

GMLC In The News

In 2022, our October lecture series featured experts from Hawkin School, Cleveland Metroparks, The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, The Audubon Society and one of our own Gates Mills neighbors. These experts offered in-depth information pertinent to preservation and to our community, including topics on biodiversity, invasive species, pollinators and endangered birds.

We are excited to offer more lectures in 2023, and a chance for you to interact with our conservation/ preservation activities. We will have a Spring and a Fall lecture series, and the opportunity to participate in The Audubon Society's Spring Birding Walks with John Lillich. The GMLC lectures are open to everyone in Gates Mills and beyond, so invite your friends, family and neighbors.

Volunteering

GMLC is very fortunate to have some wonderful volunteers, eager to support preservation and conservation in our community. We are so grateful for their interest, fun-loving attitude and hard work. Some of the projects we work on throughout the year include:

The School Collaborative Program – scheduled times during the year when schools like Mayfield, Hawken, University School and Westlake bring students onsite for science field education. Under the supervision of a biologist, students are trained in proper methods to remove invasive plant species. All are welcome to join.

Partner Programs - The Cuyahoga Soil and Water District, the Cleveland Metroparks, Chagrin River Watershed Partners and other conservation groups promote site visits during the spring, summer and fall. It gives us a chance to hear different perspectives by like-minded groups. Events are scheduled.

Removal of Invasives – like multiflora roses, buckthorn, glossy privet, amber honeysuckle, tree of heaven and even burning bush. Some of these species are often sold in garden centers and mistaken by homeowners as natural to our area. But while these plants feed birds and create desired hedges, they are not natural to this area and invade native plants with their unrelenting root systems and easy spread. Some invasives like *amber honeysuckle* release chemicals into the soils to inhibit growth of other species that are native to the Chagrin River valley.

Property Management - Building fences, installing signage, cutting grapevines and documenting plants and streams are some of the projects we perform throughout the year. It is an important task to true conservation.

Consider Volunteering to support GMLC's efforts!

Becoming a volunteer with GMLC, is an easy opportunity to learn about conservation principles, get to know GMLC's preserved properties, spend time in nature and have fun in the process. There are no strings attached and you can be as involved and you like.