission is \$10, with children under 18 admitted free.

While attending the show, visitors are encouraged to explore the year-round shops and attractions at Heritage Marketplace. These include Country Arts and Jewelry, the Geauga Amish History Center, Yoder’s Bargains, Valley View, Heritage Trailers and Pine Craft Storage Barns, which will offer on-site construction consultations during the event.

For nearly two decades, the Geauga Home and Garden Show has served as both a marketplace and a community gathering, highlighting local talent and supporting small businesses throughout northeast Ohio.

“This event is more than just a show,” Wengerd said. “It’s a destination that brings people together to celebrate craftsmanship, creativity and the unique character of Amish Country.”

Whether planning a renovation, seeking garden inspiration or simply enjoying a day out, organizers say the expanded 2026 show offers something for everyone.

For updates and additional information, visit theheritagemarketplace.com or follow Heritage Marketplace on Facebook. Cabela’s will be there with an archery shoot for kids!

Live vendor demonstrations are planned; Saturday 1 p.m.: Flagship Healthcare

For more information, contact Leanna Wengerd, 440-632-0174, leanna@pincraftstructures.com

Call for Entries: Nature Writing Contest Earth Day is the deadline for beloved writing tradition

If Nature has ever sparked your imagination, this is your sign to start writing!

Geauga Park District is now accepting entries for its 31st Annual Nature Writing Contest, inviting writers of all ages and experience levels — from seasoned wordsmiths to first-time dabblers — to share their Nature-inspired pieces of poetry or prose (like a story or essay). Let the seasons (or just a little creative curiosity) guide you...who knows where your words might wander or whether a cash prize could be in your future!

Contest details and the official application are now available at www.geaugaparkdistrict.org under News & Updates. Prefer paper? Printed applications can be picked up at The West Woods Nature Center, Big Creek Park’s Meyer Center, or your favorite Geauga County library.

To enter, applications are due by email (preferred) or mail no later than Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22. Three age categories divide writers by adult (18+), adolescent (ages 12–17) and child (ages 11 and under), with separate divisions for poetry and prose.

Contest winners will then enjoy cash prizes (generously sponsored once again by the Foundation for Geauga Parks), invitation to a special celebration the evening of Wednesday, July 8, at Claridon Woodlands, publication in the annual winners chapbook and on www.geaugaparkdistrict.org, and recognition in the Park District’s summer activity guide, reaching nearly 43,000 Geauga households.

Have questions or need a little clarification? Email Sandy at sward@geaugaparkdistrict.org. This beloved writing tradition has been able to continue all these years thanks to the support of writers, parents and teachers who enter and share the application with those Nature-inspired writers in their lives. Thanks in advance for another great year, happy writing and good luck!

For more on Geauga Park District offerings, please call 440-286-9516 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or visit Geauga Park District online via www.geaugaparkdistrict.org, Facebook, X, Instagram or YouTube.

It’s that time of year...
**Mice and Spiders can become a
problem in your home or business!**

Call NOW to schedule your service!

440-338-3101



MOULDINGS ONE



COMPLETELY RENOVATED SHOWROOM

In-stock mouldings, doors, trim, and stair parts
OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC



13851 STATION ROAD, MIDDLEFIELD, OHIO 44062
P: 440.834.3420 E: SALES@MOULDINGSONE.COM
MOULDINGSONE.COM

Enjoy Local Craftsmanship and Creativity

**WIN
THIS BUILDING**
\$10 per ticket
or 7 for \$50



WIN
PRIZES

March 27TH & 28TH

Friday • 9AM - 8:30 PM

Saturday • 8AM - 3PM

Enjoy delicious
food &
refreshments

Admission fee: \$10 per person (18+older),
includes free door price ticket.



2 Locations - 3 Buildings!

RT. 608 Nauvoo Rd. RT. 528

**HERITAGE
MARKETPLACE**
15848 Nauvoo Rd.
Middlefield, OH
440-632-0174

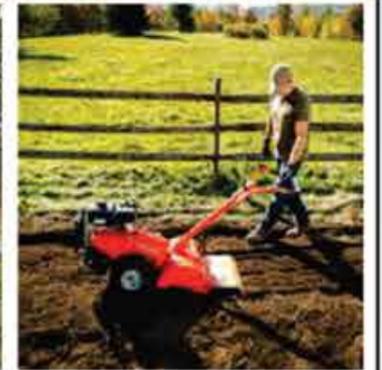
Fisher Flooring, LLC
16286 Nauvoo Rd.
Middlefield, OH
440-632-1957



FIRST QUALITY POWER PLACE

Your Destination for QUALITY OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT!

SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE*
*Subject to credit approval.
Minimum monthly payments required.
See store for details.
While supplies last.



FIRST QUALITY POWER PLACE
SCHEDULE YOUR SPRING SERVICE TODAY

Geauga HOME & GARDEN Show 2026
Visit The Geauga Home & Garden Show on March 27 & 28

FIRST QUALITY POWER PLACE

16891 Kinsman Rd. (Rt. 87), Middlefield, OH 44062
440-632-5068/800-845-0526
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8am-6pm • Weds & Sat 8am-2pm
www.firstqualityonline.com

Will Spring Come in Like a Lion or a Lamb?

By Jeff Griff

Many of you may know that I have become something of a Snowbird so when I say we've had a tough winter, I really mean that I heard that you had a tough winter. (Sorry/not sorry.) Many of us are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to get back into the garden while others are dreading all the gardening tasks that spring invariably brings but all of us have a desire to be efficient and effective in our gardening pursuits. In all my many years of providing gardening advice the most questions I get and mistakes I see originate in the spring. Like most endeavors, getting ahead of the game is key... once you fall behind it is all the more difficult, expensive or just plain impossible to catch up. That being said, I would like to share the 10 most common spring gardening tips that can help you have the most successful gardening season ever.

Avoid treading on wet garden soils. It's the first warm day that you have been able to get free, and you want to go out and play in the dirt but beware of walking into wet garden beds. The most important ingredient in garden soils is air and treading on soggy soil will compress these vital air pockets making it more difficult for plants to grow. As difficult as it may be, you need to wait for soil to dry out before entering planting/garden bed areas.

Start your weed control program early. I'm weird... I like to weed but for most folks it is the most dreaded of gardening tasks. If that is you, starting a weed control program early is a key to success. Pre-emergent herbicides are an invaluable (and underutilized) tool in your gardening arsenal. Applied as a liquid spray or (more popularly) in a granular form, these products stop weed seeds below the surface of the soil before they emerge. Different weeds germinate at different temperatures so the first application of pre-emergent weed killer should occur in late March/early April, again in early-mid-May, in mid-June and (if needed) again in late September. Areas with existing weed populations will need to be cleaned (by pulling or with a post-emergent herbicide) before a pre-emergent will be fully effective. Proper mulching is next in line of defense in the weed control toolbox.

Follow the rules of Mulch Madness. Freshly mulched garden beds not only look great, but the mulch also helps to maintain soil moisture, temper summer soil temperatures and do a great job of controlling weeds. The first mistake many homeowners make is by mulching too early in the season. Soils should be warm and dry before mulch is spread and that may not occur until mid-late May. Mulch should be spread as thin as possible (2-3" deep) and be kept away from the base/stems/trunks of existing plants. In the case when there may already be enough mulch in beds, a light tilling/stirring of existing mulch will provide a fresh appearance. In planting beds that remain moist (especially where perennial plants are located) it may be better to mulch in late fall so you can get the mulch

down without having to work around wet soils and/or delicate perennial leaves. The type of mulch you use is very much a personal decision. The larger the particle size of the mulch the longer its typical lifespan, while more finely processed mulches are generally considered most appealing. Personally, I have switched to fresh wood chips for my yard and have loved the results.

Know when to prune what. Year after year my dad would get into big trouble by pruning the flowers off my mom's dogwood tree. Most spring blooming trees and shrubs form flower buds in late summer so pruning these too early may result in flower bud removal and big trouble! Just to be safe, prune flowering trees and shrubs immediately after blooming for best results. Prune evergreens only on fresh, new growth that may not appear until late spring. Structural pruning, removing dead or damaged stems and rejuvenating overgrown specimens can be done throughout the spring.

Establish your turf expectations. Details of turf care will vary greatly depending on your expectations. For some, weeds are just wildflowers and the most important thing is avoiding the use of any chemicals on the lawn while others desire a golf course quality turf. Either way, fertilizing your lawn is the first step in the right direction. Proper nutrition will allow turf to out-compete weed populations and will be especially important after the heavy snow we had this winter. Give your lawn time to wake up! Deep snow is tough on turf, but a few spring thunderstorms and some warm weather will cure much of the damage you first see in early spring. Crabgrass is not to be ignored as it can be very destructive. Apply crabgrass control in early April for best results. Broadleaf weed control doesn't occur until mid-late May and I feel it is best accomplished with a liquid control that is more effective and introduces far less chemicals into our environment.

Make pest control easy, inexpensive and less toxic. We could talk all day about individual insects and the plants they may damage but there is a low toxicity, eco-friendly spray that will control a wide array of insect pests. Horticultural oil applied in early spring suffocates overwintering insects and mite eggs on woody ornamental plants. Plants that benefit from an oil spray include (but are not limited to); Roses, Viburnum, Birch, Lilacs, Rhododendron, Azalea, Pieris, Pines, Spruce, fruit trees (and bushes), Dogwood, Magnolia and Euonymous. Spray before leaves emerge but only when temperatures remain above freezing for 24 hours or more.

Time your vegetable and annual flower planting properly. This is another subject that could take a long time to cover so we'll just hit the basics here. First, our local average last frost date is May 20 so while there are some flowering annuals that can tolerate a light freeze (pansy, violas, dianthus, snapdragons and alyssum), most others will need to wait until the danger of frost has passed. If you are planting flowers outdoors in containers you have more flexibility to move and/or cover them if freezing temperatures arise. Cold-tolerant vegetables include cabbage, kale, cauliflower, onions, carrots, beets and lettuce. If you are starting your plants by seed (flower or vegetable), timing is even more important. Some seeds can be planted directly in the garden while others need to be started indoors and then transplanted into the garden later. Seed packets will generally provide all the information you need, but a soil thermometer may be helpful.

Plan ahead for big projects. Procrastination is something we all deal with so realize when planning for a big landscape project, putting off the planning process can lead to less-than-ideal results. For DIY projects, you may find projects take much longer than expected and, in my experience, that's when shortcuts get in the way of ideal results. Unless you have been living under a rock, you likely realize it can be difficult to arrange to get work done by quality contractors and in the world of landscaping, the planning process is generally much longer than most clients figure it will be. Planning a season or two ahead of time allows for less pressure and a greater opportunity for research. Trying to shoehorn a project into a short time frame often leads to hiring a contractor who is less desirable. The best, most affordable and reliable providers are always booked way ahead so do all you can to give yourself the best results and the least amount of stress.

Realize Mother Nature is in charge. I have thrown out dates for this and that but realize that gardening (like farming) is subject to weather conditions that are in a constant state of change. Timing is based on averages over many years, so you have to take current conditions into account. Some years start early...others, later so be aware!

Utilize local professional advice. In northeastern Ohio we are blessed with an abundance of high-quality, locally-owned garden centers who all have very qualified plantspeople who not only are knowledgeable of specific local conditions but are also generally eager to answer your specific questions. Google is a wonderful thing, but it can't tell you all the specifics your local garden professional can. Nothing is more exciting than helping another gardener achieve success in their endeavors so seek out those individuals and utilize their knowledge and experience.

If you are anything like me, you have been dreaming of all you want to accomplish in your garden this year and once the season arrives we all want to hit the ground running so do all you can now to remove the barriers to your gardening success.

Now go outside and have fun playing in the dirt!

MNR Construction

Call for a **FREE Consultation and Estimate**

ON TIME AND ON BUDGET
Remodeling • Additions • Garages
Porches • Decks • Carpenter Work
owner Marty Kurtz
440-635-7569

**PERFORMANCE YOU CAN FEEL
EXPERTISE YOU CAN TRUST.**

OUR SPRING SERVICES INCLUDE:

EMERGENCY REPAIRS.	EXCAVATION.
WATER HEATERS.	PLUMBING.
DRAIN CLEANING.	HYDRO-JETTING.
CAMERA INSPECTIONS.	SUMP PUMPS.
SEWER LINES.	BACKFLOW SERVICES.
ICE MELT DRIVEWAYS.	AND MORE.

CONTACT US TODAY
ACPLUMBINGCLEVELAND.COM
216.616.4999

AC Plumbing Heating & Mechanical
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED. CUSTOMER DRIVEN.

5-STAR RATED ON GOOGLE

Plan to Plant Trees with Geauga SWCD's Spring Tree Sale!

Start off the new year by making a sound investment for your future...plant a tree! There are countless ways trees positively affect us, our homes, and our communities. Whether replacing a tree lost to pest or storm damage or adding new species for beauty and diversity, the simple act of planting trees reduces stormwater runoff while improving water quality, soil health, and property value. To help bring these benefits to your backyard, Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) announces the 2026 Spring Tree Sale! The Tree Sale will be held Thursday, April 16 and Friday, April 17 and offers a streamlined selection of both bareroot coniferous seedlings and one- to three-gallon deciduous container trees and shrubs. From Sweet Birch to Elderberry and Quaking Aspen to Pawpaw, this year's selection is colorful, affordable, and suitable to a wide variety of landscaping needs. Rain barrels are also available for year-round backyard benefits! Consider purchasing tree sale gift certificates for unique, meaningful gifts.

To place an order, please visit our website at geaugaswcd.com. There you will find descriptions of tree species available along with the online ordering link to place orders and make payments. This is the recommended and easiest way to place your order! If unable to use the online ordering option, a form is available to submit with payment.

Order deadline is Monday, March 30. Orders are filled on first-come, first-served basis, and Geauga SWCD does not offer guarantees or refunds on purchases. The tree sale pick-up dates are Thursday, April 16 from 4-8 p.m. and Friday, April 17 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Geauga County Fairgrounds. Don't delay. Order your trees today! Questions? Call 440-834-1122.

There's No Place Like Home!

Geauga & Portage SWCDs Summer Educator Workshop

Attention, educators! Reward yourself with an enriching professional development experience on the shores of Lake Erie by attending the Advanced Wonders of Watersheds workshop.

This comprehensive three-day program offers valuable outdoor investigations, new resources, engaging activities, field explorations, optional graduate credit hours, and time to connect and rejuvenate! Join us Tuesday, June 23-Thursday, June 25 for learning adventures throughout the Lake Erie basin while lodging at Old Woman Creek, one of Ohio's best remaining natural estuaries. Designed to deepen our connections to the natural world, this workshop will provide an in-depth look at our soil, climate, and waterways within the Lake Erie Basin and ways to effectively integrate these topics into the classroom. Participants will receive a wide variety of curriculum resources including classroom-ready composting supplies, lessons, and a compost bin funded by Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste District's Go Green Community Grant program. Each day will take us on new adventures to enhance our skills and sense of wonder.

Open to educators of all grades and disciplines. Enrollment is limited so register soon! For more information visit geaugaswcd.com/education/teacher/ or contact Gail Prunty at gprunty@geauga.oh.gov or 440-834-1122.

The Joy of Shade Gardening

What if the most important part of your yard isn't the sunny flower bed, but the quiet space beneath your trees? Geauga Park District invites residents to find out during Shade Gardening: Making the Most of Soft Landing Gardens on Saturday, March 14, from 10-11:30 a.m. at The West Woods Nature Center.

Led by Dave Tomashefski of Meadow City Nursery, this engaging program will explore how the shaded areas under trees — often overlooked in traditional landscaping — play a vital role in supporting wildlife. These "soft landing" gardens provide critical habitat where countless caterpillars transform into moths and butterflies, essential members of our local ecosystem. In turn, these insects help sustain birds and other wildlife higher up the food chain. Participants will learn practical, easy-to-apply strategies for designing gardens that not only beautify shady spaces but also nurture the full life cycle of beneficial insects. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just beginning to explore native plants, this program offers inspiration for creating a yard that supports Nature at every level.

This collaborative program is presented in partnership with the Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio and Geauga Master Gardeners. No registration is required, and the Nature Center is fully wheelchair and stroller accessible at 9465 Kinsman Rd. (Rt. 87) in Russell Township.

For more on Geauga Park District offerings, please call 440-286-9516 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or visit Geauga Park District online via www.geaugaparkdistrict.org.



J & J Shingle Rejuvenation LLC

FREE GUTTER CLEANING WITH NEW GUTTER GUARDS



We will revive your shingles without a full tearoff

Full tearoffs, metal roofs, pole barns *FREE ROOF INSPECTIONS*

Call: 440-321-7610 440-636-2724

Don't replace it, reacti8 it

FALLS FLOOR Gallery

CELEBRATING OVER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE CHAGRIN VALLEY!

LUXURY VINYL TILE (LVT)
HARDWOODS
CARPET • CERAMIC
LAMINATE

8547 E. WASHINGTON STREET
CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO • 44023
(RT. 306 & E. WASHINGTON STREET)

440.543.1556

MONDAY - FRIDAY 10-6
SATURDAY 10-4
CLOSED SUNDAYS

SALE IN PROGRESS
COME IN AND SEE OUR NEW SPRING LINES!




From Cool Weather Critters to Signs of Spring

As winter begins to loosen its grip, step outside and experience two guided programs that highlight the surprising life stirring in our parks — from birdsong in the treetops to insects on the snow.

On Saturday, March 14, from 9-11 a.m., join Chief Naturalist John Kolar at The Rookery for Spring's Around the Corner Bird Walk. This slow-paced walk through forest and wetland habitats offers the chance to observe both year-round resident birds and early migratory visitors returning north.

This is an ideal outing for beginners and seasoned birders alike, as Naturalist John will assist with bird observation and identification. Binoculars will be available to borrow, or participants may bring their own.

Then on Sunday, March 22, from 2-3:30 p.m., head to Beartown Lakes Reservation for Icy Insects, a hike which may reveal a hidden world many hikers overlook.

While most insects wait for warm weather, some species actually become active in the cold. With a sharp eye, participants may spot springtails, stoneflies, spiders and other hardy creatures crawling across the forest floor — even on top of snow. This unique program with Naturalist Andy Avram will showcase the fascinating adaptations that allow wildlife to thrive in Geauga County's colder months.

Registration is not required to join either exploration. The Rookery is located at 1011 Cedar Road in Munson Township, and Beartown Lakes Reservation is located at 11870 Quinn Road in Auburn Township. Please dress for the variable weather of the season.

For more on Geauga Park District offerings, please call 440-286-9516 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or visit Geauga Park District online via www.geaugaparkdistrict.org, Facebook, X, Instagram or YouTube.

Be on Amphibian Alert

Want to witness the natural phenomenon of spring breeding behavior of Wood Frogs, Spring Peepers and possibly large salamanders as they move into The West Woods' woodland pools on a warm, rainy night? Register your name at www.geaugaparkdistrict.org under Programs & Events, then filter by program type Annual, to receive a call the day we'll be hosting this annual, exclusive, naturalist-led exploration!

Your notification should come sometime between early March through early April, a call sharing that our program will occur that very evening either from 8 to 9:15 p.m. or from 9:30 to 10:45 p.m., depending on which time slot you registered for. Participants should dress for the weather and bring flashlights.

For more on Geauga Park District offerings, please call 440-286-9516 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or visit Geauga Park District online via www.geaugaparkdistrict.org, Facebook, X, Instagram or YouTube.

TRIMTECH carpentry llc

FOCUSING ON YOUR INTERIOR JOBS

- interior trim • flooring
- cabinets • doors
- basement remodeling
- general carpentry
- handyman services

Handyman Services

TRIMTECH carpentry llc

440-313-6614

Serving Geauga & the surrounding Counties

collaborating with builders & contractors





PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR SERVICE

WE ARE FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR OVER 70 YEARS.
WE SERVICE HOMEOWNERS AND BUSINESS OWNERS IN GEAUGA, LAKE AND CUYAHOGA COUNTIES. SPECIALIZING IN PLUMBING REPAIR, PUMP AND WATER SYSTEMS, WATER SOFTENERS AND CONDITIONERS, HEATING / AIR CONDITIONING, BOILERS (HOT WATER HEAT)

CALL US TODAY!

NOLAN MAINTENANCE, INC. (440) 729-7302

LIC # 27224+48035

\$20 off SERVICE CALL OF \$200 OR MORE FOR PLUMBING OR HEATING

Valid during normal business hours only. Not valid w/other offers or on quoted jobs.
Nolan Maintenance Inc. 440-729-7302 Expires 04/30/26

plumbing
heating
air conditioning

8179 Mayfield Rd | Chesterland, OH 44026





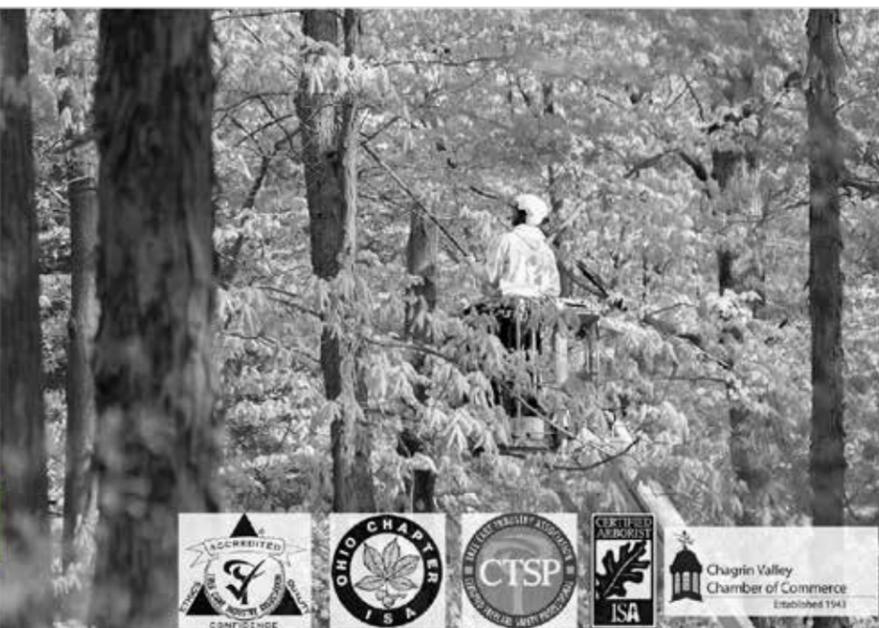
INDEPENDENT TREE

YOUR LOCAL TREE CARE PROFESSIONALS SERVING THE CHAGRIN VALLEY SINCE 1996

HOME GROWN

440-564-1374

www.INDEPENDENTTREE.com

John's LAWN SERVICE
Established 2016

- Property Maintenance
- Landscape Design & Installs
- And More

Call/Text @ **216-337-7484**

The Flag Store, LLC ★
10739 Kinsman Rd.
P.O. Box 626
Newbury, Oh 44065

Caitlin R. Stewart
Owner
440-564-5599
flagstoreandmore@gmail.com
www.theflagstoreandmore.com

The Waterproofing Experts

- Drainage & Ext. Plumbing
- Basement Waterproofing
- Camera & Jet Snaking
- Foundation Repairs
- Excavating & Grading
- Septic Systems

440.543.3683
www.sitworkdeveloping.com

FINANCING
OPTIONS AVAILABLE

SERVICES:
• maintenance
• installation
• water wells
• pressure tanks
• well pumps
• water treatment
• camera inspection

MAX HERR & SONS
Well Drilling & Pump Service

TERRY HERR & KYLE HERR
4th generation of service.
• drilled over 3,000 wells in Geauga County alone.
• abandonment of wells for customers in our surrounding area.

WATER TREATMENT

Max Herr Well Drilling
\$25 OFF Service
[OFFER VALID IN 2024]

All's Well That Ends Well
(330) 562-8850 | (216) 408-7321
maxherrwell@aol.com
www.maxherrwellandpump.com

GASTEC FIREPLACE SERVICE • REPAIR

Service and Repair

- Gas Fireplaces
- Gas Log Sets
- Gas Lights
- MHP Grills

440-785-8721
gastecfireplace.com
gastecfireplace@gmail.com

NATIONAL FIREPLACE INSTITUTE
NFI
CERTIFIED

THE BENEFIT SOURCE INC.
Insurance Solutions with Choices

RONALD J. FLEETER
President

25700 Science Park Dr. • Ste 130
Beachwood, Ohio 44122
ron@ebenefitsource.com
www.ebenefitsource.com
P (216) 595-5300
F (216) 595-9658

WILLY B'S ROOFING and PAINTING

1-440-636-5607

Reroofs • New Construction
Interior/Exterior
Repairs • Repaints
Airless Spraying

FREE estimates

HONEST SCALES RECYCLING
Turn Your TRASH Into CASH

"Recycle where honesty counts!"
CASH PAID FOR SCRAP METALS
ALUMINUM | BRASS | COPPER | CARS
ELECTRONICS | RADIATORS | STAINLESS STEEL & STEEL

15535 Burton-Windsor Rd., Middlefield
440-632-3083
Mon-Fri: 7am to 4:30pm, Sat: 7am to Noon

ONLY Scrap Yard in Geauga Co.

REPAIR & REMODEL
Quality HOME & BUSINESS MAINTENANCE

- We Fix POINT-OF-SALE VIOLATIONS
- HANDYMAN SERVICES**
- Painting | Wallpapering
- Drywall Repair
- Minor Plumbing Repairs
- BUILDING EXTERIOR REPAIRS**
- Roof Maintenance
- Exterior Painting
- Siding Repairs
- ADDITIONS & REMODELS**

440-313-7940
David Byler, owner

FREE ESTIMATES

and much more!
Insured
References upon request

CHIS 440-487-7495
CompHomeInc.com

COMPREHENSIVE HOME INSPECTION SERVICES

Home Inspection & Handyman Services

FALLS FLOOR Gallery

WOOD • CARPET • LAMINATE • CERAMIC • CORK • LVT

440-543-1556
8547 E. Washington Street • Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44023
(Rt. 306 & E. Washington Street)
cameronsdnc@aol.com

DUNCAN CAMERON • Owner

SNOW BLOWER & LAWN MOWER REPAIR

Complete snow blower and lawn & garden tune-up and repair!
PICK UP AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Don't wait till spring...have us service your lawn equipment before the spring rush...call now!

R&B Mower
440.729.2324

11711 Chillicothe Road • Chesterland, Ohio 44026

*Our Spirit Classifieds get real results at a very low cost!
You can saturate the Bainbridge/Auburn market in a community newspaper that is well-read for just pennies per household!
Isn't your business worth the investment?
Email us at spiritofbainbridge@gmail.com for more information.*

Double W Construction LLC

REPLACEMENT WINDOWS & DOORS
Carpentry, Decks, Siding, Remodels,
Finished Basements & Cabinetry

We Specialize in Building Relationships!

440-635-6033

William Byler



40th Year in Business

VENEER Tree Service

TRUSTED TREE CARE & REMOVAL

- Using the best machinery and equipment for tree removal
 - Lot clearing • Stump grinding • Crane service
- Expertise in managing large and dangerous tree removals
 - Efficient, reliable, experienced and insured

24/7 EMERGENCY TREE SERVICE



Can you believe it's **SPRING** already!

Time's flying! Give us a call!



FREE CONSULTATIONS

GET A QUOTE

216-956-8149

www.veneertreeservice.com

11260 Kinsman Road • Newbury, OH 44065

It's spring tree trimming season call to schedule!



MARK GAMIERE
Owner/Operator

"I am always on site for a professional excellent outcome."

If you would like to know more about me, visit our website and go to **about**.



facebook.com/veneertree

