



Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Inside

MGOI

Welcome to the October 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.

MGOI Board Members:

President:	Karen Sciuk, Waterloo Region
Vice President:	Vacant
Corporate Secretary:	Lynda Bobinski, Thunder Bay
Treasurer:	Sheila Campbell, Algoma
Director of Communications:	Vacant
Co-Directors of Education:	Kate Sault, Halton
Director of Events:	Rhonda Grein, Waterloo Region
Director of Membership:	Maureen Hulbert, Toronto
Director at Large	Lois Johnson, Niagara
Director of Operations:	Pamela Dallaire, Cochrane District
Director of Marketing & Partnerships:	Kathleen Gorsline, Lake Simcoe South
Director of Central Region:	Robynne Dunn, Durham
Director of East Region:	Anne Craig, Peterborough
Director of North Region:	Gail Cocker, Simcoe
Director of South & West Region:	Jim Fitzgerald, Stratford

Committee Members

Statistician: Rhonda Grein, Waterloo Region
Webmaster: Jim Cook webmaster@mgoi.ca
Newsletter Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton newsletter@mgoi.ca
Database /Supplies: Kelly Noel, Ottawa database@mgoi.ca, supplies@mgoi.ca
Twitter: Dale Odorizzi, Lanark County
Facebook: Claudette Sims, Halton & Cathy Kavassalis, Halton
Manager of MG Participation in Canada Blooms: Vacant

In This Issue

- Master Gardeners
 - Milestones
 - Master Gardeners Out & About
 - Upcoming Events
 - CCIPR
 - CFIA Seeds Alert
- MGOI
 - Board Vacancies: Vice President and Communications Director
 - Messages from the Webmaster
 - Upcoming Events

INSIDE MGOI

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

October 2022

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton

Milestones

Niagara Master Gardeners

10 Year Anniversary

Barb Johnston



Barb Johnston, right, receives her 10-year pin at the Oct. 13/22 meeting from Coordinator Carol Tucks-Rigg



Grand Erie Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary

Anne Saunders
Christa Hunter

GEMGs was pleased to present Anne and Christa with their 15 year pins. Over the years these two ladies have contributed countless hours and a wealth of information to the GEMGs group. Thank you both for your dedication and continued work.

New Master Gardeners in Training

Jessica Bisailon
Catherine Ruedisueli

GEMGs would like to welcome our newest members, Jessica and Catherine. Both these ladies have an interest in helping with our social media platforms and are eager to learn and contribute to our group. Welcome Jessica and Cat!



London Middlesex Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training

Lara Cochrane

Lara is currently enrolled in the Horticultural Program at the University of Guelph at the Ridgetown Campus. She is very passionate about growing a variety of vegetables, berries and herbs in her backyard garden and in containers.

We are very happy to welcome you to our group and are looking forward to working with you!



Guelph Wellington Master Gardeners

10 Year Anniversary

Liane Krane

5 Year Anniversary

Barb McKechnie



Stratford and Area Master Gardeners

Returning Member

Lorraine Kuepfer

Lorraine is re-joining Stratford after a three-year hiatus. Welcome back Lorraine!

New Arrival

Aline Kouhi-Klemencic

We also welcome new arrival Aline to Stratford; Aline is transferring from Etobicoke Master Gardeners where she has been a member for 10 years.

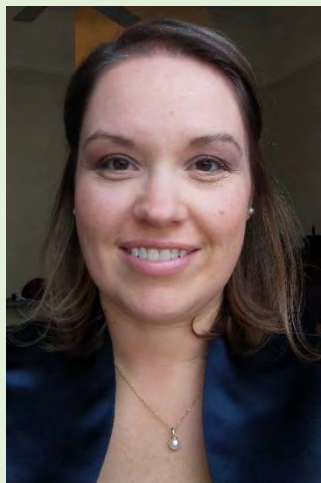


Durham Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training

Leah Kuhne

By Norine Blythe



Wow! Another new member! So cool that more people are interested in gardening and Master Gardeners. Please let me introduce you to Leah, our newest member for October.

Leah lives with her family in Whitby. She is a food scientist in recipe development and a Red Seal chef. Leah has experience with web publishing and blogs

from her work at Canadian Living Magazine. Her interest in food extends to her vegetable gardening. She enjoys growing and cooking with a variety of unusual vegetables. Leah brings with her skills in Project Management and Leadership to our DMG group.

“With my background in food (food science, recipe development, Red Seal chef) I enjoy growing vegetables and fruits and cooking with them. I also enjoy trying to grow different plants that everyone might not have in their garden.”

Leah, all of us at DMG look forward to learning more about your recipes. Welcome!



Peterborough Master Gardeners

Member Transfer / Master Gardener in Training

Leslie Farooq

Leslie has recently transferred to our group from Georgian Bay and we are thrilled to have her. She is a wife, mother of two and a teacher with many educational credentials (including a M.Sc. in Plant Science with a specialization in Environmental Science) and job titles to her name.



Leslie provided the background on her ‘garden stuff’ which follows:

I used to live on the campus of a geographically

large / enrollment tiny private school where the settler colonists had once planted everything everywhere. There were daffodils and daylilies in the woods, often receiving too little light to flower. A catawba rhodo (*Rhododendron catawbiense*) was growing along a path near the shoreline and it finally flowered so that we could identify it with the help of the rhodo expert at Milner Gardens near Comox, BC (my mother-in-law volunteers there). Once I converted from full time to part time teaching, I spent a lot of my time moving plants from here to there to try and get more flowers flowering and to make the place look nice. This is why I sought out what it meant to be a Master Gardener and started meeting up with the Georgian Bay Master Gardeners. I thought we would live there for a long time and that I would be the private school's gardener in addition to my other roles, but alas, that was not in the cards for me.

Now I live on the shadiest corner lot in all of Peterborough, and the skills I learned in the sunny wide-open spaces of a large campus lawn no longer serve me. I am not a huge fan of vegetation only, so I will be learning how to convert this city lot from shades of green and blue to more bright flowers wherever I can get them to bloom. I love birds and insects, so I will be seeking out native options as much as possible. Right now, the lot is full of hydrangeas, hostas, white cedar, Norway spruce, sugar maple, and other shrubs that never flower because of the shade of 11 mature trees! An example of my gardening style: The other day my mom told me there were free blueberry shrubs on the lawn in another neighbourhood, so off I went to take them and give them a home.

We will see how they make out on our plot. I love throwing plants in the dirt and seeing how they do. It is a hobby that requires so much patience though!



Prince Edward County

Retirements

Alice Lumley
Karen Starczynowski

Alice joined the Quinte-Tweed Master Gardeners in 2004 and when Q-T closed she came to us. Alice works with seniors and marginalized people. She not only cares for them, but she cares for their gardens as well, fostering an interest in horticulture that helps with their overall well-being.



We wish Alice All The Best in her retirement and thank her for her years of service.

Karen has been a Master Gardener since 2003, another gem we inherited from Quinte-Tweed. Karen has always been one of our most knowledgeable MGs. She is always ready to help and somehow finds the time to lend a hand.



Karen's practical no-nonsense approach to gardening is a breath of fresh air. And her sunny disposition and kindness shine through everything she does.

We will miss her and wish her well in her retirement. Thanks for all your service, Karen!



Thunder Bay Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Kaylee Ritchie

Congratulations to Kaylee who, over the past two years, has studied and completed her courses at the University of Guelph. Kaylee is one of the many Master Gardeners in Training across our province who, for the most part, has had to accomplish this while not being able to meet face-to-face with mentors and other MGs. I am sure that it has not been an easy task to accomplish when the only support available was through online meetings, text messages and emails.

Despite this Kaylee has demonstrated her commitment and dedication to our group. She readily stepped forward to work with another MG to give a presentation on Plant Propagation at our *Spring Look, Listen & Learn* event as well as participate in our annual Plant Sale. We are planning a year-end celebration this December and at that time we look forward to congratulating Kaylee in person!



*Sleeping bee on field thistle
Photo credit: Lynda Bobinski,
Thunder Bay*



Mississauga Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Diana Westland



Diana Westland (left) receiving her certificate from Mary Jean Kucerak (right)

Congratulations to Diana Westland on receiving her Master Gardener Certificate. Diana joined the MMGs in June of 2020 and immediately took on the role of Secretary. In December of this year, she will be retiring from her career and will be getting more involved in the MMGs by taking on the role of Coordinator in January!

Diana is a member of the Minden Horticultural Society and in the new year will be one of the Directors. She is also a member of Blooming Boulevards in Mississauga.

Diana is looking forward to her new roles and continuing to provide expert horticultural advice to the general public as a Master Gardener.



Etobicoke Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary

Tania Kroman

10 Year Anniversary

Aline Kouhl-Klemencic

Dyann Sheppard

5 Year Anniversary

Anne Wong



With great delight, we were able to acknowledge two members in person - Anne Wong (left) and Dyann Shepherd (right). Linda Gordon, EMG Coordinator, is in the middle.



Northumberland Master Gardeners

Member Profile

Kathleen Bazkur



Kathleen's career has spanned television content creation/brand management and post-secondary education. Both enabled her to use her creativity and mentor young adults for career and personal success. Kathleen is currently in administration at Loyalist College.

Kathleen's interests include gardening and garden design (no surprise, it's her 'zen'), cooking, travelling, reading (mysteries and bios are favourites), film, music and her two labs, Yogi Bear and China Girl.

Kathleen was born in Toronto, but is so happy to be living in Port Hope now! She is new to us but is returning to the MG program – she was a member of Prince Edward County MG group for 11 years.



A Message from the President

Karen Sciuk, President MGOI

The Vice President (VP) position on the MGOI Board is vacant. Additionally, the Director of Communications position has recently become vacant; this is an immediate opening. The job description for Communications Director follows on the next page.

A MG who is interested in the Vice President position will be appointed to the Board, ideally with a few months of overlap prior to assuming the presidency.

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

Board Vacancy - Vice President

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

If MGs are interested in this position we like to appoint them to the Board as VP before they transition into the President's position.

Please see the VP job description on the right. Please feel free to 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



Job Description – Director of Communications

The Director oversees the Communications Committee which is responsible for managing internal communications:

- **Website** and subdomains – managed by Jim Cook, our webmaster.
- **Newsletter** – managed by Isabel Belanger, our editor.
- **MG membership database** – managed by Kelly Noel, former Director of Communications.
- **MGOI group email** – managed by Kelly Noel, former Director of Communications.
- **Handbook updates** – managed by Past President Claudette Sims with input from the board.
- **MGOI group facebook** – administered by Claudette Sims and Cathy Kavassalis.
- **MGOI twitter** – administered by Dale Odorizzi.

Currently the Director of Communications is directly responsible for these specific tasks:

- **Coordinators and Board Member contact lists** – manages updates and distribution to the website, newsletter, and internally.
- **Email Communication** – communicates board decisions to Coordinators, e.g. policy changes/clarifications/updates, events, surveys, and reminders in conjunction with Regional Directors.
- **info@mgoi.ca emails** – either responds directly or forwards the inquiry to the appropriate board member or MG group, in particular forwarding new member inquiries to the Membership Committee.

Messages from Jim Cook, MGOI Webmaster

Hello Master Gardeners!

MGOI had been utilizing a donation service called Canada Helps for some time. So far over \$11,000 has been raised and most of that money has gone directly to designated MGOI groups. Last year we set things up on our own website for donors to direct their funds to the group of their choice. Find this page at: <https://mgoi.ca/about/donate.html>. You'll see a dropdown box listing all 29 MGOI groups and a special project that Stratford has that's been doing very well. Donors can also find us at <https://www.canadahelps.org>. The same dropdown list is there as well.



So, it might be time to point your website visitors to a simple way to receive donations – and Canada Helps handles the tax receipt. So far this has been a great way for the public to thank MGOI groups and individuals for work performed.

If you have any questions I can help at webmaster@mgoi.ca.

Thank you,

Jim, MGOI Webmaster

Master Gardener Group Websites / Links

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!



Profile

Incoming Corporate Secretary

Lynda Bobinski – Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners



I have always felt volunteering as a Master Gardener was all about commitment.

I had a very busy career where, through the years, I managed the Operating Room/PARU before moving on to help establish a Surgical Oncology program in our region, and then finished out by managing the Chemotherapy, Medical and Radiation Oncology Clinics at our local Health Sciences Centre. Leaving all of this behind, I very quickly realized that full retirement was not going to be an option for me - I would need to commit to something else.

Recognizing that volunteering offers opportunity for connection with others, growth in a new area of interest along with the fulfillment accomplished by helping others, I was easily convinced by my friends to become a Master Gardener. Their enthusiasm and commitment validated my decision and continues to do so today.

After completing the courses at Dalhousie University and now after ten years of being a Master Gardener, I know it was the right thing to do. I have been an active member of Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners serving as Education Coordinator, Webmaster, Facebook Moderator and Coordinator. It is my strong belief that we need to set the example for both current and new members by taking on roles at both local and provincial levels. In doing this we must also mentor, help and encourage other Master Gardeners to achieve all that they set out to do within our group. We must recognize the qualities and expertise they bring and assure they have opportunities to use them and share them with each other and our gardening community. For this reason, and as my Coordinator position comes to an end after six years, I put my name forward to take on the secretary position on the MGOI Board. I thank our current secretary, Terri Briggs, for her guidance and support as well as the encouraging words and support offered by our North Region Director, Gail Cocker.

I have been involved with non-profit boards before with experience as Newsletter Coordinator, Conference Chair and President of the Ontario Nursing Leadership Network; Treasurer and Founding Member of the Operating Nurses Association of Ontario; and Ontario representative on the Board of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada.

Outside my volunteer and gardening interests I like to travel, golf, and spend time with my family and grandkids. I am also a watercolour artist and for this reason I enjoy taking pictures of flowers that could possibly be the subject in one of my paintings.

Creating new connections with others is always one of the best reasons for volunteering – I look forward to connecting with many of you as I take on the secretary role and will be here to help you out in any way I can.



Syrphid fly on goldenrod
Photo credit: Lynda Bobinski



Master Gardeners Out & About

Projects & Events

London Middlesex Master Gardeners

Name: Our September Meeting – Field Trip

Details: Our September meeting was held at Dennis Adlington's Garden in Ilderton, ON, on September 14th, 2022. A pleasant and informative experience was had by all.



In the picture from left to right are MGs ...Louise Nadeau, Donna Slater, and Sarah Ragalyi



Niagara Master Gardeners

Name: Master Gardeners Niagara Fall Plant Sale

Details: On September 10, 2022, the Niagara chapter held their annual plant sale after a hiatus of 2 years. The event is held at the Vineland Research Centre on Victoria Ave. in Vineland, Ontario on the second Saturday of September each year.



From left to right, Bev Campeau, Michele Young - our Plant Sale Chair, Barb Large, Jennifer Qusen, and Al Large

A resounding success and kudos to Barb Large and the many MG Niagara volunteers who potted up plants from their own gardens. Barb also arranged for several nurseries to donate plants for the sale. All was put in place on Friday morning and the sale was the next day.



Eight of the 18 MG volunteers for the September 10th plant sale at the Vineland Research Centre

In the Research Centre's Barn, it looked like a botanical garden on Saturday morning at 8AM.



Just 2 ½ of the 8 tables plus approximately 900 sq. feet of floor space of plants



And 2 more of the 8 tables



Name: Gardening/Planting at Our New Meeting Location in St. Catharines

Details: Niagara Master Gardeners volunteer at church gardens and the Farmers' Market. Following our plant sale, some plants found a new home at our new monthly meeting location.



In these two pictures, MG Marie-Claire Groulx is in front of one of the gardens at St. Giles Church.



Toronto Master Gardeners

Name: Toronto Garlic Festival & Toronto Master Gardeners' Advice Clinic

Details: Toronto Master Gardeners have embraced the return to in-person events, and one of the most recent was a very successful advice clinic at the Toronto Garlic Festival. TMGs Janet Ahier, Kathy Martin and MGIT Sid Sigua staffed the booth, and tracked over 60 questions from the public over five hours – every possible question



*Pictured: Janet Ahier and Sid Sigua
Photo credit: Kathy Martin*

about growing garlic, from planting to weeding to cutting scapes to harvesting, and even cooking. And there were lots of questions on other gardening topics too!



Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: 2022 Children's Garden Awards

By Ren Duinker, Coordinator

Date: October 1, 2022

Details: We celebrated a new crop of young gardeners today! We gathered at Hagerman's Farm and enjoyed the sunshine and beautiful surroundings. Jodi Hagerman handed out the awards, while PEC MG Colette McKinnon gave us the highlights of each child's garden.



Congratulations to all the participants and the winners. And a hearty thank you to the members who worked so hard all season to make this happen for the children of The County.



*From Left to Right: Diane McDonald, our host, Jodi Hagerman (CGA Chair), MGs Colette McKinnon, Susan Warrack, Andie Wiens
Missing from photo: Pam Piercy*



All these young gardeners impressed us so much, but perhaps one in particular stood out for all the MGs who interacted with him. Payden Guernsey, 9, was such a delight to work with throughout the summer.



"Payden received this prize [1st prize, JUNIOR division] because of his thorough research and his ability to make use of garden mishaps to learn from.

He has a passion for pumpkins and

decided to try to grow the biggest pumpkin he could. We were really impressed with his research from the type of pumpkin to grow (Howard Dill pumpkins), the conditions it likes best to grow in (full sun, good soil and lots of room), and how to encourage large pumpkins through hand pollination. He taught us Master Gardeners (Andie and Susan) a thing or two!

Unfortunately, the squash bug destroyed most of his crop! (He was able to save one). The way Payden reacted to this disappointment was to learn all about the squash bug and he is now armed with valuable knowledge for his next garden".

The Grand Prize Winner was 12 year old Mabel Ray Richens. Mabel Ray displayed such a love of nature and a clear understanding of her role as a gardener. Here's what Colette had to say about Mabel Ray:

"Mabel Ray's reaction to gardening encapsulates a spirit of wonder that we would like to foster in everyone. She is blown away that a seed turns into something wonderful. Mabel Ray was

meticulous in her gardening practice and journal keeping. For example, she identified the orb spider as beneficial in her garden and explained why. She also made a table of tips and tricks, explaining the role of straw mulch and compost. She noted Love (attention, care and patience) was fundamental to her success".



Thanks to Colette for sharing her notes with me.



Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners

Name: Monthly Meeting and Speaker

Details: At our monthly meeting on October 12, 2022 one of our own

members, Anne Craig gave an excellent presentation on "Invasive Plants: Prevention is Key and How You Can Make a Difference". Anne included information on the CCIPR, Canadian Coalition for Invasive Plant Regulation, which has a Facebook page and a website: www.ccipr.ca. Anne's presentation

stimulated quite a lot of discussion as to how, as Master Gardeners, we need to discourage vendors from selling invasives, communicate to gardeners the concerns about invasives, and inspire gardeners to remove them and replace them with non-invasive plants, particularly with native plants.



Grey County Master Gardeners

Name: Transform the Lawn

Details: On Saturday, October 15, 2022, Grey County MGs took part in the first phase of naturalizing the property of the Grey County Administration building in Owen Sound. The event, called “Transform the Lawn”, was spearheaded by Grey County and the advocacy organization Neighbourwoods North, with help from the tree experts from both the city of Owen Sound and Grey County. Grey County MGs assisted with the design.



Transforming the lawn of Grey County's administrative building with 20 trees and a lot of muck

Following an hour of learning about proper tree planting, developing a right relationship with the land, and celebrating local climate action, 50 community volunteers braved the wet ground and icy winds to plant 20 trees – part of the first stage of a naturalization plan that also includes two pollinator gardens and a rain garden. Inside, we offered an information table on pollinators and pollinator gardens. Outside, several members led some of the planting teams to get the trees into the ground.



Elizabeth Brims (l) and Courtney Brull (r) preparing for the hard plant questions

Name: 2022 Plant Sale

Details: After a two-year hiatus, once again GCMG held its much-anticipated plant sale on September 10th. We had a beautiful day for it, too. With this year's emphasis on native plants, and a wide range of perennials, grasses, shrubs and ground covers, a section of the Owen Sound Heritage Mall parking lot was transformed into a pop-up garden centre.

Led by force-of-nature MGIT Stephanie Fletcher, it was a busy - and productive - few hours, raising close to \$1800 for future projects. It was a great team effort, from planting seeds, dividing and potting up plants, to hauling them into car trunks and backseats. Nice to be back!



*A great selection at this year's Grey County MG Plant sale
Photo by Jennifer Deeks*



Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: First Ever Fall Plant Sale

Details: Etobicoke Master Gardeners held their first ever fall plant sale on September 17, 2022. It was a roaring success!



MG Anne Wong, left with MGs Nancy Datrino and Marsha Gettas (in white)



Below you will see some of the Etobicoke Master Gardeners' Fall Sale prep team readying for our fall plant sale that featured a special focus on native plants.



Left to right: Leslie Ferguson and Janet Haynes Graham (Plant Sale Coordinators), Linda Gordon, Barbara Nytko, Peggy Mooney, Marsha Gettas, and Elizabeth Brough

Stratford and Area Master Gardeners

Name: ReLeaf Stratford

Details: To mark National Tree Day on September 21, Stratford and Area Master Gardener's [ReLeaf Stratford](#) Project planted a large native sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*) at the Rotary Hospice of Stratford Perth to thank the many health care workers who work tirelessly in our community. We hope staff and families will enjoy this beautiful sugar maple for many years to come. Drummond Brothers Landscaping donated time and assistance in transporting and planting the tree.



Planting a Sugar Maple at the Rotary Hospice of Stratford Perth



Volunteers planting trees on the banks of the Avon River in Stratford

Sugar maples are native to Canada and provide benefits to wildlife in addition to benefits for people – the Nature Conservancy Canada says buds and twigs are a food source for several mammal and bird species, and a number of butterfly species consume their sap. They also provide shelter for many bird, mammal and insect species. The leaves of the sugar maple provide habitat for around 300 moth and butterfly species.

ReLeaf Stratford in collaboration with the City of Stratford is beginning a process to expand the incremental naturalization of existing parkland. The ReLeaf Stratford project began out of a growing awareness in Stratford and across Ontario about our disappearing native insect, bird and animal species due to loss of habitat. Without native plants, we face empty and silent landscapes. However, local people are coming together to reverse this frightening trend.

On October 1st the ReLeaf Stratford project, with the support of local individuals and organizations, surpassed its goal of planting 2,022 native trees and shrubs this year. In the spring, 1,842 native trees and shrubs were planted. Later donations received from members of the local community were used to plant 250 native shrubs this fall. A grant from the Donald McTavish Conservation Fund, held within the Stratford Perth Community Foundation, allowed ReLeaf Stratford to plant another 150 shrubs this fall. An additional 400 native shrubs and small trees will be planted in the spring of 2023.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Upcoming Events

Details: After two years of COVID lockdowns, MGOC returned to **in-person advice clinics**, holding advice tables at ten local farmers' markets, for a total of about 50 advice shifts.



We are also running virtual events, including a second season of the very successful [Trowel Talk Live Learn over Lunch Sessions](#), which take place on Wednesdays at 12:30 until November 9.



We have a new partnership with [CAFESOttawa](#), working with community groups to identify and remove invasive plants from parks and common areas. All in all, we have been busy!



Looking way ahead 2023 Technical Update: Biodiversity

Details: Our keynote speaker will be [Michael Runtz](#), one of Canada's most highly respected naturalists, nature photographers, and natural history authors. This event is being organized in collaboration with Lanark County Master Gardeners.

Date: Saturday September 9, 2023

Location: Kitchissippi United Church, 630 Island Park Dr., Ottawa, ON K1Y 0B7

Cost: TBD

Registration Information: TBA

Grand Erie Master Gardeners

Name: Seminars, Equal Ground Community Gardens

Details: Our members will be giving brief presentations again this year on various topics about how to grow vegetables and herbs. The Equal Ground Community Gardens (EGCG) provide assistance and support to a network of community gardens maintained fully by community residents and volunteers. Our thanks to Anne Saunders, who volunteers with EGCG, for bringing our two groups together and allowing MGs to share their knowledge within the community.

Alberta Master Gardeners

Name: Grounded in Science: Master Gardeners Association of Alberta Fall Symposium

Date and Time: Sat., 5 November 2022, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM MDT (Mountain Daylight Time)

Cost: \$40.00

Details: This will be a day of enlightenment and enjoyment as we explore gardening with insects, invasive plants and ground covers. Join us as we explore the



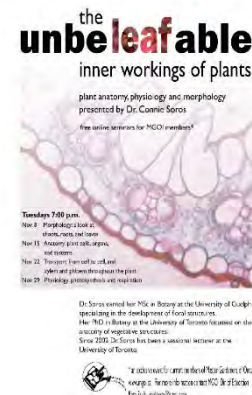
impact plant invasion has on our environment and learn of methods being used to reduce their introduction and spread with Environmental Horticulturalist Andrea Eastman; How growing ground cover plants reduces maintenance, controls erosion, improves the environment, and beautifies your garden with Gary Lewis of Phoenix Perennials; Discover how insects and plants interact; and How to design gardens with insects in mind with Dr. Ken Fry of Olds College. For more information and to purchase tickets please visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/grounded-in-science-master-gardeners-association-of-alberta-fall-symposium-tickets-420092336487?aff=odcleoeventsincollection>.

MGOI: Webinar Series in Four Parts

Name: The UnbeLEAFable Inner Workings of Plants

Details: Exciting News from Our Education Director, Kate Sault! This will be a series of Zoom talks on the morphology, anatomy and physiology of plants geared to all Master Gardeners / Master Gardeners in Training. **All talks are at 7 p.m.** Zoom sign-up will follow via email.



Featured Speakers: Kate has rounded up featured presenters Dr. Connie Soros from U of T, Darrell Bley and Kris Mahoney of Niagara School of Horticulture, plus a Prof from Dalhousie University and hopefully a couple of lectures from the curator of fungi at the ROM.

- Tuesday, **November 8th** - Plant Morphology - a look at shoots, roots and leaves
- Tuesday, **November 15th** - Plant Anatomy - plant cells, organs and systems
- Tuesday, **November 22nd** - Plant Transport - from cell to cell, and xylem and phloem throughout the plant
- Tuesday, **November 29th** - Plant Physiology - photosynthesis and respiration

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Virtual Gardening Workshops in Conjunction with Humber Arboretum

Date: Nov. 19th, 2022

Address: Humber College North Campus grounds, 205 Humber College Blvd., Toronto

Details: The [Eco-Garden Community Workshop series](#) are virtual workshops hosted by the Etobicoke Master Gardeners and Humber Arboretum throughout the year. The final workshop is 'Indoor Plants'.



Toronto Master Gardeners

2023 Virtual Technical Update
Presented in Collaboration with Master Gardeners Central Region

Name: Ecological Gardening Part 2: Digging Deeper into Our Changing Relationship with the Garden

Date & Time: Saturday, January 14, 2023, 10AM-2PM

Tickets: \$30

Featured Speakers:

Jennifer Grenz – *Indigenous perspectives on our relationship with the garden/land*

Benjamin Futa – *What is ecological gardening vs. horticulture?*

Karen Christensen-Dalsgaard – *Urban ecology/sustainable gardens start with your city*

• 6 CECs for Master Gardeners

• For more information visit:

torontomastergardeners.ca

Niagara Master Gardeners

Name: Seedy Saturday

Date: Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023

Place: to be held at St. George's Church, 83 Church St. in St. Catharines.

Guelph Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Day In the Garden (DITG)

Date: Sunday Feb. 26th, 2023

Place: Victoria East Golf Club

Details: We had our last annual Day In the Garden in February 2020. We are looking forward to hosting this event once again!

Details to follow. Stayed tuned!

Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners

Name: A Day for Gardeners

2023

Details: Save the Day!

PETERBOROUGH AND AREA MASTER GARDENERS PRESENT:

A DAY FOR GARDENERS 2023

We are thrilled to be back and hope you can join us!!

Saturday March 4, 2023

❖ Activity Haven, 9:30am to 4pm

❖ Three Seminars plus lunch

Cost: \$ 55 per person (\$50 early bird)

Registration begins early January: peterboroughmastergardeners.com



Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Technical Update: Lavender Farm Festival

Date: July 8, 2023 (to be confirmed)

Details: We will be given a private tour of the Lavender Fields, and various workshops before the festival actually opens. Then we are welcome to spend as much time as we like at the Festival.

We are also looking into a tour of a Permaculture Farm in The County to visit after lunch.

More details to follow.



Canadian Coalition for Invasive Plant Regulation (CCIPR)

The next meeting will be held within the next few months – stay tuned. We are still struggling to bring the Nursery trade on board as many generalist nurseries do not want to lose the lucrative trade in invasive species.

The key focus of CCIPR remains effective regulation. Our 5 key objectives are:

- Effective pre- and post-border invasive species risk assessment;
- Bans on the sale and movement of high-risk invasive plant species;
- Labelling to identify and educate the public about lower-risk invasive plants;
- A verifiable industry-wide Code of Conduct; and
- Public education including alternatives to invasive plants.

This coalition is not about native vs non-native plants. A team of experts is needed to make the decision re: plants to regulate, prohibit or require warning tags at point of sale.

Since the last meeting Cathy Kavassalis has been busy reworking sections of the website that needed clarification and she's currently working on the original 24 page regulatory proposal. Cathy has contacted Anita Anand, the Member of Parliament for Oakville, and there was a positive reply about meeting with us.

Our current goal is to continue to build capacity, so if you can contact an organization and have them add their logo to our website, that would be great. If you can get 10 logos, that would be awesome! Now is the time to contact nurseries, landscape companies, environmental organizations, and politicians to ask for support.

Please continue to post or share information about invasive plants as well-we need everyone's voice.

Stay well everyone!

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Seeds Alert

Canadians are encouraged to connect with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) before sending seeds abroad. Canada's plant health regulator, the CFIA, plays an important role in making sure seeds from Canada meet internationally agreed upon regulations. Over the past year, the CFIA has seen an increasing number of notifications of non-compliance from foreign countries about seeds exported from Canada without proper phytosanitary (plant health) certification. Seeds can potentially be invasive in some countries or spread plant diseases or other pests. That's why it's important to check requirements with the CFIA. Not meeting requirements has consequences. For example, the destination country may destroy the seeds and issue Canada a notice of non-compliance. All seeds, including those in small packets for gardeners, must comply with the import requirements of the destination country.



<https://inspection.canada.ca/plant-health/seeds/shipping-and-exporting-seeds-from-canada/eng/1641853046249/1641853047171>

Please share this information with the Canadian public to increase awareness of the important steps to take when shipping or exporting seeds to protect international plant resources, our economy and the environment. The CFIA



has spokespeople available for interviews, people who are experts in plant health imports and exports. Our experts are also willing to write and submit a piece if that is of interest. Please contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Media Relations, Canadian Food Inspection Agency /
Government of Canada: cfia.media.acia@inspection.gc.ca
Tel: 613-773-6600

- Additional links/Background information: [Shipping and exporting seeds from Canada](#); [Plant health at the CFIA](#); [Chronicle 360: plant health](#); [Canada's plant health hero challenge](#); [Join the plant health movement](#) (Chronicle 360)

Follow:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Email subscription](#)

