



UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT UNION HUSTON-BRUMBAUGH NATURE CENTER



2018 Summer Newsletter

Discover the Wonder of Nature's Ever-Changing Story

Nature Almanac

June

- 3..... Look for young frogs and toads emerging from ponds
- 21..... Summer Solstice
- 28..... Full Strawberry Moon

July

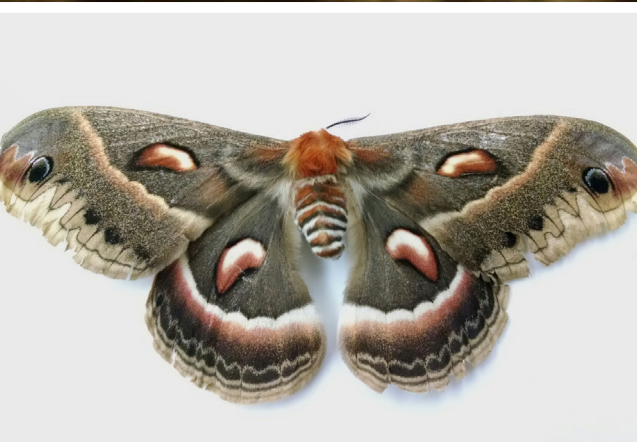
- 12..... The best time to view the planet Mercury; look low in the western sky after sunset
- 25..... Moth abundance and diversity peaks
- 27..... Full Buck Moon

August

- 2..... Listen for "dog day" cicadas
- 19..... Monarch butterflies lay eggs to create the migratory generation
- 26..... Full Sturgeon Moon

September

- 16..... Monarch butterfly migration peaks
- 22..... Autumnal Equinox
- 24..... Full Harvest Moon



The John T. Huston – Dr. John D. Brumbaugh Nature Center

Mission Statement:

The John T. Huston - Dr. John D. Brumbaugh Nature Center provides and supports opportunities for enjoying and learning about our natural and cultural heritage.

Staff:

Jamie Greiner, Sustainability and Campus Outreach Manager
Michael Greiner, Site Manager
Charles McClaugherty, Director
Karen Santee, Facilities Manager
Bonnie Twaddle, Community Outreach Coordinator
Lin Wu, Ecologist
Adam Zorn, Program Manager

Visit:

Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center
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Minerva, Ohio 44657

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Transitions

Dr. Charles McClaugherty

One thing that I have learned during my years of studying and teaching ecology is that change is ongoing and inevitable. Not only is change inevitable, in many cases it is desirable or even essential. The story of the Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center tells of dramatic changes since the recession of the Ice Age glaciers many thousands of years ago. When the glaciers retreated, they were eventually replaced by forests, and the forests were soon inhabited by indigenous peoples that we call Native Americans. They, in turn, were displaced by European immigrants and their descendants who began clearing much of the forests for farms and villages only a few centuries ago.

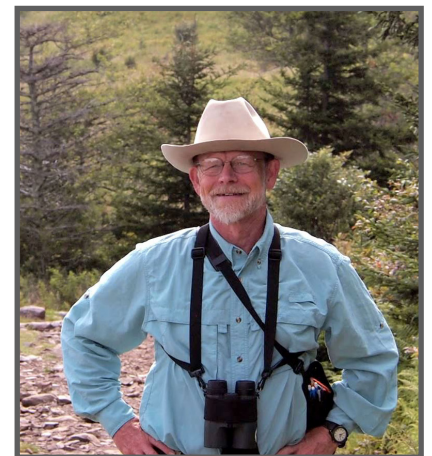
John T. Huston was among those settlers who cleared the forest to create a farm and a way of life for himself and his family. His legacy persists in the big red barn that bears his name and the large old trees that he left standing in his woodlot that we now lovingly refer to as "the Old Woods". During his lifetime, he saw major changes such as the advent of motor vehicles and the electrification of rural areas. It is doubtful, though, that he could have imagined many of the changes that have occurred since he died in the 1930's.

Dr. John D. Brumbaugh, Huston's grandson, did foresee some changes. He was aware that people were losing connection to nature, a connection that he had as a child and held through his lifetime. When he inherited his grandfather's farm, he chose to turn it into a nature center where future generations could have some of the opportunities to learn about and enjoy the natural world that he had experienced. To ensure that these opportunities would be available, he gave the farm to the University of Mount Union in 1986. Between the time that Dr. Brumbaugh inherited the farm and when he gave it to Mount Union, the nature of the farm

changed from abandoned pastures and cropland into the forested area that it is today, and those forests are continuing to change.

I became a part of these changes in 1988 when I was selected by Mount Union to direct the John T. Huston- Dr. John D. Brumbaugh Nature Center. For the last 30 years, I have had the good fortune to work with some amazing people, including staff, volunteers, and community members who have helped to change Mr. Huston's farm into a unique educational facility that honors the vision of Dr. Brumbaugh and fosters appreciation of the natural world through a variety of programs and facilities.

In late June of this year, another change will occur when Dr. Chris Stanton becomes the Nature Center Director. Dr. Stanton is an ecologist who comes to Mount Union from Baldwin Wallace University where he has taught biology since 2001. Please welcome Dr. Stanton and support him as he works with our staff, volunteers, and visitors to provide stewardship of the Nature Center. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to work as the director of the Nature Center for the past 30 years and I am confident that this and future transitions will make the Nature Center even better for the natural and cultural resources that are there and for the people who use them.



Greetings from the New Director!

Dr. Chris Stanton

As of July 1, 2018, Dr. Chuck McClaugherty will officially retire as the Director of the Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center. Dr. McClaugherty has served as the first and only director since the property was opened to the public in 1988, and has done a wonderful job over the past 30+ years of assembling a team and facilities that will last well into the future. In February, he was selected by the Ohio Biological Survey to be the recipient of the Herbert Osborn Award, which recognizes "noteworthy accomplishments and service in the field of biology."

Given Chuck's impressive amount of work and the wonderful vision and philanthropy of Dr. John D. Brumbaugh, I am extremely honored to have been chosen to serve as the next Director. I am really excited to work with the great group of people who have shaped the Nature Center into what it is today and

to continue to serve the Mount Union students, other school groups, and the local community.

To help introduce myself, I am from Cincinnati but have lived in northeast Ohio for the past 17 years. My biological education began as an undergraduate at Wittenberg University where I studied English and biology. During that time, I worked as a naturalist at the Cincinnati Nature Center and the Hamilton County park district. I continued my education at the University of Tennessee, earning a Master's of Science in entomology, before attending The Ohio State University for my Ph.D. After a post-doc with Stone Laboratory (Ohio State's field station on Lake Erie), I began my academic career at Baldwin Wallace University teaching courses in zoology and natural history as well as leading Study Abroad courses in Ecuador, Iceland, and Costa Rica. At Mount Union,

I will be teaching courses in ecology, conservation biology, and environmental science.

I will start working on campus and at the Nature Center this summer to better understand the local environment and establish some new research efforts, so please stop by and introduce yourself. I look forward to meeting new friends along the trails!



16th Annual Photography Contest Awards

The following photographers were awarded ribbons for their submissions to the Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center's 16th annual Photography Contest and Exhibit. The contest and resulting exhibit are a collection of photographs from amateur photographers whose images highlight the ecosystems, seasons, flora, and fauna of eastern Ohio. Formal judging determined place winners for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Honorable Mention, and Best in Show. People's Choice winners were determined by votes cast by the public from February 24 - March 12. Thank you to all who participated and congratulations to those whose name appears below!

Youth Category (ages 12 and under):

1st - Rileigh Wright
2nd - Elizabeth Recchiuti
Honorable Mention - Rileigh Wright & Elizabeth Recchiuti
People's Choice - Rileigh Wright

Seasons:

1st - Hilda Mathis
2nd - Matt Hoffman
3rd - Margie Blake
Honorable Mention - Kayla Stanley
People's Choice - Margie Blake

Wildlife (Vertebrates):

1st - Richard Patrick
2nd - George Weigly
3rd - Patricia Milliken
Honorable Mention - George Weigly & Marni Ayers
People's Choice - Richard Patrick

Wildlife (Invertebrates):

1st - Matt Hoffman
2nd - George Weigly
3rd - Don Benson
Honorable Mention - Cheryl Withey
People's Choice - Margie Blake

Landscapes:

1st - Matt Hoffman
2nd - Richard Patrick
Honorable Mention - Regan Laurel
People's Choice - Matt Hoffman

Wild Plants:

1st - Patricia Milliken
2nd - Rosemary Benson
3rd - Patty Rickard
Honorable Mention - Richard Patrick
People's Choice - Richard Patrick

Nature Center:

1st - Marni Ayers
Honorable Mention - Hilda Mathis
People's Choice - Hilda Mathis

UMU Campus:

Honorable Mention - Regan Laurel
People's Choice - Regan Laurel

Black & White:

1st - Richard Patrick
2nd - Margie Blake
Honorable Mention - Erica Noll & Joan Hoile
People's Choice - Margie Blake

Open Category:

1st - Richard Patrick
2nd - Patty Rickard
3rd - Margie Blake
Honorable Mention - Patricia Milliken & Cheryl Withey
People's Choice - Richard Patrick

Best in Show:

Richard Patrick – Soaring Bald Eagle in Open category

Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center's Schedule of Events

Friday, June 1

Ohio Bat Roost Monitoring 8-9:30 p.m.

Bats are a critical part of our ecosystem and an important component of the agricultural economy. As the main predator of night-flying insects in Ohio, bats keep insect populations in check and reduce impacts on humans. Unfortunately, bat numbers have drastically declined over the last few years. Bring a lawn chair and assist the staff in counting bats that leave the roost in the Huston Barn. This data contributes to the Ohio Bat Roost Monitoring Project facilitated by the ODNR Division of Wildlife. Internet search "Ohio Bat Roost Monitoring Project" for more information.

Wednesday, June 6

***Bees in Your Backyard Lecture 7-8:30 p.m.**

Native bee expert Olivia Carril will discuss the natural history of bees, emphasizing the ones most commonly seen in Ohio, and how to recognize them. She will also provide tips on encouraging these important pollinators in your backyard. Olivia Carril has been studying bees for over 20 years, and is the co-author of "The Bees in Your Backyard, A Field Guide to North America's Bees". ***This FREE event takes place at the University of Mount Union's Hoover-Price Campus Center, Newbold Room, 420 West Simpson St., Alliance, OH 44601. Reserve your seat by June 4 at <http://go.osu.edu/gobees>**

Sunday, June 10

***Garden Signs 2-4 p.m.**

This is a great way to repurpose old wooden boards into creative signs for your garden. We will transfer printed words onto rustic or washed lumber. You may like your sign so much that you decide to display your sign in the house! All supplies are provided. This involves some detail, so we are asking participants to be 12 years and older.

***Registration is required and limited to 16 participants. Registration opens on May 14 at 9 a.m.**

Saturday, June 16

***Breeding Bird Blitz 7-9:30 a.m.**

Over 70 species of birds have been recorded at the Nature Center in the peak of bird breeding season in June over the last 10 years. Come join us for a leisurely walk around the Nature Center to see how many of these we can see or hear, and potentially add to the list. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair. Coffee will be ready at 7 a.m. We will be on the trails for about two hours, 7:30-9:30 a.m. Cancelled in event of rain or high winds. ***Registration is required. Attendance is limited to 12 participants.**

Sunday, June 24

***Gardening for Pollinators 2-4 p.m.**

As most gardeners know, pollination is a very important process that occurs in our gardens in order for many fruits and seeds to develop. So why not create or enhance an existing garden that will attract a variety of pollinators? This presentation will discuss simple steps you can take to make your garden more attractive to pollinators. Participants will receive seeds, plants and a pollinator home to begin or enhance their gardens to be more pollinator-friendly. ***Registration is required and opens on Tuesday, May 29 at 9 a.m. Attendance is limited to 20 adults.**

Saturday, June 30

Fiber Arts through the Ages 1-5 p.m.

Join the Canton Fiber Arts Guild, UMU Nature Center, and ArtsinStark for a one-day immersion in fiber! Start at the Visitors Center to get a taste of the fiber fun, then walk your way down the boardwalk into a fiber fiesta! See processes and preparations of wool at the barn and carriage house: skirting, washing, combing, dyeing and spinning of wool--and, of course, sheep! Meander your way to the 1860's log cabin to try your hand at weaving on various looms and view vintage textiles. As you make your way back to the Visitors Center, stop by the outdoor classroom to try your hand at various make and takes for adults and children, like weaving a God's eye, wet felting, needle felting, and birdie bedding. If you stop to sit on one of the benches, you may observe knitting, crocheting or drop spinning. All activities are FREE thanks to a grant from ArtsinStark and members of the Canton Fiber Arts Guild.

Saturday, July 7

Neighborhood Naturalist: Butterfly Blitz 1-4 p.m.

Twenty species of butterflies have been recorded at the Nature Center during the last three years. Come join us for a leisurely walk around the Nature Center to see how many of these we can find, and maybe we can add to the list. Bring binoculars, or we can loan you a pair. Cancelled in event of rain or high winds.

Friday, July 13

Ohio Bat Roost Monitoring 8-9:30 p.m.

Bats are a critical part of our ecosystem and an important component of the agricultural economy. As the main predator of night-flying insects in Ohio, bats keep insect populations in check and reduce impacts on humans. Unfortunately, bat numbers have drastically declined over the last few years. Bring a lawn chair and assist the staff in counting bats that leave the roost in the Huston Barn. This data contributes to the Ohio Bat Roost Monitoring Project facilitated by the ODNR Division of Wildlife. Internet search "Ohio Bat Roost Monitoring Project" for more information.

Friday, July 13

Bat Food Bonanza 9:30-11 p.m.

Ohio is home to over 3,000 species of moths and even more beetles, flies, and other insects. From the diminutive beetles to the giant silk-worm moths, there are a wide variety of sizes, shapes, and colors of insects and arthropods to see. We will explore the variety of creatures eaten by bats as we spend time outside observing specimens lured in to light traps.

Saturday, July 14

Goat Packing Demonstration 10 a.m.

The Mahoning County 4H Goat Club will be at the Nature Center to provide their pack goats with actual trail experience. The goats have a very low impact on our trails, and this will be great experience for their handlers. Before setting out on their hike, the members are willing and excited to answer any questions visitors may have. This is something new for the Nature Center, and we have granted special permission to the club for these animals to be on the trails for this one event.

Sunday, July 22

***Flower Arranging 2-4 p.m.**

We are looking forward to a beautiful display of flowers in our cutting garden, and we would like to share them with some of our visitors. Join us to learn the basics in arranging flowers and leave with two unique arrangements you created. All supplies are provided. ***Registration is required and limited to 16 participants ages 12 years and older. Registration opens on Monday, July 2 at 9 a.m.**

Saturday, July 28

***Soap Crafting to Pamper Yourself 1-4 p.m.**

Let soap maven Barbara Lyons teach you how to make simple yet elegant handcrafted toiletries to pamper yourself and those you care about. Participants will discover how to make lip balms, body scrubs and lotion, whipped shea butter, dusting powder, and get to experiment with making glycerin soaps. There will also be a demonstration on how to make cold process bar soap. All participants will receive samples of all these products, as well as a solid bar soap handcrafted by the soap maven herself. ***Registration is required and limited to 15 adults. Materials fee is \$10 per person. Registration opens on Monday, July 2 at 9 a.m.**

Sunday, August 5

Carnation Days Festival: Self-guided Nature Walks 1-5 p.m.

Self-guided nature walks and activities available for all ages. Stop in the Visitors Center for details upon arrival. Refreshments provided in the Visitors Center before and after your walk! No registration required.

Tuesday, August 7

***Woody ID and Forestry Management Walk 6-8 p.m.**

Facilitated by the Stark County Soil and Water Conservation District. Join us for a guided walk through the beautiful woods at the University of Mount Union's Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center. Participants will have two options of instructor-led hikes. The first option will be woody identification (trees & shrubs) and the second option is a more advanced forestry management walk. ***Please RSVP by August 1, 2018 by calling Stark Soil and Water Conservation District at 330-451-SOIL(7645).**

Sunday, August 12

***Stepping Stone Workshop 2-4 p.m.**

What do you do with a lot of left over cement? You make stepping stones! Join this creative workshop for all ages. All supplies are provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. ***Registration required and limited to 20 participants.**

Sunday, August 19

***Neighborhood Naturalist: iNaturalist Training 2 p.m.**

Become a citizen scientist by learning to use iNaturalist. This digital resource allows you to link your nature observations through smartphones or computers to a worldwide database that is used by conservation scientists. You can keep your own lists and join biodiversity projects at the local, regional, or national level, and get help identifying species from other participants. In this workshop, learn how to set up your own iNaturalist account and submit observations. Bring a smartphone, tablet, or a digital camera if you have one. Program will begin inside, then venture outside to collect observations. If you already have a free iNaturalist membership, come share your experiences with others. ***Register by Friday, August 17.**

Sunday, August 26

***Full Moon Hike 8-10 p.m.**

Walk the trails to the east end of the nature preserve to see the rising moon. Bring a flashlight, insect repellent, and water. ***Registration required by August 25. Best for ages 10 to adult.**

Saturday, September 15

***Neighborhood Naturalist: Shorebirds 9-11 a.m.**

Every fall, thousands of shorebirds migrate through Ohio. The mud flats of nearby reservoirs are a great place to observe the birds. Several species may be seen including sandpipers, plovers, ducks, gulls and herons. We may be walking in muddy areas so please wear appropriate footwear. We will have some binoculars available, but we ask you to bring your own if you have them. The location of the program will be determined a few days prior based on local conditions. ***Register for notification and directions to the site.**

Sunday, September 16

Huston Barnyard Celebration 1-5 p.m.

A family-friendly afternoon of activities at our historic Huston barn. There will be games and activities that Mr. Huston's children would have played in the late 1800s, a hayride on the Nature Center property, simple snacks that the Huston Family might have enjoyed, and farm animals that were so important to support the Huston Family's way of life. RSVP requested but not required.

Events continue on the next page...

Recurring Programs

Acoustic Jam: 2 - 4 p.m.

June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7

Join us at the Nature Center for a music jam. Bring an instrument or just come to listen. Beginners are welcome. Make new friends, have fun, and learn a new tune or two! No registration required.

Bird Banding with Al Eibel: 8 a.m. - Noon

June 2 and 23; July 14 and 28; August 11 and 25; September 1 and 8

See live, wild songbirds in the hand and learn why bird banding is an important tool for bird and wildlife conservation. Drop in any time between 8 a.m. and Noon. Meet Al outside on the east side of the Visitors Center. Banding sessions are canceled in the event of rain.

General Information

- All events begin at the Visitors Center and are held rain or shine unless otherwise indicated.
- Events marked with an asterisk (*) require registration. All other events are informal, open to adults and families, and are available without registration.

To register or inquire about events, call (330) 823-7487 or email naturecenter@mountunion.edu

Sunday, September 30

Fall Hike 2-4 p.m.

Enjoy a guided fall hike along the trails of the Nature Center. We will look for signs of fall, including wildflowers, wildlife, and, of course, fall foliage. Please dress for the weather and current trail conditions. No registration required.

Saturday, October 6

The BIG Sit 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

It's a "tailgate party for birders" with the objective to tally as many bird species as can be seen or heard inside a 17-ft count circle. Last year we tallied 42 species from our lawn chairs at the North Woods! Join us for a couple of minutes or a couple of hours during this annual, international, noncompetitive birding event. Registration appreciated but not required by October 5.

Sunday, October 7

Relax and De-stress Event 1-5 p.m.

EVERYONE needs to manage their stress. Take advantage of some relaxing activities such as a free 10-minute shoulder massage, strolling through the peaceful woods, walking the labyrinth, relaxing by the pond, listening to live music, and more. Come alone or bring the family – there is something for everyone! No registration required.

Bridge Construction and Trail Improvements

Adam Zorn

Plans for the construction of a bridge to connect the Hickory and Huston Woods trails are coming to fruition. After nearly 3 years of planning, site preparations began late in 2017. Construction continues to the present time with the placement of the bridge's legs and horizontal support beams. Additional work to place the decking and railings will continue throughout the spring and early summer months. Visitors are asked to avoid

the construction site at all times. Safe observation of the bridge's construction may be accomplished from the Hickory trail.

Additional improvements to the trail system are anticipated during the summer months. These include enhancement to some trail surfaces that are currently muddy or frequently prone to standing water, installation of new trail posts and

directional signs at trail intersections, and transitioning the current trail layout and map to a new trail layout and corresponding trail map. During the transition period from the current trail system to the updated version, we will do our best to make updated maps available in the Visitors Center. Some trail names and designated colors on the map will change, but the placement of the trails remains the same.

Volunteer Opportunities – Share Your Love of Gardening!

Now in our 14th year, the Children's Hands-On Gardening Program continues to serve Alliance-area third and fourth grade students. The students visit the Nature Center four times during one growing season to learn about gardening and get hands-on experience. Third grade students come in March and May, and then return as fourth-graders in September and November. Students

visit from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and cycle through activity stations in small groups that reflect the season and theme of their visit. The themes are Germination/Plant Life Cycle, Plant Parts and Functions, and Pollination in the spring. The fall includes Seeds to Salsa Harvest, followed by Soil/Nutrient Cycling. With this basic knowledge and hands-on experience of an entire growing season in Ohio, we

hope these students are inspired and confident to plant in pots or gardens at their homes for years to come. Volunteers are needed to help facilitate the activity stations on a variety of dates in both seasons. For more information about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Bonnie Twaddle at 330-823-7487 or twaddlb@mountunion.edu.

Volunteer Recognition

Rick Blessing	Jim Dutter	Matthew	Lester Lozier	Bernie Miner	Erika Shi
Phyllis Case	Al Eibel	Honaker	Barbara Lyons	Sally Miner	Anastasia Smiley
Kathy Chambers	Devin Farmiloe	Megan Hoover	Nicole Mace	Jarrold Mullen	Susan Smith
Fred Cockrill	Sandy Gahan	Amy Hosking	Chris Marks	Jim Nero	Ann Sutton
Quinnan Crowe	Mallory Glenn	Mary Beth Keck	Jared Marsh	Rebecca O'Neill	Joshua Thorne
Shirley DeMaiolo	Cali Granger	John Kilbourne	Martha	Carol Pancake	Jenna Uric
Alan Dolan	Deb Hatherill	Cody Klette	McClagherty	James Rakes	Carol Wearstler
Lee Dolan	Jane Heater	John Kolar	Tammy Mierzna	Sophie Ramsey	Janet Wolfe
Laura Dornan	Jane Helwig	Devin Kring	Keith Miller	Patty Rickard	Graycen Wood
Tim Dornan	Ann Hendel	Courtney Lallo	Heather Milliken	Liz Ross Jones	
Elayne Dunlap	Paul Hobe	Kimberly Lessic	Mercer	Roman Selby	

We extend a sincere thank you to our January, February, and March volunteers! Our outstanding volunteer staff assists us in maintaining high-quality programming and a beautiful facility. Thank you for all that you do! Additional gratitude is extended to the **Canton Audubon Society** for helping with this year's Great Backyard Bird Count. Thank you to **Mount Union Mill** for your continuous donations of bird seed.

Dr. Charles McClaugherty Awarded Herbert Osborn Award

Adam Zorn

Nature Center Director Dr. Charles McClaugherty was awarded the Herbert Osborn Award by the Ohio Biological Survey in February at the annual Ohio Natural History Conference. The Ohio Biological Survey, in honor of its founder, established the Herbert Osborn Award to recognize noteworthy accomplishments and service in the field of biology as pertaining to the objectives of the Ohio Biological Survey. The Award is presented on an annual basis, and was initiated in 1991.

The nomination was spearheaded by Ray Novotny, Naturalist Emeritus from Mill Creek MetroParks, and vigorously supported by the University of Mount Union's biology faculty and the staff at the Nature Center. Letters of recommendation were submitted in support of the nomination. Congratulations, Chuck!



Being a Good Nest Box Landlord

Al Eibel

In mid-March I visited my nest box trails to clean and repair boxes as needed and replace several dilapidated boxes. Soon birds will begin nesting, and each box will need to be checked at least once each week, maybe more often, depending on what is happening in the box. Not all bird species use a nest box, only secondary cavity nesters – species that utilize abandoned woodpecker cavities or natural snags. Tree swallows, house wrens, eastern bluebirds, and black-capped chickadees are some of the most familiar local secondary cavity nesters. However, there is stiff competition for the cavities and nest boxes from deer mice, red squirrels, flying squirrels and non-native house sparrows and starlings.

Hosting nest boxes carries lots of responsibility, and following the guidelines listed below will ensure that the welfare of the nesting bird and its nestlings is a priority. Most bluebird societies recommend not to erect nest boxes unless they will be monitored once or twice a week until the nestlings are ready to fledge. Together, incubation and fledging usually take about one month.

Many of the birdhouses sold in stores and online are not acceptable for use as a nest box. North American Bluebird Society certified building plans can be downloaded for different types of boxes, but the minimum requirements and recommendations are:

- No perches. Perches give predators access to the nest and are not necessary.
- Boxes should be constructed of $\frac{3}{4}$ " pine or cedar. The thickness helps insulate the nestlings from the heat. The inside of the box should be raw wood, not painted or coated with any chemicals.
- The side or front must open so that the nest can be checked and the box cleaned following a nesting and the nesting season. A top-opening box is difficult to clean and maintain. A

bottom-opening box will dump the nest, eggs, and nestlings on the ground.

- The round opening for the box should have a diameter of 1.5 inches. That size will allow eastern bluebirds, tree swallows, and house wrens to use the box. Unfortunately, it also permits house sparrow access.
- Ventilation must be incorporated into the design. Holes can be drilled in the sides and/or a roof should be slightly raised to facilitate air circulation. A sealed nest box with no ventilation will turn into a death trap for nestlings.
- A recessed bottom allows water to cleanly drip from the sides. Also, the bottom should have angled corner cuts to aid in drainage and ventilation.
- Never attach nest boxes to trees. Instead, attach them to electrical conduit – using brackets – about five feet above the ground.
- Predator guards or baffles might be necessary to protect against cats, raccoons, and other predators.
- Incorporate passive or active house sparrow and starling control. Do not let house sparrows or starlings nest in the box. Passive control uses box placement, feeding methods, and plugging nest box holes to discourage house sparrows and starlings. Active control uses house sparrow/starling nest and egg removal and trapping of adult birds.

Following these guidelines will help to make fostering a nest an exciting experience.





The John T. Huston-Dr. John D.
Brumbaugh Nature Center
1972 Clark Ave.
Alliance, OH 44601

Non-Profit
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Discover the Wonder of Nature's Ever-Changing Story

Visitors Center and Bird Observatory Hours

April through October
Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.
Closed Mondays

November through March
Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday 1-5 p.m.
Closed Mondays and Saturdays

Our trails are open from dawn to dusk every day.

**The Nature Center is located six miles south of
the University of Mount Union on Daniel Street, just off Route 183**



Contact us at:

Phone: (330) 823-7487

Email: naturecenter@mountunion.edu
mountunion.edu/nature-center