



Dayton Daily News
www.daytondailynews.com



Woodlands abuzz on Arbor Day

Ash trees under attack in Ohio, but chestnut rebirth is a positive sign; Cox Arboretum plans buggy tours.

By Steve Bennish

Staff Writer

Friday, April 27, 2007

DAYTON — Today, Arbor Day, is a time of threats and opportunities for Ohio's woodlands.

The emerald ash borer is a chief threat, along with urban sprawl and foreign invasive plants, among others. The rebirth of the American chestnut is the most prominent opportunity.

While communities throughout southwestern Ohio make plans to remove ash trees killed by the green beetle, volunteers are reintroducing the American chestnut, which was devastated in the 1930s by an Asian fungal blight.

Biologists and students from Ohio University in Athens have planted nearly 1,400 American chestnut seedlings in eastern Ohio on reclaimed strip mine land, the most recent on April 14 at Jockey Hollow Wildlife Management Area in Harrison and Belmont counties. Working in sleet and rain, they planted 200 blight-resistant, specially bred seedlings.

Closer to home today, Cox Arboretum & Gardens MetroPark, 6733 Springboro Pike, will host from 4 to

6:30 p.m. "Arbor Day's Blossom Buggy Tours." Trams will be leaving on the half hour with light refreshments available at the end of the tour. Reservations are requested but walk-ins are welcome. At 2 p.m. Sunday, "Learning from the Landscape: Flowering Trees & Shrubs," will be at the Gardens. Participants will learn about lilac, hydrangea, forsythia and roses. It's a walk-and-talk program so dress appropriately. Again, reservations are requested but walk-ins are welcome. For either program telephone (937) 434-9005.

Contact this reporter at (937) 225-7407 or sbennish@DaytonDailyNews.com.

Find this article at:

<http://www.daytondailynews.com/n/content/oh/story/news/local/2007/04/26/ddn042707arborday.html>

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

