



**FLORA-QUEST**  
*CONNECTING WITH NATURAL OHIO*

*Sunrise at Shawnee* photo by Ian Adams

Established in 2007, Flora-Quest is a hands-on learning adventure focusing on plants and natural areas. We are fortunate to have some of Ohio's most gifted botanists and naturalists returning once again to lead Flora-Quest expeditions. With more to offer than ever, workshops, three educational speakers and the most spectacular view this side of the Great Smokey Mountains, our limited spaces will book early in 2009.

One of Ohio's foremost naturalists, Paul Knoop, will treat you to an introduction to the fantastic floristic diversity of Adams County and lead quests to his private preserve. Ian Adam's photography will speak for itself during a "Photo Tour of Ohio's Natural Areas." He will also be offering photography workshops as part of the event. Past Chief of Ohio's Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Guy Denny, will be an added bonus, and he will ably address conservation of native plants and natural areas. There will also be special field trips including, "Moonlight Moth Madness" with Dr Jaret Daniels, author of *Butterflies of Ohio*.

Centered at the lodge within beautiful Shawnee State Park, a mind-boggling array of plants is at our fingertips within the surrounding 65,000-acre forest. The lodge facilities are top-notch and nearby cabins and camping are also available for those who so choose. Special discounted rates are available for attendees.

Just to the west of Shawnee is the sprawling Edge of Appalachia preserve. Filled with unusual habitats and one of the state's densest concentrations of rare plants, the Edge is a botanical paradise. Flora-Quest trips are split between Shawnee and the Edge, and these packages offer participants the greatest botanical adventure to be had in Ohio, at the best time of year to explore this region. Upwards of 1,000 species of native plants are found in this region – there are only about 1,900 natives in all of Ohio.

In addition to learning about common plants, most of which we'll see in profusion, Flora-Quest participants will also have the opportunity to observe a number of great rarities. Each trip option includes two expeditions – a special feature trip of your choice on Saturday, and Shawnee State Forest and vicinity on Sunday. All trips will find an ENORMOUS array of flora, far beyond what brief descriptions can convey, and choosing between the Quest offerings will be a challenge!

Please visit our website at [www.flora-quest.com](http://www.flora-quest.com) for more information. May is a time of rebirth in the natural world, and there is no better place to be than in the wildlands of Adams and Scioto counties to experience spring. We hope to see you at Flora-Quest May 1-3, 2009!



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Ohio State University Extension has endorsed credit hours for participating in Flora-Quest for Master Gardener Volunteers and Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists.