



## The Dawes Arboretum

Trees ∞ History ∞ Nature

### **Mike Ecker**

*Director of Horticulture*

Mike joined The Dawes Arboretum in January of 1983 as Assistant Horticulturist. Initial responsibilities were keeping plant records but this soon branched into teaching adults and resident 5th grade classes, managing the memorial tree program and overseeing grounds maintenance. In 1990, Mike became the Director of Horticulture, which introduced the additional responsibilities of daily departmental operations, plant collection development and care.

Mike is a graduate of The Ohio State Technical Institute in Wooster, Ohio, with an Associate in Nursery Management (1975). He then attended Akron University earning a B.S. in Biology (1981). He is also a graduate of the Earlham College Institute for Executive Growth and Dr. Alex Shigo's New Tree Biology seminar. He has assisted on several local tree committees including Denison University, city of Bexley, and served on the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association Plant Selection Committee.



Before coming to The Dawes Arboretum, he worked as an arborist in wholesale and retail nurseries and as a private estate manager in Wooster, Ohio.

Mike resides in Hanover, Ohio, with his wife, Robin.