



1375 East Siebenthaler Ave.  
Dayton, Ohio 45414

Phone (937) 275-7275  
Fax (937) 278-8849  
www.metro parks.org

Contact:  
Val Hunt  
pr specialist

o. 274-3122  
c. 424-6489

## **CLAIM 'VICTORY' OVER GARDENING QUALMS**

### **'VICTORY GARDEN' HOST LEADS MIAMI VALLEY GARDENING CONFERENCE**

DAYTON – With all the snow around, it's easy to forget spring is around the corner, and with the arrival of spring comes gardening. Kick off the growing season with Five Rivers MetroParks' 15<sup>th</sup> annual Miami Valley Gardening Conference, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6, at the Sinclair Community College Ponitz Center.

This year's featured speaker is Roger Swain, who is perhaps best known for his role as host of the PBS television show "Victory Garden." No stranger to horticultural experience, Swain earned his biology doctorate from Harvard University and went on to author five books: "Earthly Pleasures," "Field Days," "The Practical Gardener," "Saving Graces," and "Groundwork." Swain will conduct two seminars during the conference: "Planting Villages: How Gardens Make Good Neighbors" and "Returning Fruit to the American Yard."

Other stars in this lineup include Marvin Duren, owner of Marvin's Organic Gardens; Tomasz Przepiorkowski, inventory manager of Studebaker Nurseries Inc.; Dick Amann, landscape designer for The Siebenthaler Co.; Pam Bennett, Clark County OSU Extension horticulture educator; and Doug Christen, who operates Smaller Footprint Farm near Yellow Springs. They will conduct beginner and advanced tracks in a variety of gardening topics, so regardless of skill level, all participants should find something of interest and perhaps even acquire a few new techniques.

Registration for this event is required. The cost of this event is \$50 for participants who register by Feb. 26 and \$60 thereafter, up to the date of the event. Full-time students will receive a discounted registration price of only \$25. Registration includes all materials in lectures and hands-on sessions, a catered lunch, parking and refreshments during breaks.

Check out the full conference roster, schedule of events, directions, registration and more information at [www.metro parks.org/conference](http://www.metro parks.org/conference). For further details, contact Betty Hoevel at (937) 277-6545.

### **ABOUT FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS**

Five Rivers MetroParks focuses on three areas – conservation, recreation and education – as part of its role as steward of greater Dayton's public lands. Established in 1963 through the efforts of forward-thinking citizens concerned about preserving green space and natural areas, Five Rivers MetroParks has grown to a nationally renowned park system composed of natural area parks, gardens, sensitive river corridors, urban parks and a network of recreation trails. Educational programs and recreational opportunities are offered year-round for all ages. And, diverse natural habitats are being protected and cared for today to assure their future existence. To learn more about Five Rivers MetroParks, log onto [www.metro parks.org](http://www.metro parks.org) or call (937) 275-PARK.

###

