



Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Inside

MGOI

Welcome to the June 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.**

June 2021

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton

Milestones

Durham Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training

Felix Pozojevic



We would like to welcome Felix as our newest member to DMG. Felix is a field Manager at a local organic farm, and she lives in Uxbridge. She has recently graduated from the Niagara College Greenhouse technician program. It is so cool to see that Felix is following a family tradition as her father was a Master Gardener in the Niagara area.

Felix is outgoing and enthusiastic. Her interests are many, including sustainable and regenerative gardening

techniques, organic food crop production, mushroom production, vermicomposting, composting, micro greens, container growing, vertical farming and seed saving.



Mississauga Master Gardeners

New Coordinator

Mary Jean (MJ) Kucerak

Mary Jean is the new Mississauga Master Gardener Coordinator. She takes over the role from Michelle Wilson whose contribution to this group has been immense over the years. Thank you, Michelle!

MJ has been a Mississauga Master Gardener (MMG) for 12 years during which time she served as Treasurer, chair of the plant sale committee, a member of the program committee, and assisted with the organization of MMG workshops. MJ is an active volunteer in the Mississauga gardening community, serving on local horticultural society

boards, the organizing committee of the Mississauga Gardening Festival and the Mississauga Blooming Boulevards Board.

During her term as Coordinator, MJ would like to explore opportunities with MMG members for continuing to both increase our gardening knowledge and for ways to share our knowledge in the local community.

New Co-Coordinator

Maureen Neglia

We are happy to welcome Maureen as the new Co-Coordinator for MMG. Maureen joined in 2019 as an MGIT and has helped to

organize our native plant purchase and coordination of advice clinic opportunities for members. An active

community member, she has a passion for improving food and shelter accessibility for vulnerable communities. After a thirty-year career in



Human Resources (HR) Maureen is focused on advocacy for urban gardens and helps others develop their gardens. She continues to work as an independent HR Consultant and teaches part-time at the Humber Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology. Pictures are of her garden.

New Master Gardeners in Training

Diana Westland (2020)

Mohan Iyer (2020)

Diane LaPointe (2021)

Shereen Hussaini (2021)

Anne-Marie Brown (2021)

At the end of 2020 and beginning of 2021, Mississauga Master Gardeners had five members join our group.



Diana Westland is working on her last course of the certificate program. She specializes in vegetable gardening and is very involved in starting plants from seeds. She is already picking up a key role as our secretary and spearheading our seed bank for the strategic distribution of seeds to gardening communities.

Mohan Iyer was already an avid gardener when he joined MMG, specializing in garden design from the ground up, paying attention to detail in building an ecosystem with native plants to attract pollinators. Because Mohan is savvy in social media and communications technology, he has made very important contributions towards the MMG policy of connecting to gardening entities. He has offered his services as our Communications Officer; we hope this will be a big improvement in our contact with MGOL.

Diane LaPointe already has a very important role as Executive Director of CreativeHub 1352, a non-profit group advocating and delivering programs and services in arts, culture, heritage and the environment. She will be a valuable asset to the group.

Shereen Hussaini is a homemaker already specializing in composting and perennial planting. She is also an ambitious learner and would like to increase her knowledge and skills using her own research.

Anne-Marie Brown came to us in February and since then has been using her excellent public relations background to break through to the local farmers' markets for potential partnerships. Her enthusiasm in assuming a leadership role will be a great asset to MMG.



Brantford Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training

Martine Emery

A very happy welcome to Martine who joined the BMG group in June. Looking forward to learning and sharing with Martine! 😊



Simcoe Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training

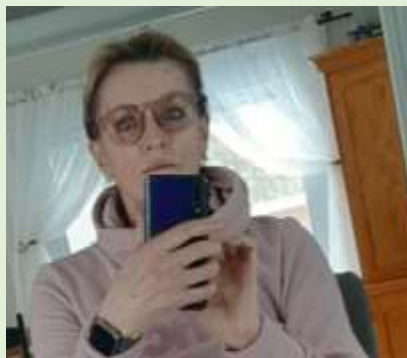
Simcoe County is delighted to welcome 5 new Master Gardeners in Training over the past 15 months.

Diana Ivers

In Training with SCMG since March 2020, Diana has always loved growing and tending plants from a young age. She joined the SCMG to learn from members and because she is looking forward to sharing her knowledge with others. Diana is enrolled in the program at Dalhousie University with a particular interest in garden design. Diana can't wait until we get back to in person meetings so she can get to know the group a bit better!



Cathy Krar



In Training with SCMG since March 2020, Cathy's love of gardens and gardening has morphed into a seasonal vocation: she looks after 6 properties. Not only does this feed her gardening addiction,

it helps pay for new plants! She feels that her association with Master Gardeners gives her a greater knowledge base to draw upon when dealing with homeowners' questions. Cathy is pursuing the self-study option and is planning on writing the exam early in 2022. She has contributed 3 articles to the SCMG website: "Tending Raspberries", "How to care for your Clematis", and "All about Snowdrops". Cathy was formerly a competitive runner and is now an avid hiker, volunteering with the Bruce Trail School Outreach Programme to lead hikes. Her goal as a MG is to gain expertise to add substance to the knowledge she shares with the public.



Karen Francis



In Training with SCMG since May 2020, Karen grew up on a farm in the Kawartha Lakes region where she developed her appreciation for vegetable gardening, spending countless hours planting and harvesting beans, tomatoes and bushels of corn on the cob. It was this time on the farm that nourished her interest and eventual passion for vegetable and perennial gardening, and now interest in pollinator friendly gardens to support the family beehives.

Karen is enrolled in the program at Dalhousie University and is looking forward to retirement from fulltime work in the tech industry so she can spend more time in the garden, expand her gardening knowledge and help others grow their understanding and appreciation of plants.

Karen has volunteered as Secretary for SCMG.

Marianne Lepa

In Training with SCMG since May 2020, Marianne has been gardening her entire life, learning the ropes in her mother's enormous vegetable patch and her grandmother's extensive rose garden.



Almost retired from a career in communications, Marianne is turning her free time to encourage small scale food growing. She is a writer and speaker and becoming a Master Gardener is a way for her to share her passion with others. Marianne is following the self study path and intends on writing the exam early next year.

Joan Sundeen



In Training with SCMG since January 2021, Joan starting gardening as a child, growing corn and zucchini. Her next gardening endeavour was a flower garden in a pile of construction rubble at her first house. Many decades, and many mistakes later, she decided to formalize her learning. Joan is enrolled in the program at Dalhousie

University and has two more courses to complete.



Picture courtesy of Mississauga Master Gardener Emma Chow



YouTube Slideshows

MGOI is running the YouTube slideshows from May to October this year. If you wish to participate please forward 1 or 2 pictures of your garden as it evolves through the seasons for the 2021 MGOI YouTube Slideshows.

This year we would like to suggest you pay special attention to more unusual plants, native plants and pollinator magnets, although please feel free to also send pictures of your favourite plants.

We did not receive any photos in June so we have created a new email which is easier to remember. Please send your photo(s) to photos@mgoi.ca and put in the subject line:

Your name, group, a caption and date – all in one line – to make it quick and easy to copy and paste this info onto the slide. Example:

Flora Green Ottawa Gillenia trifoliata in full bloom June 10



Note: iPads / iPhones sometimes automatically downsize an image before sending. Try to avoid that – the photo gets blurry when it's increased back to slide-size.

We will send a link to the slideshow each month from May to October with *Inside MGOI*.

Thank you for participating.

Adrienne Hanbidge,
MGOI Director of Communications

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/>



Rhonda Wright, Guelph Master Gardener, found this 'Quadillium' (Trillium with 4 petals and leaves) in the Ignatius old growth forest off of Victoria Road North in Guelph



Master Gardeners Out & About Projects & Events

Durham Master Gardeners

Name: Giving Gardens in Oshawa

Details: For the second year in a row, Durham Master Gardener volunteers, in partnership with the Oshawa Garden Club and Oshawa City Council, are converting the Oshawa City Hall annual flower beds into veggie garden extravaganzas to combat food insecurity in the region.

Over the winter, members donated valuable indoor real estate to grow tray upon tray of kale, cabbage, Malabar spinach, hot pepper, and eggplant seedlings in order to get a head start on the growing season. "We are very grateful to our members", say project co-leads Helen Vander Byl and Anne van de Velde, "for responding to our call with such enthusiastic support."

"The Victoria Day weekend shone bright and warm as we planted out our seedlings, as well as onion bulbs, carrot, beet, and bean seeds, alongside companion flowers of nasturtiums, zinnias, cosmos, and marigolds. This year to foil the squirrels we planted squash seeds instead of plants. We'll see how that goes."

DMG looks forward to surpassing last year's donation of 372 lbs. to 'Feed the Need Durham'.



Durham Master Gardeners: Giving Gardens



Brantford Master Gardeners

Name: Brantford Master Gardeners Virtual Movie Night

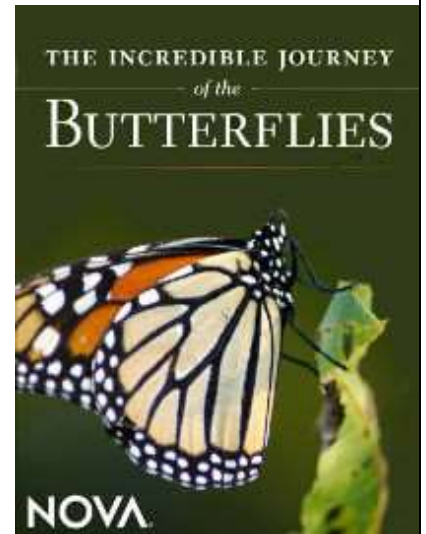
Details: BMGs were pleased to host a virtual movie night on Wednesday June 23, 2021 for a showing of the '**The Incredible Journey of the Butterflies**'.

Participants were able to

BYOP - Bring Your Own Popcorn!

BYOB - Bring Your Own Beverage!

Every year 100 million monarch butterflies set off on an incredible journey across North America. This film reveals, in stunning detail, the dangers they encounter and their inspiring struggle for survival.



Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Partnership with the Ottawa Public Library (OPL)

Details: MGOC had been invited by the library to give Zoom talks on gardening in April and May. We are continuing the series throughout the summer and several members have stepped up to provide talks. Of particular interest is that some talks are in English and some in French.

Check out topics and register for any of the remaining sessions via the OPL website [here](#).



Upcoming Events

Master Gardeners of Ottawa – Carleton

Name: Trowel Talk Live – Learn over Lunch

Dates: Every Tuesday until 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!

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: EMG/Humber Arboretum Virtual Gardening Workshops – 2021

Dates & Topics: Further Workshops include:

Oct. 16 – Pruning

Nov. 13 – Pests & Pathogens

Join the Etobicoke Master Gardeners and the Humber Arboretum for free VIRTUAL gardening workshops!
Saturdays 10 - 11 am

Soil Health: The Natural Approach - January 16, 2021
Good Bugs - Bad Bugs - February 20, 2021
Growing Your Own Food- April 17, 2021
Bird Friendly Gardening - May 15, 2021
Benefits of Gardening - June 12, 2021 (10:00 - 10:30 am)
Pruning - October 16, 2021
Pests & Pathogens - November 13, 2021

Zoom meeting details will be provided after registration.

Don't look forward to your participation

Register at humber.ca/arboretum/events

Eto-Garden Community Workshop Series

Etobicoke Master Gardeners
www.etobicoke.org/mastergardeners.ca

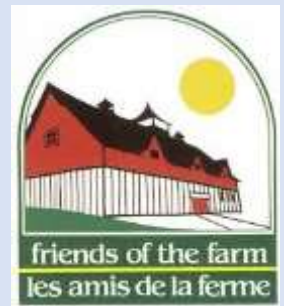
HUMBER ARBORETUM
www.humber.ca/arboretum

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

Master Gardeners of Ottawa – Carleton

Name: Lecture Series

Details: THE FRIENDS OF THE FARM PRESENTS LECTURES BY MASTER GARDENERS OF OTTAWA-CARLETON



Please join us from 7pm to 8pm **VIA ZOOM**.

MGOC presented 3 lectures in April and May : “Our Gardens and Climate Change”, “Colour through the Seasons”, and “Into the Night Garden”. The series resumes in September.

Tuesday September 21: “Another Gardening Year Behind Us”

Come fall, there is still lots to do in your garden. Planting, planning, cutting, trimming, composting ... tasks to enjoy as you wrap up all things gardening for another rewarding season.

Tuesday September 28: “A Garden for the Birds”

Wild birds are currently facing a multitude of threats across North America. Many bird species are in decline. This talk will review the most common threats and provide gardeners with some practical, positive ways to encourage birds to visit your garden. Make your garden more bird-friendly year-round.

Cost: \$10/ lecture for those who are not members of Friends of the Farm

TO REGISTER AND OBTAIN MORE DETAILS:

<https://friendsofthefarm.ca/fcef-annual-events/master-gardener-lectures>

Name: 2021 Atlantic Master Gardeners Association (AMGA)

Webinar Series: Spring, Summer, & Fall via Zoom

Summer: The Designer’s Way: Seven Spatial Archetypes for Landscape Design

Date & Time: Sunday, July 11, 2021 at 2:00 pm ADT

Cost: \$20 for non-AMGA members via e-transfer. Register here:

https://www.atlanticmastergardeners.ca/fallwebinar?utm_campaign=c49ae866-0a2e-4aba-8cdf-28c3982dd2b7&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail

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.



Using the landscape archetypes of the sea, the cave, the promontory, the harbour, the island, the mountain and the sky, this lecture will show you how to add form, structure, and interest to your garden planning. Given that the Atlantic Provinces have a great variety of these landforms, Julie will provide ideas that you can incorporate into your garden design.

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

https://www.atlanticmastergardeners.ca/summerwebinar?utm_campaign=c49ae866-0a2e-4aba-8cdf-28c3982dd2b7&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail

Fall: Growing Under Cover - Techniques for a more productive, weather-resistant, pest-free vegetable garden

Date & Time: Wednesday, September 21 at 7:00pm ADT

Details: Join award-winning author Niki Jabbour as she shares her secrets to growing more food, reducing pest problems, and dealing with unpredictable weather in her vegetable garden. She will spotlight a wide variety of season extenders like shade cloth, row covers, cold frames,



and polytunnels, as well as show you how to use garden covers to prevent damage from pests. Put Niki's techniques to work in your garden so you can enjoy a year-round harvest in any sized space.

Registration: Opens 31 July, 2021 for non-members.

Cost: \$20 for non-AMGA members via e-transfer.

Register here:

https://www.atlanticmastergardeners.ca/fallwebinar?utm_campaign=c49ae866-0a2e-4aba-8cdf-28c3982dd2b7&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail

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
- 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 continues to run on-line courses which may be of interest. Sign up for a series or for an individual session. Further information is available here:

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

Tree ID is running in July.

Thursdays: July 8, 15, 22 &

29, noon - 1:30 PM

Format: Online via Zoom

Instructor: Shelley Hunt

Cost: \$70.

Zoom meeting details will be provided after registration.



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). The following is an excerpt from their website: <https://mailchi.mp/31db1d978b80/kvutnht865-13371271?e=116ef0a728>

Update June 2021 – Getting Ready for 2022

**Garden Days 2021 - June 12th – June 20th, 2021
IT'S GARDEN TIME!**

Join Us! There is so much to do and there are so many benefits to gardens and gardening that this year we are going to celebrate the many joys of gardens and gardening with daily themes.

- Every day we will offer suggestions of great ways everyone can engage with our themes.
- Our experts will weigh in on their favourite topics.
- We will share links on great articles, books, podcasts.
- We will use our social channels to connect with everyone who loves a garden.
- We will invite our "Garden Family" and the public to tell us how they relate to the daily themes.
- Scotts will offer prizes to those that participate.

Toronto City Council unanimously proclaims 2022 the Year of the Garden in Toronto

Toronto became the first municipality to commit to being a Garden Friendly City through proclamation.

Communities in Bloom in collaboration with the **Canadian Garden Council** invites each municipality to do the same to celebrate the importance of gardens and gardening for the quality of life of its citizens. We can send you a model Proclamation of the **Year of the Garden 2022** that you can submit to your elected municipal officials.

Government Support

The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau's motion to parliament to recognize 2022 as Canada's Year of the Garden should be tabled in the days to come.



Government still needs to hear your voice

If you have not yet done so, 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!!!](#)



Remember: Time to Plan for 2022

How can you as a member of Canada's Garden-Family benefit from the Year of the Garden 2022? We invite you to engage by thinking about how you will celebrate, how you will engage your clients, what will be your special project, and how you will engage with the nation-wide **Year of the Garden 2022** marketing and promotional campaign. Are you joining Canada's **Year of the Garden 2022** celebrations?

The Garden-Family Resource Guide provides you with ideas and links to various tools and information to help you plan your participation. Check the website for the Resource Guide: www.yearofthegarden.ca

Reminder: Hope Is Growing

We encourage you to accept [Communities in Bloom's invitation](#) to plant a Hope Garden in 2021. These very special gardens will set the stage for the **Year of the Garden 2022**.



We keep receiving letters of support. We are happy to share them with you and quotes from them on the website.



Ctrl+ Click to learn more

