



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 2022

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton

Milestones

Durham Master Gardeners

by Norine Blyth, DMGs

10 Year Anniversary

Ingrid Janssen



Congratulations Ingrid on 10 years with Durham Master Gardeners. Ingrid has been a very valued and busy lady at DMG! She is one of those amazing people who has such a wealth of information on gardening and all things related to it. I personally must tip my hat to her knowledge.

Once again, I have chosen to do an interview style discussion for all to get to know Ingrid. Members of MGOI, please meet Ingrid.

Please give a brief description of your working career:

I worked in the IT industry for 34 years, all of it at one company, IBM. I actually started my career in their manufacturing facility but through training became a programmer, which led to project management, then to management and finally technology consulting.

What made you interested in becoming a Master Gardener?

I have always been a passionate gardener and a lifelong learner. After retiring, I was looking for ways to give back to my community and becoming a Master Gardener seemed a great way to combine my passion for learning with community service.

Where did you take your education – Guelph, Dalhousie, self-study?

I had started taking online horticulture courses at the University of Guelph before my retirement so it seemed a

natural fit to complete the remaining courses for my MG certification at Guelph. I went on to complete the requirements for the Horticulturist Diploma in 2017.

Are you on any other gardening related committees / groups?

I am a member of a committee that is working on the rejuvenation of the tennis court gardens at the Parkwood National Historic Site in Oshawa, a member of the Canadian Peony Society, as well as a member of the organizing committee for the Oshawa Peony Festival.

I also have memberships in two local horticultural societies, the North American Native Plant Society and the Ecological Landscape Alliance.

What Committees did you sit on for both DMG & MGOI?

- a) Present:
None at the moment.
- b) Past:
I have served as Event Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator, Coordinator, Co-coordinator and Past Coordinator on the executive of Durham Master Gardeners. I was also on the MGOI Growth and Membership Committee and served as the Director for Partnerships and Sponsorships on the Board.

Further education / courses gardening related:

I have been able to participate in many online gardening and ecology seminars over the last 2 years that have been a great opportunity to hear wonderful speakers such as Doug Tallamy, Heather Holm, Lorraine Johnson and the knowledgeable instructors at the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture. Prior to the pandemic, I completed the Rain Garden Master Class, I took several courses on Urban Sustainability at Guelph, and a workshop on Landscape Design for Bees with Heather Holm.

What are some of your loves of gardening?

OMG where do I start! There are so many things I love, not just about gardening, but about the natural world in general. Many years ago I was introduced to the world of native plants by a colleague at IBM. Since then native plants have become a real passion for me. I have trees and shrubs in my garden grown from seeds that I collected in the wild back in the 1990s – flowering dogwood, northern spicebush, red and white oaks, hickories, magnolias, Kentucky coffee trees – just to name a few.



Seed collecting is definitely one of my passions. There is something so magical about the transformation of seeds into plants, starting with germination. The capabilities of plants to completely change the ecology of a place – both for better and for worse – is to me the real power of gardening.

Rather than just choosing plants for their colour, form or shape, I now think in terms of the ecosystem services they provide in my garden and to the wildlife that now resides there.

Any words you might want to have written?

“Our ability to perceive quality in nature begins, as in art, with the pretty. It expands through successive stages of the beautiful to values as yet uncaptured by language.”

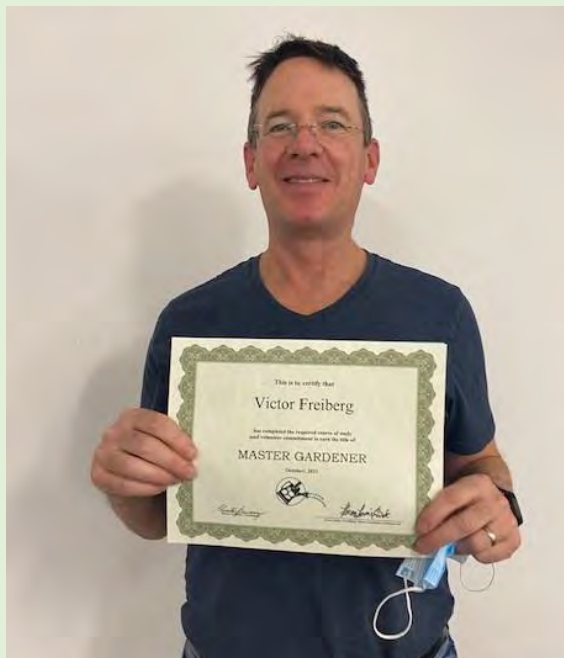
Aldo Leopold



Northumberland Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Victor Freiberg



Member Profile

Christa Bisanz

Christa has gardened most of her life. She moved around a lot! Christa planted asparagus at almost every home she lived in and moved her Dad's iris every time she moved.

Her time in the Port Hope area is the longest she has been in one place. Christa lives on an acre of land right in the middle of town, beside the town's green belt.

Her interest lies mostly in vegetable gardening and in planting heirloom seeds. Of course, Christa planted asparagus and added rhubarb and garlic along with the regular vegetables. All of these she has sold at the Port Hope Market at different times.

Christa attended Dalhousie University where she completed her courses for her Master Gardener Certificate. She has been a member of the Northumberland Master Gardeners for eleven years – five years as Treasurer and three as Chair. Christa brought the group through (or almost through) Covid-19.

She loves attending NMG meetings where gardening is always the main topic. Christa continues to serve as past Coordinator.



Stratford and District Master Gardeners

Retirements

Ruth Seyffert
Kim Brodhagen

In the early 1990s, Ruth Seyffert and Kim Brodhagen were both Registered Practical Nurses at Stratford General Hospital. The hospital had invited two Master Gardeners to make a presentation. Ruth and Kim were hooked, attended the summer picnic and started attending Master Gardener meetings. They have been sharing their knowledge and expertise with other gardeners and the public ever since. Both are keen vegetable gardeners and love flowers. Their enthusiasm has been evident over the years at the yearly Spring Garden Festival, plant sales and other gardening events.

When Ruth and Kim joined Master Gardeners, the Internet was still in its infancy and OMAFRA had oversight of Master Gardeners. They commented that they had two years to obtain certification and that everything was submitted in writing. They had to wait for the results to be mailed to them. In those days the education component was free, but later it became necessary to start fundraising to raise money for members to complete courses. In the early days when Kim became Treasurer she was given a box containing the sum of \$7. How times have changed!

After being Treasurer for five years Kim went on to take the minutes of the monthly meetings, something she continued to do until a few years ago.

It is a pleasure for us to have had the opportunity to share their wisdom and friendship and we look forward to seeing them at many events in the future.

Thank you, Ruth and Kim!



Simcoe County Master Gardeners

Simcoe County MGs are happy to welcome three new members to our group. We are looking forward to meeting them IN PERSON later this year!

New Master Gardeners in Training

Katie Goulbourne



Katie joined in November 2021. She has had a passion for gardening from a young age. Growing up on a dairy farm near Lake Simcoe, she regularly attended horticultural functions with her grandmother who made gardening of both vegetables and flowers a part of everyday life.

Katie has decided that now is the time to pursue a long time goal of expanding her formal knowledge and becoming a Master Gardener. Katie is enrolled in the program at the University of Guelph and is working on her second course.

Stephanie Jansen

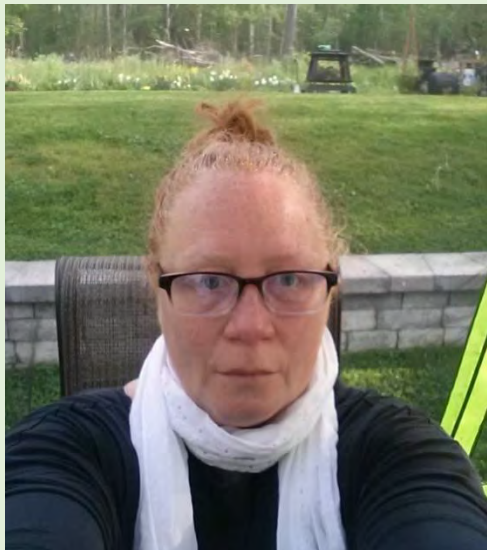
Stephanie joined in October 2021 and is currently enrolled in the Horticulture program at the University of Guelph, taking IPM (Integrated Pest Management).

Her love for plants and gardening started with indoor tropical house plants that she has experimented with over the years.



She has a special interest in different potting mediums and propagation methods. Stephanie was part of a team that created a sensory garden and recently she has been trying her hand at vegetable gardening with an emphasis on square foot gardening.

Marilyn Hovius



Marilyn joined in October 2021.

She grew up on a mixed vegetable farm in the Holland Marsh where she learned that the fruit of one's labours is a result of family, friends, hard

work and the "whims" of Mother Nature. This love of farming and nature compelled her to obtain multiple horticulture degrees at the University of Guelph and a PhD from the University of Madison-Wisconsin. Marilyn hung up her "scientist shoes" after a 15 year career, specializing in vegetable IPM, to be a full-time mom and pursue other career aspirations.

However, she continues to experiment in her home garden with different vegetable growing techniques. As a self-confessed plant collector, Marilyn's perennial and cut flower choices are many and varied. If asked to choose a favourite plant, it would be difficult, but she would most likely say the "Allium", of which she has 17 different ornamental types. Marilyn is excited about becoming a Master Gardener: the idea of reciprocated shared knowledge and inspiration to support generations of gardeners to come. She is currently following the self-study Master Gardener in Training path and intends to write the exam late this year.



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!



Mnemonics for MGITs

by Margaret Larson, Halton Master Gardeners

Inside MGOI plans to feature a new series on mnemonics. Margaret Larson, Halton MGIT, has found mnemonics to be a failsafe way to remember some of the more obtuse horticultural terms. They are great memory aids for those things that just won't stay in your brain. The first mnemonic was made by the Greek poet Simonides in 447 BC and derives from the Greek *mnēmōn* ("mindful").

(Miriam Webster Dictionary). I find them truly helpful as I study to learn the language of Horticulture. Here are five that you might find helpful.

1. **Botrytis** – **try** to remember it's grey mold.
2. **Coreopsis** – really **ticks** me off cause it's **tick**seed.
3. **Poison Ivy** – Leaves of three, leave 'em be.
4. **Stamen** – **male** part of the flower.
5. Which weed (**witchweed**) is parasitic? – Yes, it is.

If you have any mnemonics, old or new, please pass them on to Margaret at: larsonmzz@yahoo.ca so we can include them in next month's article.

Botrytis Grey Mold on Strawberry (Fragaria × ananassa)



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/e/e4/Aardbei_Lambda_vruchtrot_Botrytis_cinerea.jpg/440px-Aardbei_Lambda_vruchtrot_Botrytis_cinerea.jpg



A Message from the President

Karen Sciuk, President MGOI

MGOI is advertising two positions on the MGOI Board:

1. Corporate Secretary
2. Vice President (VP)

Corporate Secretary Terri Briggs will have completed her six year term sometime before the 2022 AGM. It would be ideal to have a replacement, working as a member-at-large until the hand-off, so that they can overlap with Terri for a couple of months to ensure continuity. This would also ensure that the Corporate Secretary training can happen well in advance of the October 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Similarly, I would like to find a VP to start by the 2022 AGM so that they are well aware of how the Executive functions for a few years before they become President. I do not expect to continue my term past the end of 2024.

If MGs are interested in either of these positions we like to appoint them to the Board as Executives-at-Large with a few months of overlap where possible.

The job description for Corporate Secretary is posted in Annex 1 at the end of this Newsletter. Interested Master Gardeners, please contact Terri Briggs at secretary@mgoi.ca, or Karen Sciuk at president@mgoi.ca.

The VP job description is on the right. Interested candidates should contact me, Karen Sciuk at president@mgoi.ca.

Job Description - Vice President

- Supports and works closely with the President to assist with his or her duties, especially regarding governance
- Monitors the progress of the organization's goals and objectives
- Reviews information submitted in Annual Reviews and in the Annual Report in order to recognize achievements, share best practices, and identify potential areas of concern
- Assists the relevant Director to resolve potential areas of concern, and if necessary bring them to the attention of the Board of Directors
- Works with the Membership Director and others to fill vacant Board positions
- Assumes the duties of the President in his or her absence
- Succeeds the President



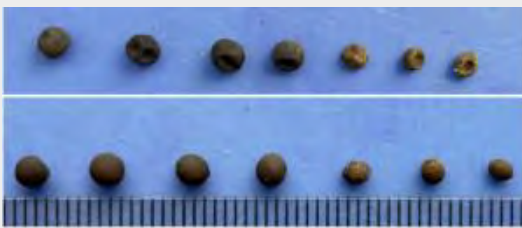
Reminder – Stop the Spread of Jumping Worms

Plant Sales are just around the corner, and we are all looking forward to them. This is a reminder that Jumping Worm (JW) cocoons may be in soils. Since there is currently no viable option for controlling JWs it is crucial to stop them from spreading. The cocoons are miniscule and hard to see.

From the Invasive Species Centre –

<https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/invasive-species/meet-the-species/land-and-animal-invertebrates/jumping-worms/>

Between April and May, young jumping worms hatch from egg-filled cocoons which resemble mustard seeds. It is difficult to detect these cocoons in the soil as they blend in readily with their surroundings.



Dehydrated (top) and hydrated (bottom) jumping worm cocoons.

Photo: Chang, C-H. et al. 2021.

In the summer months, generally from May to August, the juvenile worms feed and grow to their adult size. The time between hatching and reproductive maturity for a jumping worm is generally only 60 days.

Between August and September, mature worms reproduce and deposit their eggs into the surrounding soil. Most adult worms die at the first freeze, but their eggs overwinter until April, protected in their drought- and cold-resistant cocoons.

The following is an excerpt from the November 2021 issue of *Inside MGOI*.

Plant & Site Preparation

by Claudette Sims, Halton

- Make sure ALL plant sale members are aware of Jumping Worms including what they look like and what contaminated soil looks like.
- DO NOT ACCEPT plants from gardeners with confirmed cases of JWs.
- Sell bare-root plants whenever possible. Completely submerge plant roots in water and wash away remaining soil. Actively check for JWs.
- If plants must be sold in soil, repot with clean potting soil.
- Do not use mulch, leaves, backyard compost or other material to repot as they may harbour jumping worm cocoons/eggs.
- Gather and transport plants/pots where they cannot pick-up contaminated materials like soil, leaves or mulch, e.g. on concrete, tarps or trays.
- **Arrive clean and leave clean.** Ensure volunteers clean shoes/boots/tools before arrival and brush off any soil before returning home.
- **Vehicles:** Be aware that vehicle tires may also transfer JW cocoons to and from the plant sale site. Where possible park vehicles on paved areas such as the street or parking lot.

These Asian jumping worms, on a sun-splashed stone in a backyard in Scarborough in suburban Toronto, were discovered in a contaminated bag of sheep's manure in 2021. (Norma Phillips / Facebook)



<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/canada-invasive-jumping-worms-1.6385624>



Spring Tide Bulb Show

Gage Park Greenhouse, Hamilton

by Isabel Belanger, Editor 'Inside MGOI', Halton

The Spring Tide Bulb Show in all its springtime glory opened on Friday, March 11 at the Gage Park Greenhouse in Hamilton and ran until March 20 during the week of March Break. Although usually an annual event, Spring Tide had been cancelled in 2020 and 2021 because of Covid. This year it was an especially welcome sight after the long, snowy hard winter that was and still is the winter of 2022. Covid-19 protocols were still in place, and the Tropical Greenhouse had been closed for much of the winter to redeploy staff to Covid-19 related activities.



The theme this year was "Spring in the Country". Even through our masks the smell of spring was unmistakable. Not quite Canada Blooms in Toronto, or even the Fall

Mum Show, Spring Tide did offer over 23,000 bulbs in bloom as well as a number of other spring favourites, all growing in the working part of the Greenhouse.

Of course all these bulbs that many of us plant in our gardens are not native to these parts, nor anywhere in Ontario. Tulips (*Tulipa spp.*) are native from a small area in southern Europe, through to northern Africa into Central Asia.



'Crocuses are native to woodland, scrub, and meadows from sea level to alpine tundra from the Mediterranean, through North Africa, central and southern Europe, the islands of the Aegean, the Middle East and across Central Asia to Xinjiang in western China. ... They arrived in Europe from Turkey in the 16th century' (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crocus>), much like the treasured Tulip of Tulipmania fame in 17th century Holland.

Daffodils 'are native to meadows and woods in southern Europe and North Africa with a centre of diversity in the Western Mediterranean, particularly the Iberian peninsula'. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Narcissus_plant).

These bulbs enjoy conditions here and are for the most part polite and non-spreading (not thinking of you, winter aconite (*Eranthis hyemalis*) or you Siberian squill (*Scilla siberica*); both are now considered invasive species. Winter aconite is native to woodland habitats in France, Italy and the Balkans; scilla is native to southwestern Russia, the Caucasus, and Turkey – not from Siberia despite its name.



Australian tree fern

Bulbs have become universal signs of spring and bring happiness early in the season to many of us yearning for colour and the growing season to begin before many of our native spring ephemerals awaken.

No trip to the Gage Park Greenhouse for a special event is complete without a visit to the Tropical Greenhouse – like visiting Australia on a cold winter's day.



Master Gardeners Out & About

Projects & Events

Peterborough Master Gardeners

Name: The Year of the Garden 2022

Details: The Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners have entered into a partnership with the Peterborough Public Library (PPL) to assist them in creating and enhancing pollinator gardens in existing garden areas around the library building. Our project has been supported by the generous donation of \$2000 from the Peterborough and Kawartha Association of Realtors (PKAR). All partners want to highlight the benefits that gardens and gardening provide including environmental, health, wellness, and cultural by contributing towards a design for a garden area with appropriate native plants. This project will involve our Master Gardeners, Library Staff, PKAR Members and patrons of the PPL through their children's programming. We are watching the snow melt with great anticipation!

Stay tuned for more details and photos as the project moves forward.



Geranium maculatum

Name: The Pathway to Stewardship & Kinship

Details: The Pathway to Stewardship & Kinship is a 'foundation for nurturing healthy and engaged children and youth': <https://pathwayproject.ca>. The Peterborough and Area MGs are involved with Pathway initiatives in Peterborough through volunteering our expertise to teachers in our local schools and daycares who are looking for gardening advice such as growing vegetables in their classrooms or school gardens. This is an excellent program giving us the opportunity to inspire young gardeners!



Name: PMGs Winter Walks

Details: PMG Gladys Fowler had the inspired idea of our members going for winter walks together. Those who were interested and able have been for four walks so far, enjoying the beautiful trails in and around the city of Peterborough. It has been wonderful to meet outside with each other while our group meetings have been held via Zoom. On our walks we have been able to 'zoom' in on the beauty of winter woodlands, birds and each other's company!



L to R, PMGs Etela Vojnic, Anne Craig, Sharleen Pratt, Gladys Fowler, Chris Freeburn and Jennifer Guertin
Photo Lois Scott



Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: March Preparation of Native Seedling Trays

Details: During the first week of March, MGITs Catherine Fleming and Mohan Iyer were with MG Jeannie McRight (@bloomingboulevards.org) to prepare seedling trays for native plants. The seedlings would then be distributed to people who have registered to have boulevard gardens in their neighborhoods.

Please click on the links to go to the videos:

Video 1- <https://youtu.be/JgtKptvu9oE> - MGIT Mohan Iyer preparing the trays with soilless seed starting mix.

Video 2- <https://youtu.be/fNRZvHPzLOM> - MGIT Catherine Fleming sowing seeds in the soilless seed starting mix.



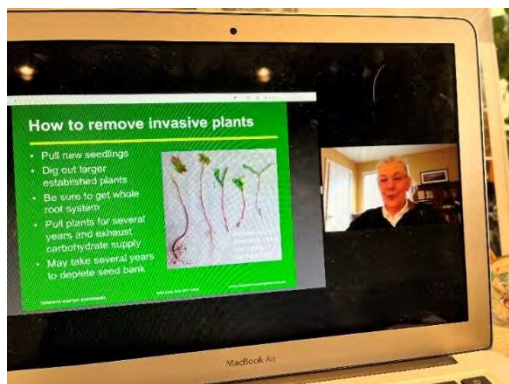
Blooming Boulevards follows ethical seed collection practices and has a letter of permission from the city to collect seeds on this site. Anyone who wants to collect wildflower seeds can find the Seed Collectors' Code of Ethics here: <https://editor.wix.com/html/editor/web/renderer/edit/3a37d6e5-bebf-450b-8ca5-a51679fae2f9?metaSiteId=d6dcc70c-cbd8-4765-b262-3b256722dbbe>, or here if you do not have a Wix account: <http://www.bloomingboulevards.org/ethical-standards-for-naseed-collecting>.



Toronto Master Gardeners

Name: Invasive Species Presentation, March 4/22

Details: The Toronto Master Gardeners participated in Invasive Species Awareness Week with a well-attended online lunch hour presentation by Pat Concessi, incoming TMG Executive Coordinator. The presentation took a close look at common invasive “escapees” from our gardens and their impacts on the natural environment, particularly on Toronto’s fragile ravine system. Pat offered suggestions on native alternatives.



Name: Tree Bark in Early Spring: A Walk in the Toronto Botanical Garden

Details: On Tuesday, March 22, Toronto Master Gardeners held its first in-person event for members in a very long time! Those of us who attended this walk in the Toronto Botanical Garden were fortunate to have as our guide Roger Gettig, the TBGs new Director of Horticulture. He helped us look closely at the tell-tale clues about how trees behave that can be found in their bark as the winter ends.

It was a pleasure to be outside in the gardens on a late afternoon and to be able to socialize once again with our fellow TMGs – something we have all really missed.



Roger Gettig Tree Tour



Stratford and District Master Gardeners

Name: RELEAF Stratford – March Update

Details: ReLeaf Stratford is a project of the Stratford and District Master Gardeners promoting the planting of native species to support our area’s biodiversity. The goal, with the aid of our partner groups, is to plant 2022 trees and shrubs in the year 2022. Our website releafstratford.ca contains a plethora of information about native plants, where to purchase them, how to correctly plant a tree, tree activities for families, and more. New content is being added regularly.

In March ReLeaf presented the second of a series of speakers as part of [The Creating Nature Inspired Gardens Series](#) hosted by Stratford Public Library. Sean James gave an inspiring talk about layered design for natural gardens. He is an engaging speaker and kept the audience enthralled with his extensive knowledge of the beauty and sustainability of native species. He covered the importance of a variety of heights, flowers for pollinators, fruiting for birds and mammals, larval food and habitat shelter. Details of speakers in April and May can be found in Events.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Toronto Master Gardeners

Name: Invasive Plants: What Not to Buy at the Garden Centre

Date: April 6 @ 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

Details: Toronto Master Gardeners presents the second in our Garden Chat series on Invasive Plants. This one focuses on invasive plants that are available for purchase at garden centres, how to watch out for them, and better ideas for choices.

This event is free and open to the public.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/259698403917)

MGOI North Region Master Gardeners

Name: Technical Day: Native Gardens for Nature's Sake – Protection & Conservation of Native Plants for Our Ecosystem

Date & Time: Saturday, April 9th, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Details: MGOI North Region MGs are pleased to present 3 speakers on our Technical Day:

- Doug Tallamy on Nature's Best Hope
- Heather Holm on Creating and Managing Landscapes for Native Bees
- Joseph Pitawanakwat on Understanding Awaadiziwin (knowledge/culture) and its role in achieving Bimaadiziwin (life)



Cost: \$20.00

Zoom Tickets & Speaker Information:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/259698403917>



Stratford and District Master Gardeners

Name: The [Creating Nature Inspired Gardens Series](#)

Details: This series is a collaboration between [Stratford Public Library](#) and [Stratford and Area Master Gardeners](#)

celebrating the year of the garden, 2022.

Learn about the biodiversity project [ReLeaf Stratford](#), and listen to specialists on conserving and restoring native trees, layered gardens, small space gardening, and native pollinators.



Small Trees for Small Spaces

Cathy Kavassalis
April 14 at 7 p.m.



Often called the backbone of a garden, trees and shrubs give a yard structure and form. They provide benefits of year round beauty, while improving our environment and providing food and habitat for wildlife.

How do you choose the right tree for your space? Native is best for biodiversity and we will talk about why keystone species are particularly important. We will also talk about how to keep large trees small, but we will focus on small trees and large shrubs that might be the perfect fit for your space. The possibilities, while not endless are extensive. Come and get a few ideas for creating your own small oasis.

Native Plants for Pollinators

Dr. Victoria MacPhail
May 12 at 7 p.m.

[Register for the Creating Nature Inspired Gardens Series](#)

Questions? Contact Robyn at rgodfrey@pcin.on.ca or 519-271-0220 x 132.

London Middlesex Master Gardeners

Name: Seedy Saturday 2022 in London – New Date! New Venue!



When: April 23rd, 2022, 10 am to 4:00 pm

Where: Dundas Place - London's new flex street will be the site for this year's event!

Details:

- Free - Community seed swap and Marketplace. Many vendors of seeds, supplies and garden-related

items will be outdoors in heated tents and trailers!

- The flex street on Dundas is between Wellington and Clarence. [Check out these Parking options](#), including a 2-hour free option, using HONK.

Tickets & Preregistration: \$10 per ticket for 3 great speakers in the Wolf Performance Hall in the London Public Library. TICKETS GO ON SALE March 1, 2022.

- 10:00 Emma Biggs, author and gardening prodigy – “Gardening in small spaces and containers”
- 12:00 Rosemarie Szalich, Master Gardener – “Therapeutic gardening using our 5 senses”
- 1:30 Dan Cooper, Gardening from a Hammock – “Gardening Tips for Low Maintenance Gardens”

Tip - The first 200 people to register and pay \$10 for their ticket will receive a swag bag containing some garden goodies plus a raffle ticket for great prizes.

For More Information (and to Register/Pay): – [Go to our Website](#)

Hope to see you there!

Guelph Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Composting 101

Date: May, TBA at the library

Name: Minute with a Master Gardener

Dates: TBD. This will be ongoing every week beginning in early spring throughout the growing season. Stay tuned – the organizing group is currently setting up the schedule.

Details: Features a Master Gardener sharing, via video clip, favourite / interesting garden information to the public. Hosted through the public library.

Northumberland Master Gardeners

Name: Warkworth Lilac Festival

Date: May 28 and 29, 2022, 10 am to 4 pm

Details: Northumberland Master Gardeners will be on hand at the Warkworth Lilac Festival, holding advice clinics throughout the two day event. The National Garden Bureau has declared 2022 “The Year of the Lilac” so the committee has decided to showcase the lilacs and have the Festival along the Lilac Trail.



There will be a Victorian Tea, horticultural vendors and societies, music, children's events, lilac sales, 'A Touch of Lilac' display, the Firelighters Dance Troupe and food on the Trail. Northumberland Master Gardeners will have a spot along the trail for their clinics. The committee has chosen to feature a double white gorgeous lilac in celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee.

Name: Port Hope Garden Tour

Date: June 11, 2022, 10 am to 4 pm

Details: Northumberland Master Gardeners will be present in select gardens hosting clinics throughout the garden tour. There will be 10 gardens on the tour. We will be visible in our green aprons.

MGOI Summer Workshops 2022



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Niagara_Parks_School_of_Horticulture#/media/File:Niagara_Parks_School_of_Horticulture_building_2010.jpg

Name: Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture Workshops

Dates: July 9th & 10th, 2022

Details: We are currently in the early stages of planning the summer workshops depending on how things go re Covid.

Registration: will be due by June 1st/2022 and the forms will go out in April/May if we proceed.

Spaces are limited this summer to 45 participants so it will be on a first come, first served basis. All participants must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask in the classrooms.

We will also spend some time reviewing soil lab results and understanding how to interpret the numbers and

Cost: \$275 per participant; this fee includes lunch and breaks catered by the Niagara Parks Services.

Accommodation: is available at the Niagara College Residence.

At this time we are compiling a list of members who would like to attend. Yvonne Causer: ycauser@hotmail.com accepts the registrations. Please email her your intention.

You can also email June Streadwick:

streadwick@sympatico.ca or

Kate Sault: saultkate@gmail.com for information.

Topics

1. Soil Health – Understanding, Maintaining and Sustaining

Instructor: Darrell Bley, Instructor / Curator of Woody Plants, Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture

This workshop will focus on reviewing the targeted and key physical, chemical, and biotic properties of a healthy soil. Since many of us in our home gardens may not have the perfect "utopia" of garden soils, we will explore and discuss ways to alter the physical and chemical properties of soils. When these two components are in good balance, the most important components for healthy soils, the biotic living world, come in and set up shop in this more perfect home. What we need to do is sustain that home and give the biota all the creature comforts to encourage their growth in populations.

This in turn provides the circle of life in which our plants are a part. We in turn reap the benefits of a healthy and happy garden.

We will need to bring soil samples taken 6 inches deep from various parts of the garden and mixed in a bag, as we will be doing lab work related to texture, pH, electro-conductivity, and soil biota.



<https://extension.unr.edu/publication.aspx?PublicationID=3066>



results. Important tools, references, microscopes, and stereoscopes will be used to assist us in our quest for understanding and maintaining a healthy soil.

2. What's Bugging My Trees and Shrubs?

Instructor: Kris J. Mahoney, PhD, Instructor / Curator of Integrated Pest Management, Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture

Have you observed damage to your trees and shrubs? Was there evidence of chewing, did the leaf look hollowed out from the inside, were there galls present, were there holes in the leaf or on the stem, was there frass or a fresh egg mass?

These are important questions to ask when diagnosing damage in order to catch the culprit. Join Kris as we take a diagnostic approach to discovering what problem is pestering your prized *Platanus* or your favourite *Forsythia*.

We will use classroom lessons and outdoor tours to test our knowledge and sharpen our skills.



https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/tree_galls_are_rarely_cause_for_concern

3. Techniques for Successful Propagation

Instructor: Tanya Blankenburg, Instructor / Curator of the Rose/Herb/Vegetable Gardens, Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture

This workshop will be a hands-on day of learning various techniques for successful propagation. From tools, substrates, sanitation, patents to nutrients – come and explore all the many facets of plant propagation.

Please bring secateurs.

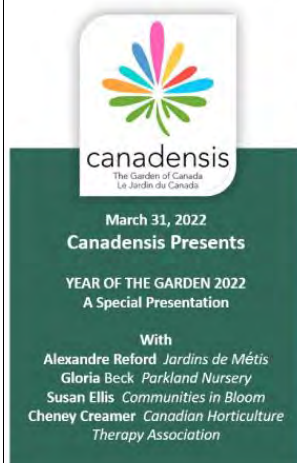




Year of the Garden Website Went Live on March 20!

After a long and challenging winter, the Year of the Garden 2022 officially launched to the public on the first day of spring, March 20, 2022, along with a new website! The website is the best way to stay up to date on all things Year of the Garden! Experience the new website and access the media release: <https://livethegardenlife.gardenscanada.ca/>.

Canadensis Presents: Year of the Garden 2022



Year of the Garden
Année du jardin



Thursday, March 31, 2022 from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

It's official! 2022 is the Year of the Garden in Canada

You are invited to attend:

Canada is the first country ever to declare a national Year of the Garden! In this special edition of 'Canadensis Presents' the spotlight is on Canadian gardens and garden champions.

Special Guests:

Alexandre Reford, Chair of the Canadian Garden Council, Director of Les Jardins de Métis-Reford Gardens, and Director of the International Garden Festival will share thoughts and images of gardens he loves, including Les Jardins de Métis, along Canada's Garden Route.

Gloria Beck of Parkland Garden Centre has advice on plants to consider for the Year of the Garden's invitation to 'Plant Red'.

Susan Ellis of Communities in Bloom will share some great urban and residential gardens across Canada – and explain how your garden can be recognized during Year of the Garden, and how to make sure your municipality proclaims 2022 the Year of the Garden.

Cheney Creamer, Chair of the Canadian Horticultural Therapy Association discusses the health benefits of spending time in a garden. Surrounding yourself with plants can be one of life's great joys – and research shows it's good for your body and your brain.



Find out more about [Canadensis: The Garden of Canada](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/canadensis-presents-year-of-the-garden-2022-tickets-293902509317?aff=odeimcmalchimp&mc_cid=1ae35552bd&mc_eid=f345539bd4) here. Attend here: https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/canadensis-presents-year-of-the-garden-2022-tickets-293902509317?aff=odeimcmalchimp&mc_cid=1ae35552bd&mc_eid=f345539bd4

Share Your Excitement for the Year of the Garden 2022

Over the past few months, together we have raised awareness about the Year of the Garden and our plans for 2022. We encourage you to continue sharing the year-long celebration of Canada's rich garden heritage and vibrant garden culture with your members and networks. Below are some invitations and opportunities we invite you to share.



Vesey's Red Charm Peony

This year we're encouraging you to **plant red** in honour of front-line workers and those who have lost their lives during the pandemic. This is one way to express your pride of gardening. What will you plant?

Are You Looking for Fundraising Opportunities in 2022?

You might want to consider using the 'Gardens Canada Live the Garden Life' coffee table book to be launched in June or the Year of the Garden 2022 Pin. For more info and pre-order [here](#).



Put your activities on the 'Live the Garden Life Agenda'

The Year of the Garden 2022 is an invitation to 'Live the Garden Life'. So, we want everyone to have as many opportunities as possible to do so. What are you proposing? Which activities would you like to see people attend? Please take a moment and sign them up on the 'Live the Garden Life Agenda' for everyone to discover: <https://livethegardenlife.gardenscanada.ca/form>.

Invite your Municipality to Proclaim 2022 the Year of the Garden

Many municipalities in every province have proclaimed 2022 as the Year of the Garden. There is still time to make sure your city is on board by inviting them to join the movement and celebrate the good work you are doing for your community. To get started, download a [Municipal Invitation](#) and [Municipal Proclamation template](#), which can be shared with your councillor or mayor, explaining the importance of the Year of the Garden. For additional information, email gardenfamily@gardencouncil.ca

Are you on Canada's Garden Route?

If you have a garden experience you want share with everyone you should be on Canada's Garden Route map. A public garden, a Destination Garden Municipality, a Destination Garden Centre are all great garden experiences that people are looking for and are also willing to travel for. Put your dot on Canada's Garden Route by contacting: partnerships@gardencouncil.ca.



Opportunities for Garden-Family Members

Make the most of the opportunities available to garden-family members. Ways to get involved:

Become a Year of the Garden Ambassador

Gardening and horticulture communicators can sign up to become an official Year of the Garden Ambassador! Download the [invitation](#) or contact media@gardencouncil.ca for more information.

Become a Promotional Partner

Join Parks Canada, Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden, or Crop Life to show your support and benefit by becoming a Promotional Partner. Download the [Invitation](#) or contact partnerships@gardencouncil.ca to learn more.

Become a Sponsor

There is still time to become a sponsor for the Year of the Garden. Learn more about sponsorship opportunities by emailing: Sponsorships@gardencouncil.ca.

Become a Garden-Family Partner

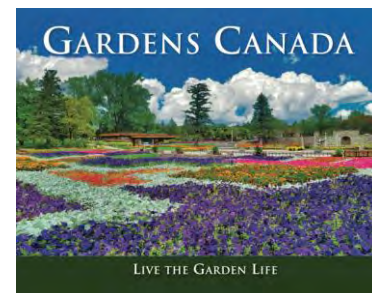
If you're a provincial or national association with not-for-profit gardening organization members, you can raise awareness for your goals by becoming a Garden-Family Partner. Your association will be recognized as a dedicated partner on our website, along with several other exclusive perks! Download the [invitation](#) or contact gardenfamily@gardencouncil.ca to learn more.

Order Year of the Garden Promotional Material

Don't forget to order Year of the Garden marketing merchandise and a great opportunity to identify your support and generate sales opportunities. Download the [Order Form](#) or contact sales@gardencouncil.ca to learn more.

Stay Connected!

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



signage -



MGOI Corporate Secretary Job Description

Authority

The Corporate Secretary position of a non-profit organization plays a critical role in fostering communication and diligence through proper management and utilization of important records such as meeting minutes and the organization's bylaws.

The Corporate Secretary position has wide-ranging responsibilities, requiring more than simply being present at all board meetings. The Corporate Secretary should be knowledgeable about the organization's records and related materials, providing advice and resources to the board on topics such as governance issues, amendments to provincial laws, and the like, that will assist them in fulfilling their fiduciary duties. The Corporate Secretary's address is the corporate address of Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. as there is no physical address.

As the custodian of the organization's records, the Corporate Secretary is responsible for maintaining accurate documentation and meeting any legal requirements such as annual filing deadlines. The Corporate Secretary is responsible for reviewing and updating documents as necessary and ensuring all documents are safely stored and readily accessible.

Requirements

Organizations are required by law to maintain specific records for several purposes, including:

- accurate recollection of decisions
- determination of eligibility to vote
- continuity of policies and practices
- accountability of directors and officers.

The Corporate Secretary is responsible for ensuring that accurate and sufficient documentation exists to meet legal requirements, and to enable authorized persons to determine when, how, and by whom the board's business was conducted. In order to fulfill these responsibilities, and subject to the organization's bylaws, the Corporate Secretary ensures the accuracy and availability of meeting minutes, proposes policies and practices, submits various reports to the Board, fulfills any other requirements of a Director and Officer, and performs other duties as the need arises and/or as defined in the bylaws.

Accountability

The Corporate Secretary is accountable to the Board of Directors (if elected or appointed by them) as specified in the bylaws. Through the Board of Directors, certain duties of the Corporate Secretary may be delegated to the Executive Director, Board members and/or committees as appropriate; however, the accountability for them remains with the Corporate Secretary.

Minutes

The Corporate Secretary takes and reviews for accuracy the minutes of meetings, including the Annual General Meeting. Requirements of minutes should include at a minimum:

- date, time, location of meeting
- list of those Directors present and absent
- indication of the presence of a quorum
- list of items discussed
- list of reports presented
- text of motions presented and description of their disposition



Custodian of records

The Corporate Secretary ensures that the records of the organization are maintained as required by law and made available when required by authorized persons. These records may include founding documents, (e.g. letters patent, articles of incorporation), lists of Directors, Board and Committee meeting minutes financial reports, and other official records.

Membership Records

The Corporate Secretary ensures through review, that official records are maintained of members of the organization and Board and ensures that these records are available when required for reports, elections, referenda, other votes, etc.

Bylaws

The Corporate Secretary ensures that an up-to-date copy of the bylaws is available at all meetings.

Communication

The Corporate Secretary ensures that proper notification is given of directors' and members' meetings as specified in the bylaws.

Meetings

The Corporate Secretary participates in Board meetings as a voting member. In the absence of the President (and Vice-President), the Corporate Secretary calls the meeting to order, presiding until a temporary chairperson is elected.

Signing Officer

The Corporate Secretary may be designated by the Board of Directors and/or bylaws as one of the signing officers for certain documents. In this capacity, the Corporate Secretary may be authorized or required to sign or countersign cheques, correspondence, applications, reports, contracts or other documents on behalf of organization.

Filing of Documents

The Corporate Secretary is the registered agent with respect to the laws of the jurisdiction: the person upon whom legal notice to the corporation is served, and responsible for ensuring that documents necessary to maintain the corporation are filed.

Procedures

- Provincial Filing
- Annual General Meeting
- Record keeping

