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Welcome to *Focus*, our E-Newsletter

Victory Gardens!

Remember those empty grocery store shelves a few months ago? Because of the COVID-19 situation, many folks are planting vegetable gardens for the first time, and these gardens have been dubbed “Corona Victory Gardens.” But the use of the term, “victory garden,” has deeper “roots” in history. The poster (1918) to the right encouraged the public to grow and preserve food as part of the “great war” effort. The strategy continued during World War II, as the administration was concerned with citizens having enough to eat due to the rationing of food. [Read More Here >](#)

NOTE: See the second page of this newsletter for World War II images from 1942 & 1943 regarding the virtues of planting a garden and preserving produce (along with links to other images), courtesy of Smithsonian Libraries and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Office Updates

The Delaware Soil & Water Conservation District (DSWCD) has made changes to protect the health and safety of the people we serve, our employees, and the community. The DSWCD office is now open to the general public for permit application and document drop off. For any in-person meeting, we ask that you follow all Ohio Department of Health, Center for Disease Control, and Delaware General Health District recommendations and guidelines. All other services are available through various electronic platforms, and our field operations and routine field appointments continue. A drop box is available to share documents for anyone not wishing to enter the building. It is located at the entrance to the our office. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility during this ever-changing time.



Envirothon Winners Announced

Envirothon is a competition where teams meet and compete in person at an area level, and then again at a state level if they place high enough in the first competition. The Delaware Area Career Center (DACC) Blue Team placed second out of twenty-eight teams, surviving the first round of the first-ever virtual Envirothon competition. We are proud to have the DACC team represent our county with this achievement. [Read More Here >](#)



Partner Events:

The Northern Olentangy Watershed (NOW) Festival will occur virtually on Saturday, July 18, 2020 (10 am-12 pm). Click [here](#) for more information.

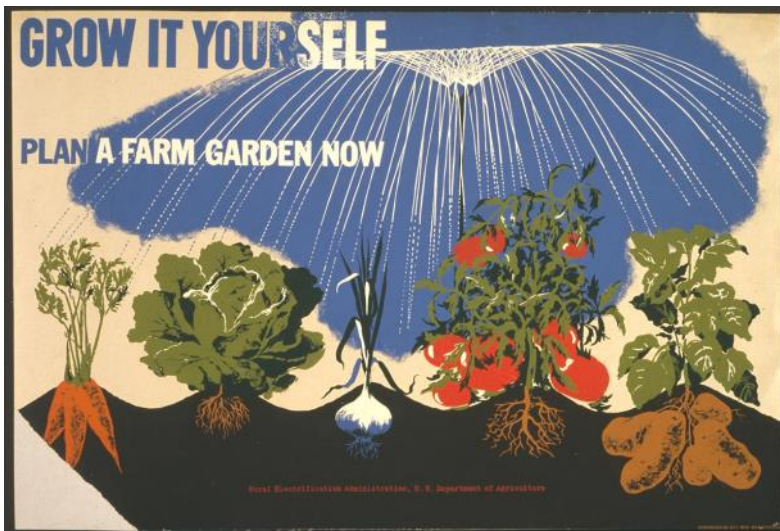
The Big Walnut Nature Club will host the Hoover Summer Clean-Up on Saturday, July 25th at 9 am. Meet at Hoover Area N (near 45 S. Walnut Street, Galena). For more information, click [here](#).

July Garden Haiku

Cultivating done

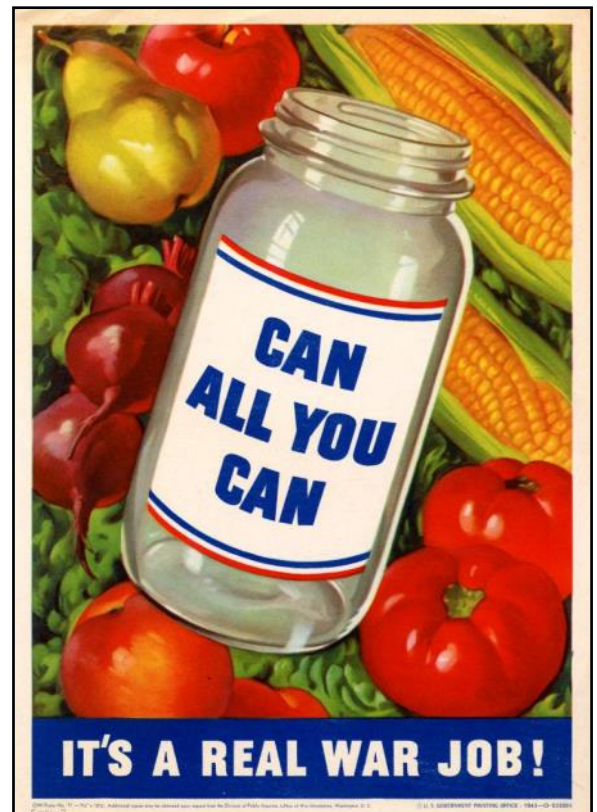
Vegetable bounties
spring forth

For those awaiting



"Grow It Yourself" World War II poster encouraging citizens to produce food for the troops and themselves. (Rural Electrification Administration, USDA, 1942)

"Can All You Can" World War II poster extolling citizens to preserve their garden bounty. Office of War Information, 1943)



See more historic victory garden ephemera from the [Smithsonian Libraries](#) and [USDA](#).

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Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District 557-A Sunbury Road, Delaware, OH 43015-8656