

Hello Green Team!

Firstly, I'd like to Congratulate Sue Swyt for receiving Central Ohio's "20 Outstanding Women You Should Know" award! We are very proud of you Sue!!!

I've attached our 2008 schedule. Our next event is in March. We'll be working on removing invasives. I am hoping to continue our work at Indian Run Falls Park.

Ohio salamanders do not usually conger up images of love. You wouldn't think this cold month holds romance for these cold blooded creatures. However, February is the time for love in the animal kingdom. Not all salamanders and amphibians mate during this cold month, but many do and this makes it the time to start monitoring wetlands!

Amphibians are typically associated with reptiles. Although there are many similarities, reptiles have just as much in common with birds. Salamanders and most reptiles produce eggs and develop young outside the mother's body. However, amphibian eggs are soft without the hard shell and therefore need to be kept moist. Hence, wetlands play a vital role in helping them develop.

Salamanders spend winter just below the frost line in a state of semi hibernation. Unlike the wood frog, salamanders can not freeze solid. As winter fades salamanders start their migrations to breeding areas. Chrissy Pfeiffer, from Glacier Ridge Metro Park starts monitoring their vernal pools around Valentine's Day. Ahh love. She's even found mating salamanders under the ice!

There are 26 types of salamanders in Ohio. North America has more than the rest of the world combined! However, this animal struggles due to human development. Remember over 85% of Ohio's wetlands have been destroyed.

What can we do to help salamanders? Well, recognizing vernal pools is the first step. We do have some in Dublin, but are unaware of most. Many homeowners are fearful the standing water harbors mosquito larvae. Vernal pools can, but most are dry by the time mosquitoes are reproducing. Furthermore, vernal pools provide habitat for far more than amphibians. Most have predatory aquatic insects that would eat mosquito larvae.

Water quality is another way to help salamanders and for that matter, all amphibians. Amphibians are what many call an 'indicator' species. They are our canary in a coal mine. Because their skin is so sensitive, we see when chemicals are in our environment. Imagine having all the water and air you need pass through your skin. Now imagine it full of yuck. The cleaner we keep our water the easier they and the rest of nature have it!

There's so much more to write about when it comes to this fascinating animal, but I've reached a page already. Perhaps we'll bring a speaker in! I hope you all have a great February, full of love.

See you soon,  
Mime

# Green Team 2008

|                               |                                 |                    |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Event:</b>                 | <b>Invasive Species Removal</b> | Volunteer Project: | Invasive Removal          |
| Educational Session:          | Organic Lawn Care               | Location:          | To be announced           |
| Date:                         | <b>March 20, 2008</b>           | Date:              | <b>March 22, 2008</b>     |
| Time:                         | 7pm Service Center              | Time:              | 10am to 2pm               |
| <hr/>                         |                                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Event:</b>                 | <b>Earth Day Planting</b>       | Volunteer Project: | Earth Day Planting        |
| Educational Session:          | Landscaping with Natives        | Location:          | To be announced           |
| Plants                        |                                 | Date:              | <b>April</b>              |
| Date:                         | <b>April</b>                    | Time:              | To be announced           |
| Time:                         | 7pm Service Center              |                    |                           |
| <hr/>                         |                                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Event:</b>                 | <b>Bicycle Collecting</b>       | Volunteer Project: | Bicycle Collection        |
| Educational Session:          | City Work                       | Location:          | <b>Justice Center</b>     |
| Date:                         | <b>May 15, 2008</b>             | Date:              | <b>May 17, 2008</b>       |
| Time:                         | 7pm Service Center              | Time:              | To be announced           |
| <hr/>                         |                                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Event:</b>                 | <b>Storm Drain Marking</b>      | Volunteer Project: | Storm Drain Marking       |
| Educational Session:          | City of Dublin Forestry         | Location:          | To be announced           |
| Department/ What do trees do? |                                 | Date:              | <b>June 14, 2008</b>      |
| Date:                         | <b>June 12, 2008</b>            | Time:              | 10am to 2pm               |
| Time:                         | 7pm Service Center              |                    |                           |
| <hr/>                         |                                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Event:</b>                 | <b>Scioto River Day</b>         | Volunteer Project: | Scioto River Day          |
| Educational Session:          |                                 | Location:          | Scioto Park               |
| Date:                         | <b>No Education Session!</b>    | Date:              | <b>August 16, 2008</b>    |
| Time:                         |                                 | Time:              | 10:00am to 2:00pm,        |
| <hr/>                         |                                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Event:</b>                 | <b>Stream Quality</b>           | Volunteer Project: | Stream Quality Monitoring |
| <b>Monitoring</b>             |                                 | Location:          | To be announced           |
| Educational Session:          | Franklin County Soil and        | Date:              | <b>September 20, 2008</b> |
| Water                         |                                 | Time:              | 10am to 2pm               |
| Date:                         | <b>September 18, 2008</b>       |                    |                           |
| Time:                         | 7pm Service Center              |                    |                           |
| <hr/>                         |                                 |                    |                           |
| <b>Event:</b>                 | <b>Shoe Collection/Make a</b>   | Volunteer Project: | Collect Shoes             |
| <b>Difference Day</b>         |                                 | Location:          | DCRC                      |
| Educational Session:          | Waste Not Center Visit          | Date:              | <b>October 25, 2008</b>   |
| Date:                         | <b>October 23, 2008</b>         | Time:              | 10:00am to 2:00pm         |
| Time:                         | We're trying to get an          |                    |                           |
| evening visit!!               |                                 |                    |                           |

**\*\*All event times are subject to change. Please watch your e-mail to confirm time for each event.**