



THE STEW CREW NEWS

February 2018

Conservation Calendar

Stew U.	2/21
Save the Skunks!	2/27
Shaker Trace Nursery Work	Every Thursday Year-Round

Reminders

- Bring something to drink
- Wear sturdy gloves
- We recommend long pants, long-sleeved shirts and closed-toe shoes
- Have fun!



Skunk Cabbage

Besides the putrid smell, another distinguishing feature of the skunk cabbage is its ability to emit warmth. You may notice how the ice and snow on the ground around the plant has melted. Skunk cabbages are one of the few plants that exhibit thermogenesis, meaning they have the ability to raise their own temperature. Much like a warm-blooded mammal, the wildflower can regulate its temperature well above the outside temperature throughout the day and night. This attribute also allows the skunk cabbage to melt its way above the frozen ground.

Some researchers believe that the skunk cabbage could live for thousands of years.

The eastern skunk cabbage has contractile roots that allow some mobility. As the roots grown down and contract, the plant is pulled into the earth. As it anchors itself deeper, leaves are forced underground.

Skunk cabbages begin to make their appearance in the early winter, when most plants still wait for spring.

February Stew Crew Projects



Stew U.

What: Come on out to the Glenwood Gardens Technical Facility to advance your natural resources stewardship skills. We will start out with nature news, a warm drink and cookies. Then we will dive into slides of the good, bad and beautiful wildflowers that you can find in our parks. Next we'll discuss the best way to select and plant a tree.

Anyone who is not trained to use herbicides on public land will have a chance to be certified to do so.

When: Wednesday, February 21, 7-8:30 p.m.

Where: Glenwood Gardens Technical Center,
377 Sheffield Road Cincinnati, OH 45240

**Please record your hours under: Training
[All Locations\Conservation & Parks Central]**

Save the Skunks!

What: Join us as we cut invasive vines at Richardson Forest Preserve, the only park with Skunk Cabbage plants. We will be sure to check them out since they are usually blooming by then.

This is a remote location with no facilities. Meet at the end of Lick Road for the long hike to the marsh.

When: Tuesday, February 27, 9 a.m.-noon

Where: Richardson Forest Preserve at the end of Lick Road, 4000 W. Kemper Road Cincinnati, OH 45251

**Please record your hours under: Stew Crew
[Richardson Forest Preserve\Conservation & Parks Central]**

Shaker Trace Nursery Work

Join us as we work together to accomplish daily nursery tasks that will change with the seasons.

When: Every Thursday year-round any time between 8 a.m. and noon.

Where: Miami Whitewater Forest, Shaker Trace Nursery, 8667 New Haven Road, Harrison, OH 45030

Register: None required – just stop by!

Please record your hours under: Shaker Trace Nursery [Miami Whitewater Forest\Natural Resources].

