



Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Inside

MGOI

Welcome to the March edition of *Inside MGOI*, the Master Gardeners of Ontario, Inc. (MGOI) newsletter.

The Newsletter focuses on you, Master Gardeners! This is your venue for providing updates, insights and the inside scoop from MGOI Board & Committee members, Directors, and the 29 Master Gardener groups throughout Ontario. The Newsletter features member milestones, group projects and activities, short member profiles, upcoming events such as regional technical updates – anything about the functioning and happenings of our groups and our members. Please feel free to submit pictures – they are most welcome!

Contributions to future editions of *Inside MGOI* may be sent at any time to the Newsletter Editor, Isabel Belanger, newsletter@mgoi.ca.

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INSIDE MGOI

**Newsletter of the
Master Gardeners of Ontario, Inc.**

March 2021

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton

Milestones

Peterborough Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training

Anne Craig
Laura Gardner
Jennifer Koncovy
Anica James

In 2020, Peterborough MGs had 5 new MGITs join our group. In January 2021 Anica James joined our group and Jennifer Koncovy joined in March.

Anne Craig has already completed two of her four courses at Dalhousie University. She has a large yard where she enjoys vegetable gardening and perennials. She currently works for Ontario Parks and has worked with "The Land Between" group. Anne is a social media expert, interested in writing blogs and enjoys public speaking. She has joined the Master Gardener group to do something meaningful in her retirement which she is planning in the next few years.

Laura Gardner has already completed her Master Gardening courses through the University of Guelph, so will spend the next two years doing her mandatory volunteer work to become an MG. She is currently enrolled in Arboriculture and plans to complete her Horticulture Certificate at the University of Guelph. Laura's interests are pollinator gardens, native plants, vegetable gardening and trees.

Jennifer Koncovy has enrolled in Dalhousie University's courses. She enjoys vegetable gardening, has a large asparagus plot, and enjoys growing from seed.

Anica James has finished her courses at the University of Guelph and thoroughly enjoyed them. She is currently enrolled in the Horticulture Capstone course on the way to getting her horticulture degree. Anica has a new gardening company called *Trowel and Shears*. She loves photography, and is interested in pollinator gardens, native plants, vertical gardening, food forests and organic gardening.



Guelph-Wellington Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training

Rosemary Fernandes-Walker
Claudia McConnell
Lyanne Schlichter
Stephane Taillefer
Sharon Zadorozny

We are happy to welcome our new MGITs and appreciate their interest in the Gardening World!



Halton Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training

Luba Dobrianskyj
Danielle Leonard
Liz Martin
Kirsten McCarthy
Nadine Nesbitt



London Middlesex Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training

Marion Jenkins
Kim Nikkel

Welcome to the group!

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Barb Geddes
Larry Hogg

Congratulations!



Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

30 Year Anniversary

Carol Hegadorn

New Master Gardeners in Training

Jane Bailey - *passionate about native plants*

Mindy Baroody - *passionate about foodscaping and one of our social media coordinators*

Anton Burzminski - *passionate about organic gardening*

Susie Everding - *serious about growing unusual and special fruits and veggies*

Anna Sadura Healey - *passionate about saving seeds and our regular blogger*

Member Profiles

Joyce Hostyn

Joyce is a passionate rewilder and leads the Wildscaping program for us that includes Little Forests. The Blog about it is here:

<https://rideau1000islandsmastergardeners.com/2021/02/04/rewilding-with-little-forests/>

Cathy Christie

Cathy is a passionate seed saver and coordinates the region's Seed System Initiative. The Blog about it is here:

<https://rideau1000islandsmastergardeners.com/2021/03/12/planning-a-seed-garden/>



Grey County Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training

Stephanie Fletcher

Carole Warren

Stephanie has already completed the required courses through Guelph University, and is putting her knowledge to good use with the group. Carole has also chosen to take the courses offered through Guelph, and plans to start her studies soon.

Welcome Stephanie and Carole!



Durham Master Gardeners

10 Year Anniversaries

Sherry Dodson

Sherry, congratulations on your 10 years of service! One of Sherry's interests is being a Horticultural Therapist at WindReach Farm in Ashburn, ON where she is committed to growing plants in harmony with nature, supporting birds, butterflies, and other pollinators. She received her Horticulturist Certificate from the University of Guelph in 2014 and then went on to receive her Certificate in Horticultural Therapy in 2016 from the Toronto Botanical Garden. Thank you for all the contributions you have made in making our group a success.



Karen Durnin

Congratulations, Karen on your 10 years of service! Karen grew up on a farm in southwestern Ontario which is where her love for gardening was sparked. She has continued this love for vegetable and flower gardening into her adult life. Karen received her Certificate in Horticulture from the University of Guelph. She is one of the most versatile and key speakers for our group, frequently sharing her passion for hydrangeas, native plants and pollinators. Karen has been such a significant part of our group and we couldn't imagine DMG without her.



Master Gardener Status Achieved

Sharon Rabenda

Congratulations,
Sharon!

Sharon has received her Horticulture certificate from the University of Guelph and is now working her way to a Horticulture diploma. She is one of our Program/Social Committee Chairs and does a terrific job organizing the educational component of our meetings, and social activities. Sharon's garden interests are shade gardens, native plants, soil health and composting – a wonderful combination. Way to go Sharon!



Lori has a special interest in therapeutic garden design. As an eager MGIT, Lori feels gratitude for the opportunity to learn from her peers, and to contribute to fostering a love of gardening in her community.



Northumberland Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training

Lori Groves

After nearly 28 years in her career as a community pharmacist, Lori has become a student of Horticultural Therapy and a Master Gardener in Training. This new path honours her lifelong love of gardening and connection to nature, and her wish to support the well-being of others through people-plant relationships.

Lori is an avid vegetable gardener who is experimenting with cover crops and pollinators in her raised beds. She is focused on sustainable practices in her gardens where she has incorporated many native plants.



Book Report

by Anna Leggatt, Toronto Master Gardener

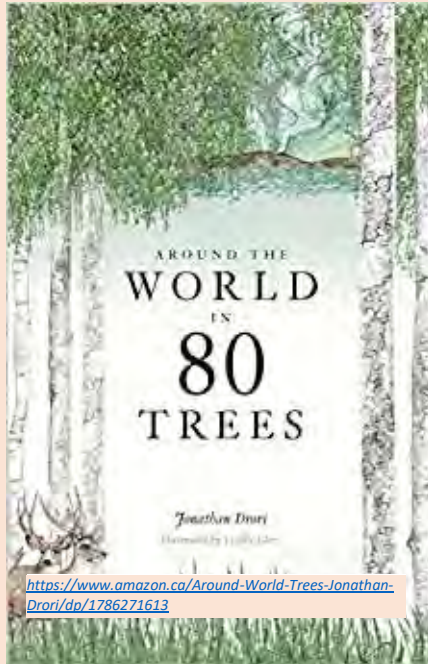
Around the World in 80 Trees: Drori, Jonathan.
Laurence King Publishing, London UK 2018
ISBN: 978-1-78627-606-3 US\$19.99

This delightful book was a Christmas present and is a definite keeper: a book to dip into and to return to remember more facts about trees around the world.

The author starts in England with the London Plane tree, then moves into Europe, North Africa, the Eastern Mediterranean, Africa, and so on. The final tree is for Canada and is – you’ve guessed it – *Acer saccharum*, our Sugar Maple.

Our first books were sheets of vellum. These were often encased between boards of Beech wood. The German word for Beech is *buche*, thus giving us the word “Book”.

Did you know cashews (*Anacardium occidentale*) from India, are in the same family as poison ivy? The fruit encourages animals to try it but they quickly drop it after a bite - thus dispersal. The nuts have to be steamed and roasted so we can eat them!



Perhaps we have seen Wollemi Pines when visiting Botanic gardens in warmer climes. This was well known as a fossil. Then a small colony was found in the Blue Mountains of Australia. They grow in a remote area and are completely protected. Although some of the trees are over 1000 years old, they are all one clone. Genetically the same, the risk of disease is great - also fire. We can see, and even buy, plants that have been grown from cuttings. (It is not a pine, more closely related to Monkey Puzzle tree).

Many trees and shrubs have red coloured leaves as they unfold in the spring. This we see in our gardens but I had not thought about why. The green colour is from chlorophyll and is essential for the plant's food supply. It is also highly nutritious. The red protects the leaf until it has toughened up! A young green leaf would be visible to insects but they do not see a reddish one. Also red would be a protection from sunburn.

Just 80 trees but a wealth of knowledge. I highly recommend this book.



Wollemi pine (*Wollemia nobilis*)
<http://www.video4art.org/eden/?art=wollemi-pine>





The MGOI Facebook Group

by Isabel Belanger, Editor, Inside MGOI with input from Claudette Sims, Admin

Most of you are aware that MGOI runs an immensely popular Facebook group. There are currently over 13,000 members and the group is still growing; this results in a large number of posts at any given time and spring and summer are particularly busy! There are so many questions to answer and so much advice to provide. A group this successful cannot operate without teamwork.

The Facebook team is comprised of admins (administrators) and moderators who do a phenomenal job! In no particular order...

Halton Region:

Bev Wagar
Claudette Sims
Janet Mackey
Cathy Kavassalis

Across Ontario

Emma Murphy (Peterborough)
Karen Sciuk (Kitchener)
Rhonda Grein (Kitchener)
Sean James (Guelph & Wellington)
Pamela Dallaire (Cochrane District)
Elizabeth Spedaliere (Stratford)
Anne Bossart (Georgian Bay)

The aim of the group is to share the joy of gardening and provide sustainable, science based answers to gardening questions. The team works together to approve each individual member and every post.

The forum is committed to making members feel safe and respected and there is zero tolerance for inappropriate language or behaviour that contravenes Canada's human rights act and regulations.

The group embraces the worldwide movement of supporting the planting of native plant species endemic to place in order to preserve fauna (including our all important native pollinators) that depend on certain plants in order to survive. Group rules actively discourage the planting of invasive plants, and members endeavour to offer appropriate native alternatives. The team skims comments and monitors discussion to ensure that everyone is following the stated guidelines and rules. The team also answers questions and adds relevant links to reliable sources. Every day is a learning experience!

Cathy writes some amazing instructional articles – extremely well received – highly scientific but readily understood by the layperson, and always interesting. Claudette updates the group photo, rules and guidelines. She also adds to the support document that outlines how to work as an admin or moderator.

As the love of gardening becomes more popular the admins are constantly looking for more Master Gardeners to volunteer at the Facebook 'Advice Clinics'. All volunteer time working on the MGOI FB forum counts towards your 30 hours. New moderators will be given lots of support and mentoring. If you are interested, please ask your coordinator to email Claudette and refer you as a moderator.

Master Gardener Group Websites / Links

A Message from Jim Cook, MGOI Webmaster

The MGOI website lists current links to group websites and social media, such as Facebook and Instagram: <https://www.mgoi.ca/groups/groups.html>.

This is a reminder to please inform myself, Jim Cook, MGOI webmaster of any changes to your links to keep them up-to-date. My address is: webmaster@mgoi.ca.

Thanks!



<https://smejoinup.com/5-google-webmaster-tools-alternatives/>



A Message from the President

Karen Sciuk, President MGOI



It is with pleasure and excitement that the Canadian Garden Council, supported by *Canada's Garden-Family*, is proud to proclaim 2022: Canada's Year of the Garden.

MGOI, as part of Canada's Garden family, is proud to support ***Year of the Garden 2022*** in principle. Interested groups are encouraged to send letters of support to their local Federal MP (see below). I will also post something on the MGOI Facebook page. The following is an excerpt from their website:

<https://mailchi.mp/31db1d978b80/kvutnht865-13371271?e=116ef0a728>

We cannot think of a more appropriate way to honour the Centennial of Canada's ornamental horticulture sector than dedicating a full year to commemorate Canada's rich garden heritage, to celebrate today's vibrant garden culture, and to create legacies for a sustainable future.

We invite all members of ***Canada's Garden Family*** to start thinking about how you will join the ***Year of the Garden 2022*** celebrations via your existing marketing and promotional campaign and activities, and how you will engage Canadians to join you in celebrating the ***Year of the Garden 2022***.

We also invite you to share this ***Year of the Garden 2022*** proclamation with your members and your network. Thank you!

For more information please go to:
<https://gardenscanada.ca/year-of-the-garden/>
and www.yearofthegarden.ca.

Government Recognition

We are in conversation with various ministries, expressing our request for the government to acknowledge the ***Year of the Garden 2022*** with an official designation.

Government needs to hear your voice - we still need your support

If you believe the ***Year of the Garden 2022*** is a good thing for Canadians, please express your support to your Member of Parliament for an official designation of 2022 as ***Canada's Year of the Garden***.

[Contact your Federal MP today!!!](#)

Support Keeps Coming

We keep receiving letters. We are happy to share them with you and quotes from them on [the website](#). The official media release is also available here.



Wanted – MGOI Treasurer

MGOI is currently without a treasurer!

The treasurer is an essential position in our organization and we need to fill this position ASAP! Without a treasurer, we are unable to pay bills or process donations and other transactions. (Please see application and role description at the end of the Newsletter.)

Qualifications and Workload

A Treasurer doesn't have to be an accountant or bookkeeper, but it certainly helps. If you are particular about how reports are prepared, are detail oriented and like things to add up, we'd love to hear from you.

The accounting records are maintained using QuickBooks software. This software is used to print cheques, enter deposits and journal entries and prepare monthly bank reconciliations. The busiest time of year for the treasurer is the first half of the year. Group membership fees are received in January and February. "Good News to Grow On" funds (if offered) are distributed in March. Year-end is April 30 when everything has to be tidied up and balanced. Records are sent/taken to our accountant in late June or July for him to prepare the Review Engagement financial statements and the Charities Return. In October, it is time to prepare a short summary for the Annual General Meeting informing members of the financial transactions undertaken by the Board during the fiscal year.

Are you interested? Feel free to email me for more details or questions (please see below).

Interested, but not sure if you have the time? How about job sharing?

If the time commitment or responsibilities are holding you back from stepping up to help as Treasurer, consider sharing this position. Two people could divide the duties and share attendance at meetings, or the position can be broken down into a "treasurer" and a "bookkeeper". The treasurer member could attend Board meetings and hold the vote on motions. The bookkeeper could do the day-to-day work or journal entries/bank accounts. They would support each other and work together to fulfil these essential duties.

Know someone who would make a great treasurer?

Please recommend the name of a fellow member who might really enjoy this role and we'll reach out to them. We can't do this without you!

To apply, ask questions or recommend someone, please email Past President Claudette Sims at: pastpresident@mgoi.ca.

Thanks for your support,

Claudette Sims, Past President, MGOI



Master Gardeners Out & About Projects & Events

Peterborough Master Gardeners

by MG Chris Freeburn

Name: Entering a New Age

Details: At the end of 2020, the Peterborough Master Gardeners decided to purchase the Zoom video communications package to allow us to have virtual meetings over 40 minutes in length (the limit of a free package). This has been a learning experience for all of us but we had a few committee meetings and practised, and we are now comfortable with the technology.

On February 10th we held our first Zoom general meeting and it was a great success! We did the business portion of the meeting in newsletter form and had a slide presentation by Christine Freeburn on Vermiculture. We were wriggling with excitement!

Our program committee has been busy getting speakers for the rest of year who are willing to do virtual presentations.

Many of our members are definitely missing the in-person opportunities to give advice and the social aspect of our meetings where we can share our passion for gardening. So much of what we do is interacting with the public, so it has been challenging to move to the virtual format. But we are forging ahead this year. Several members are doing Zoom presentations for local horticultural societies. We have a growing number of our members writing blogs for our website which posts weekly. Check them out at www.peterboroughmastergardeners.com.

Our members are also sharing online learning opportunities they are finding from other horticultural groups, YouTube sites, and books. Many are having fun and learning with Kahoot as well. In January, we invited our members to place their small seed orders together for a few popular seed companies to save on shipping costs. Three of our members sent orders to Vesey's, William Dam and Richters, and we will arrange a safe pick up when the seeds arrive.

Unfortunately with the current situation we cannot plan anything social too much in advance, but are working hard to be innovative in the way we do things. Thanks to the other Master Gardener groups for all the great ideas and inspiration.



Peterborough MGs Screenshot Photo
Courtesy of Emma Murphy



Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: MGOC Series of Talks with the Ottawa Public Library

Details: Recently MGOC entered into a partnership with Ottawa Public Library to deliver a series of talks. As Ottawa is officially bilingual the presentations will be in either English or French. We believe this is the first time in North America that a series of talks has been delivered in two languages.



Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

Name: Weekly Ask a Master Gardener Zoom Call

Details: Every Thursday from 1 - 1:30 p.m. we hold an Ask a MG Zoom Call. After most calls, MGIT Anna Sadura Healy writes a summary for our blog and finds it a great learning experience.

Information is here:

<https://rideau1000islandsmastergardeners.com/upcoming-events/>

Name: Wildscaping with Edible Meadows

Details: On Monday, March 22nd from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Rideau 1000 Islands MGs presented [Wildscaping with Edible Meadows](#), an advanced talk geared to Master Gardeners. Bestselling author and horticulturist Brie Arthur has garnered acclaim for her enthusiastic presentations and practical, out of the box gardening advice. Combining expert advice from both of her books, Brie shared advice on how to design and maintain wild edible meadows or borders that are bursting with visual appeal, wildlife habitat, and harvests for humans.



Stratford Master Gardeners

Name: Garden Chat with Jim Fitzgerald

Details: Jim gave a garden chat, *Grow Your Own Nutritious, Fresh Vegetables* to members of Garden Stratford. It was very timely as there is increased interest in growing vegetables because of the pandemic. Jim stressed the importance of being clear about the reasons for growing vegetables. He gave tips on choosing from a variety of planting opportunities such as different types of raised beds, pots, and even cutting open and planting grow bags. He recommended getting plants in the ground as early as possible, using disease resistant varieties and staggering planting to get the most from crops. He reminded people that some plants take up a lot of space and that it can be better to buy rather than grow them. As for weeding, he advised - lop off their heads but don't cultivate; mulch and only weed when the conditions are just right – not too dry or too wet. Rain barrels are useful when plants need watering. Jim encouraged participants to learn from previous years' experience and to ask for advice.



London-Middlesex Master Gardeners

Name: Learnings from our first virtual event - Seedy Saturday March 6, 2021

Prepared by Linda Armstrong, SS Committee Chair



Details: Thanks to the 2021 Seedy Saturday planning committee - Agnes, Barb, Darlene, Jon, Kim, Larry, Linda, Nicole, Rhonda, Sandra and Sherree. Also kudos to our MG speakers, Nancy & Amy, who delivered great talks that day. Collectively we contributed >400 volunteer hours to this event!

Our 14th year was our first foray into the virtual world. It was a challenge to learn how to work with new tools such as Eventbrite and Zoom Webinar.

Our committee's main goal was to keep the annual event in the public's mind and maintain our relationship with our usual vendors and exhibitors. Our financial goal was to limit LMMG to a small loss or to break-even.

We feel we met the main goal well. We were also pleasantly surprised that we netted a small income.

Results in a nutshell

- 146 registrants, 114 attendees, 95% rated the event as Excellent or Good
- registrant donations of \$1291, profit of \$782 (which includes us donating \$175 to Seeds of Diversity)

Learnings

- Read, research, do dry-runs and practice sessions ...and still things will go wrong. The internet served us up some issues that morning but our speakers rolled with the punches and the audience was very tolerant.



- **Have a back-up plan for everything and then hope you don't need it.** We had extra copies of Host notes, navigation slides and 2 speaker's PowerPoints so were ready if someone's laptop or internet connection totally failed. Thankfully, we did not need to use them but when some video and audio distortion started, it was a relief to know we had a backup plan if things got too bad!
- **Keep the talks relatively short and leave lots of time for Q&A.** Asking questions at the end of each section was one of the highlights for attendees. We collectively answered 65 questions that day.
- **Make use of the emails collected during registration.** We've added 87 new subscribers to our newsletter.
- **Look around for possible grants and sponsorship to help cover costs.** We discovered Signal Boost – an Ontario Trillium Foundation initiative – and were able to be reimbursed for \$400 which was a big help.
- **Don't be afraid to ask registrants for a small donation.** We hesitated but felt that the webinar and speaker costs were significant enough that we should take a chance on asking for a donation "no matter how small". That may have limited registrations a bit but those who attended were fully engaged and appreciative.
- **Have a Chat/Q&A strategy.** We limited Chat just to hosts/panelists and used it to stay in sync. We also posted a few links here for attendees during the event. The Q&A tool was quite effective for the moderator to manage questions from the participants.
- **Get feedback by using a post-zoom survey.** With our Zoom webinar package, we took advantage of the option to attach a free Survey Monkey URL. However note that the free version capped responses at 40.
- **Keep it warm, friendly and try to have some fun during the event.** The audience wants a good pace and good content but their feedback indicated they also appreciated a bit of relaxed dialogue and humour.

We plan to keep learning and trying more virtual ways to connect with our gardening public over the coming year.

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Seedy Saturday in Picton

Details: On March 20, 2021 this beautiful spring day brought all the gardeners out, smiling and so delighted to see their gardening friends at last. We were very happy to be asked to take part in this event with our community partners 'Tree The County' and the 'Community Gardens'. The event was well organized, we all wore masks and enjoyed the sunshine.

Our new members have been amazing and we're so lucky to have them.



Master Gardener in Training June Crocco chats with seed seekers at Seedy Saturday

Thanks June!



Guelph-Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Plant Chat

Details: GWMGs meet once a month on Zoom and talk plants. This month's talk was a lot about seeds and the difficulty in getting them.



MG Inger Knudsen's Snowdrops peeking through the snow

Toronto Master Gardeners

Name: Successional Blooming/Fruiting Study

Details: In an effort to engage members during this time of isolation and to increase our ecological knowledge, the TMG is conducting a year-long study on flower and fruiting sequencing. The project is part of Phenology, the study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant/animal life.

In order to capture the subtle variances within the large city, we have divided Toronto into 'zones' based on clusters of heat vulnerability and green coverage. We have assigned a volunteer to each. We know plants can vary their time of flowering by a few weeks depending on the weather (constant flux of temperature, rainfall), exposure (encroaching shade, wind) and site growing conditions (soil type, moisture, and even past pruning habits), however, by methodically recording sequence and changes in our gardens we can observe and understand the relations in nature, an art that has been practiced by humans for millennia but that we have somehow lost a little.

This timing awareness is particularly important as climate change occurs so that we can guide the public in issues such as invasive species management, vulnerable species, dealing with pests, naturally feeding pollinators, and more.

Stay tuned!

Northumberland Master Gardeners

Name: Zoom Presentation

Details: On March 10th, 2021 we had a very interesting talk by Paul Gellatly, "The Tattooed Gardener". He spoke to us about design principles and his favourite plants. Many of the plants he suggested are unusual and rare. They will be a challenge to source.



Rediscovered in China in 1944, Dawn Redwood (Metasequoia glyptostroboides), a deciduous conifer, is now grown in parks and gardens all over the world



Upcoming Events

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Trowel Talk Live – Learn over Lunch

Dates: April 6 – November 2, 2021



Learn over Lunch with
Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton
Tuesdays at 12:30pm, April 6 to November 2
Live on Zoom

Each session will include a presentation on the topic of the week followed by Q&A - 25-30 minutes total.

Registrants will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link and a weekly email reminder with upcoming topics.

Click [here](#) to register for these meetings – attend as many as you can!

Durham Master Gardeners

Name: The Happy Garden Workshop Series

Details: The series will be presented by Ingrid Janssen in Oshawa and is geared to people who want to become successful home gardeners.



For more information please visit:

<https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/parkwoodestate/items/284057/calendar/2021/03/?flow=504932&full-items=yes>

Grey County Master Gardeners

Name: The Eco-Responsible Gardener, Seminar 3
“If Only Trees Could Talk”

Date: Sunday, April 11, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Registration: Register on our website at:

www.greycountymastergardeners.com

Registration closes on April 4, 2021 or when maximum capacity is reached, so register early!

Details: Our Zoom seminar series “The Eco-Responsible Gardener” comes to an end with our third seminar, “If Only Trees Could Talk”.

Do you ever wish you were a tree whisperer who has inside knowledge on the many struggles of trees and shrubs?

Jen Llewellyn, Nursery & Landscape Specialist, OMAFRA, provides insight into environmental, cultural and pest issues affecting trees and shrubs in Ontario gardens. She shares strategies for diagnosing and managing these and other plant health issues.

Jen holds a B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Horticulture from the University of Guelph and is an ISA Certified Arborist. She is well-known for her column “What’s Bugging Your Trees” in the *Ontario Arborist*, and is co-author of the “Bug Finder” app.



Guelph-Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Plant Sale

Date: May 28th & 29th, 2021

Details: The Guelph-Wellington MG plant sale will take place on-line in a Shopify store. We are working hard to set it up.



Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: EMG/Humber Arboretum Virtual Gardening Workshops – 2021

Dates & Topics: Further Workshops include:

Apr. 17 – Growing Your Own Food
May 15 – Bird Friendly Gardening
Jun. 12 – Benefits of Gardening
Oct. 16 – Pruning
Nov. 13 – Pests & Pathogens



Register at: <https://humber.ca/arboretum/events>

Zoom meeting details will be provided after registration.

Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

Name: Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard

Details: Dr. Doug Tallamy, professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware and much sought-after speaker will share what his research has revealed about changing how we landscape around our homes. "Nature is built from millions of specialized interactions. But today these relationships, and Nature itself, are on the ropes," states Tallamy.

Date: Tuesday May 4, 2021 from 7 – 8pm

Tickets are \$22.23 and are for sale here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/natures-best-hope-a-new-approach-to-conservation-that-starts-in-your-yard-tickets-146638460583?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>



Name: Atlantic Master Gardeners Association Webinar

Zoom Webinar: Topic: The Designer's Way: Seven Spatial Archetypes for Landscape Design

Details: The AMGA Conference was cancelled in 2020. The Keynote speaker was to have been Julie Moir Messervy, award winning landscape designer from Vermont and author of *New Landscaping Ideas that Work* and other books. She will now be featured in their summer 2021 Webinar.

When: July 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. ADT

Registration: Opens 21 May, 2021 for non-members and costs \$20 for non-AMGA members via e-transfer.

More details and a link to e-transfer are available here:

<https://www.atlanticmastergardeners.ca/events>

Events on Hold until Further Notice

Stratford Master Gardeners

POSTPONED!! Technical Update

Topic: *Gardening for the Planet: Creating Biodiverse Habitats in Our Gardens*

Information: We had asked you to save the date of October 17th, 2020 for our Technical Update. As a result of COVID-19 we postponed the event rather than leave people uncertain as to whether it would go ahead.

Halton Master Gardeners

Postponed! Technical Update! Stay Tuned!

Topic: *Refugia: the future of gardening*

Original Date: Saturday, October 24th, 2020

Location: Waterdown, ON

Speakers:

- Dr. Christina Davy, Research Scientist with the Ministry of Natural Resources
- Catherine Kavassalis, Halton Region Master Gardener
- Paul Gellatly, Director of Horticulture, Toronto Botanical Garden
- Claudette Sims, Past President MGOI
- Other special guests TBA



Of Possible Interest to Master Gardeners

University of Guelph Arboretum

Name: 2021 Virtual Workshops

Details: Guelph Arboretum is running a number of on-line courses which may be of interest. You can sign up for a series or for an individual session.

Master Gardener and garden writer Robert Pavlis is presenting **Garden Fundamentals** on Tuesdays from 7-8 pm until May 4th, 2021.

Further information is available here:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum/educationandevents/workshops>



University of Guelph
ARBORETUM
2021 Virtual Workshops
Gardening and Plant I.D. Programs

Our programs are great for general interest or perhaps to update your skills or your employees' skills. Please pass this flyer on to others that would be interested as well.

Winter Garden Design Course February 9 & 10 12 - 1 PM	Winter Tree Identification Tuesdays, February 10 - March 2 12 - 1:30 PM	My First Spring Garden Tuesdays, February 23 - March 16 7 - 8 PM
Career Fundamentals Tuesdays, March 23 - May 4 7 - 8 PM	Garden Fundamentals Week 1: Understanding your garden. Week 2: Selecting the right soil for gardens, raised beds & containers. Week 3: Perennials. Week 4: Trees & shrubs. Week 5: Spring & summer bulbs. Week 6: Ornamental grasses & garden myths. Week 7: Woods, paths & drainage. March 31 12 - 1 PM	Oak Tree Companion March 31 12 - 1 PM

Visit our website to check out our other programs such as:
Nature in Winter Series
Winter Volunteer Program
Tips for Improving your Winter Nature Walk (with a Certified Forest Therapy Guide)
March Break Series
Bedding Programs (coming again soon)

Click on the image to go directly to the website for more details, registration and prices and/or contact us for more information.

arbworks@uoguelph.ca
519-824-4120 ext. 52113
www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum/educationandevents/workshops





Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.
Application for Director, Board Officer or Committee Member

Name: _____

Group: _____

Date: _____

Contact Info (phone and email): _____

How long have you been a member of your Group? _____

What do you like best about being an MG?

How have you been involved in the administration side of your Group? (ex: Roles held, duration, involved in a project, planning of a group activity, etc.)

Which role are you applying for with MGOI and why? Committee or Executive

What skills/strengths/experience do you have that will help with this position?

The Board consists of members across the province and often needs to make decisions via email or teleconference. How would you manage your multiple priorities to respond to Board matters in a timely manner?

What area would you need to work on to be successful as a MGOI Director?

Please forward to pastpresident@mgoi.ca & secretary@mgoi.ca



Treasurer

(Individual or shared position)

The MGOI Treasurer is an essential member of the Board of Directors & a signing officer for the Corporation.

Overview

- The Treasurer shall understand and review the Corporation's finances and report on them to the Board of Directors and the Member Groups.
- This position may be shared, e.g. the responsibilities & vote can be shared between two people, or the responsibilities can be divided into "Treasurer" (attending Board meetings, voting, preparing financial reports) and a 'Bookkeeper" posting transactions & records in an accounting system.
- Term of the position is 2 years. A maximum of 3 terms can be served.

Functions & Duties

- Maintain all necessary financial records of MGOI
- Ensure everyone handling money keeps proper records and documentation
- Conduct all financial transactions, e.g. bank accounts, term deposits, payments of bills, donations
- Receive & process deposits from fundraising, donations, GST/HST rebate and any amounts applicable to the organization that are not received by other board members
- Prepare periodic statements of the financial position of MGOI, or reports to the Board of Directors as requested
- Develop the annual budget with input from Board members
- Conduct business in accordance with the budget, Board motions, financial condition and proper accounting procedures
- Submit accounting reports to the Canada Revenue Agency and Corporations Canada as required
- Cooperate with the chosen accountants in presenting all materials necessary for the financial review engagement report

Qualifications

- Ability to conduct business effectively and efficiently
- Ideally an accounting/bookkeeping background/experience
- Knowledge of QuickBooks software (or willingness to learn)
- Access to a TD branch bank

Communication

- Liaise with MGOI President re issues, concerns or problems
- Reply to correspondence in a timely fashion
- Communicate with Officers/Directors/Groups as necessary

Supports for Board Members

- Eligible for travel expenses relating to the position as described in our MGOI policies/procedures
- Communications Guidelines for Board Members document
- MGOI Governance Guideline document
- Insurance to cover liability of the Corporation & indemnify directors

