

Two Plant Exchanges



April 28

The Wood County Plant Exchange begins at 9 a.m. with plant drop off at the Wood County Fairgrounds. Bring labeled, weed-free plants and gently used gardening paraphernalia. At 10, the "give-away" area opens and continues until plants are gone, usually about 10:45. Everyone gets three free items; people who bring plants receive more. Informational booths and expert advice for the asking. The fairgrounds are at Haskins and Poe roads in Bowling Green. Organized by OSU Extension Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers. FREE. 419-354-9050 and <https://www.facebook.com/WCPlantExchange/>

May 5

The Toledo Plant Exchange, in its 14th year, begins with plant drop-off from 8:30 to 10 in the parking garage of Main Library downtown. Bring labeled, weed-free plants and gently used gardening paraphernalia. There will be informational booths and experts to answer questions. Plant giveaway begins at 10 and continues until about 10:45. Attendees will receive five free plants, while those who bring items to share will receive more. Enter the garage from Adams off of 11th street, and drive to the garage's far end. It's a collaboration of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, OSU Extension Lucas County Master Gardener Volunteers, and community gardeners. FREE. 419-578-6783 and <https://www.facebook.com/events/222120208339358/>

Details

Gardeners often suffer from a characteristic that's shy of admirable: insatiability for plants they do not possess. The best balm for this is going to a free plant exchange, for which they can divide and donate their own largesse and then "shop" for greens that will satiate, at least temporarily.

We're fortunate to have two such events in spring when this condition is at its most pronounced: at the Wood County Fairgrounds on April 28 and in downtown Toledo at the Main Library on May 5.

What's likely to turn up at a plant exchange? In addition to about 20 volunteers (most are graduates of the rigorous OSU Extension Master Gardener program), there are usually ornamental grasses, edibles (berries, herbs, seedlings), bulbs (daffodils and the statuesque red cannas), several varieties of ground covers, seeds, tree saplings, and the perennial favorites, hostas and day lilies.

Donated plants should be labeled with their names, be free of weeds, and in bags or pots. Garden paraphernalia such as gently-used tools, gloves, and yard art, is also accepted.

Plants being donated will be unloaded from cars by volunteers and sorted into categories for easy "shopping." In addition, people often bring their own boxes or wagons in which to carry their bounty.

The Bowling Green Plant Exchange begins at 9 a.m. April 28 with plant drop off, informational tables, and expert advice from the legion of Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers who produce the event. Plant giveaway begins at 10 and is typically finished by 11 a.m. The Wood County Fairgrounds is at Haskins and Poe roads.

Toledo's Plant Exchange on May 5, begins at 8:30 a.m. with plant drop off, informational tables, and answers to your questions. The giveaway begins at 10 and is mostly done by 10:30. The Main Library is at 325 Michigan St.; enter the parking garage from 11th and then Adams streets.

The Toledo event is a collaboration between the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, the OSU Extension Lucas County Master Gardeners, and unaffiliated garden enthusiasts. —Article by Tahree Lane