

Exploring Wild Mushrooms & Macrofungi in Extension Education

Erika Lyon, Ohio State University Extension, Jefferson, Harrison Counties, lyon.194@osu.edu

SITUATION

Whether driven by a desire to understand the natural world or to forage, the demand for accurate and science-based information on wild mushrooms has increased. Currently, resources provided by Extension on this subject are limited compared to other subject areas. Therefore, a need was identified for building more comprehensive, scientifically-backed resources for those interested in learning more about wild mushrooms, including landowners, foragers, gardeners, and nature enthusiasts.

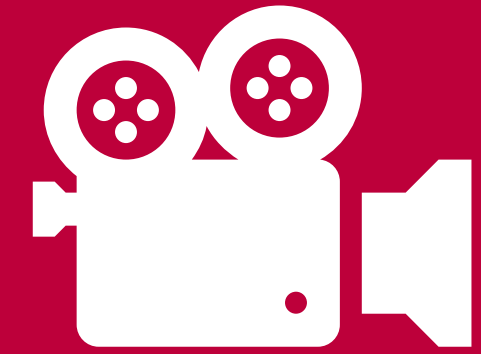
EDUCATIONAL FORMATS

Lectures or Seminars



Classroom Workshops

Video Recordings



Webinars

Fungal Forays

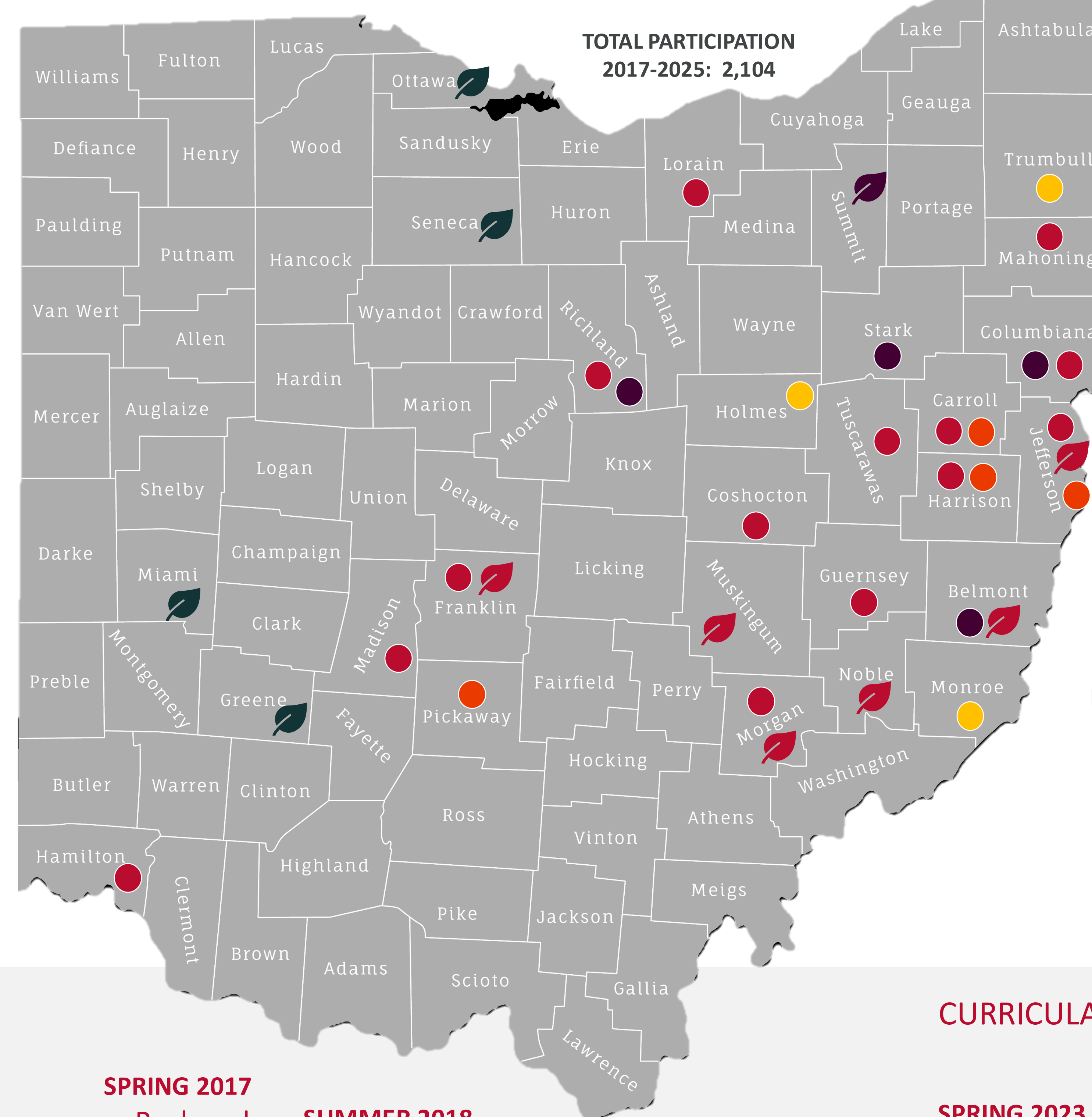
HOSTING ORGANIZATIONS

- Camp Canopy
- Central Ohio Home & Garden Show
- East Central Ohio Forestry Association
- Environmental Education Council of Ohio
- Friends of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge
- Worthington Hills Garden Club
- Hilliard Area Garden Club
- Hike Toronto
- Leetonia Sportsman's Club
- Pickaway County Park District
- Public Library of Steubenville & Jefferson County
- Lepper Library
- Ohio State University Master Gardener Volunteers
- Ohio Woodland Stewards
- Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists
- Ohio State University Extension
- Belmont Soil & Water Conservation District
- Harrison Soil & Water Conservation District



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

WILD MUSHROOM PROGRAMS HELD ACROSS OHIO



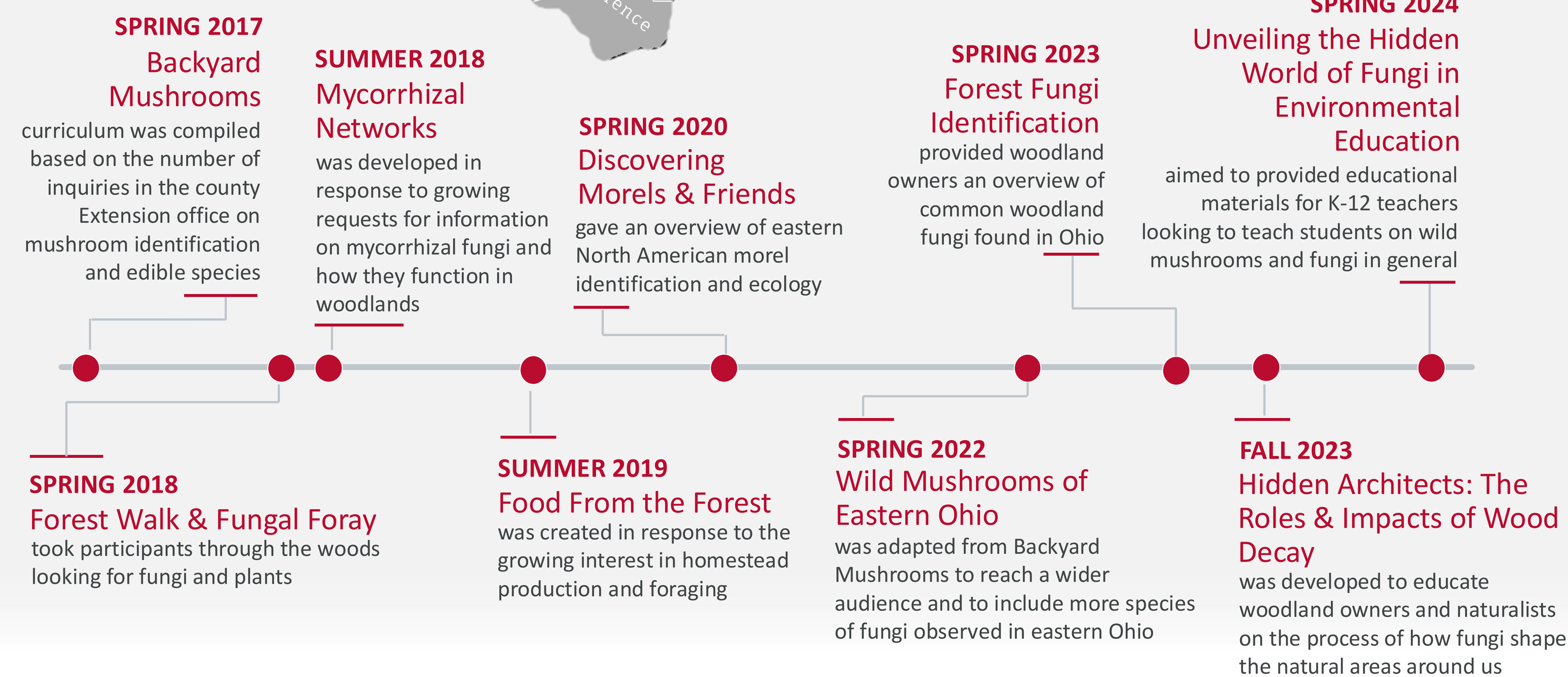
STATEWIDE WEBINAR SESSIONS

Discovering Morels & Friends

Master Gardener Horticulture Lunch & Learn session on Backyard Mushrooms

Friday's Escape to the Forest session on Hidden Architects: The Roles & Impacts of Wood Decay on Ohio's Woodlands

CURRICULA DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



CFAES

LESSONS LEARNED

- Over 2,000 Ohioans participated in wild mushroom and macrofungi programs
- Participants like to see more mushrooms! Initial comments on evaluations indicated an interest in learning about species beyond the common edible species
- Need identified for more in-depth workshops on identifying mushrooms using visual examination of specimens and microscopy

MOVING FORWARD

Certification Course

- Provide an advanced course for naturalists and foragers, especially those who sell wild mushrooms
- Cover food safety regulations in Ohio
- Hands-on, in-depth workshop sessions where participants learn to use identification keys to identify collected mushrooms using morphological and microscopic features



LEARN MORE

Visit u.osu.edu/ohwildmushrooms or use the QR code on the left to find examples of past presentations and a list of resources to use in wild mushroom education.



jefferson.osu.edu | harrison.osu.edu

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES