



*Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of  
Ontario*

# Inside

# MGOI

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

The Newsletter aims to be the voice for Master Gardeners! This is your venue for providing updates, insights and the inside scoop from MGOI Board & Committee members, Directors, and the 27 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](mailto:newsletter@mgoi.ca).

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 Manager of MG Participation in Canada Blooms: Vacant

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#### **INSIDE MGOI**

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

**November 2023**

**Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton**

## Milestones

### Algoma Master Gardeners

#### In Memoriam

Maria Smith



The Algoma Master gardeners are sad to report that Maria Smith, our long time Coordinator, passed away Sunday, July 23, after a valiant battle with cancer.

Maria was part of one of the original MG groups to form in Ontario more than 37 years ago. She remained very active

in the group, sharing her expertise with anyone asking for assistance, and was always eager to help where she could. Even in the throes of her final struggle, Maria made certain that our little group was organized for a productive year and arranged for the passing of the torch to our new Coordinator, Anne Cranston.

Always busy participating in horticultural events in her home community of St. Joseph Island and along the north shore to Sault Ste. Marie, Maria was also well known for her knowledge and willingness to lend a hand.

Maria was proud to be a Master Gardener and met many of you over the years as a regular participant at Coordinators' Conferences. Maria will be missed dearly by many.

Maria's entire obituary can be found here:  
<https://www.sootoday.com/obituaries/smith-maria-johanna-7342561>



### Durham Master Gardeners

#### 5 Year Anniversaries

Lauralee Stocks  
Helen Vander Byl

##### *Lauralee: Profile by Norine Blyth*

5-year pin! I can't believe it's been five years already as Lauralee is so involved within DMGs. She sits on the Executive Committee as our secretary, being the glue in our meetings by keeping the minutes. When she is not doing minutes, you will see and hear her during different presentations doing an amazing job. It doesn't end there; she assists with our emails and social media – plus gives of her time with our mentorship program. Lauralee you are such a great asset to DMGs, we can't thank you enough! Looking forward to working with you for many more years.



##### *Helen: Profile by Norine Blyth*



5-year pin! 2018 was a great year for DMGs, not one but two awesome ladies joined us then. Helen joined DMGs with boots hitting the ground running. Helen sits on the Executive Committee as one of the Events' Coordinators and is brilliant! For the past five years Helen and a few

other members, have been the brains, heart and soul behind booking all our events. They have the booking process in tip top shape; I'm pretty sure DMGs has caused Helen some grey hairs. Helen we can't thank you enough!

She has also been a great mentor to some of our new members; they are very lucky people. Helen, thank you for being such a wonderful part of DMGs and we look forward to many more years working with you!





## Irene Kock Environmental Awareness Award

Kyla Paonessa, MGIT



The Irene Kock Environmental Awareness Award was presented to [Kyla Paonessa](#) for demonstrating community leadership in transforming a grass cul-de-sac island in her neighbourhood into a pollinator garden with more than 350 native plant species, and for demonstrating commitment to its ongoing maintenance.

This award recognizes fostering effective communication, sharing knowledge and exhibiting leadership in helping others learn about the natural environment and climate change. Kyla, thank you for being a great steward for the environment. You make DMG proud!



## Guelph Wellington Master Gardeners

### Master Gardener Status Achieved

Dorothea Stephan



*Coordinator Danielle Gignac with Dorothea on the right*



## Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners

### 30 Year Anniversary

Rachel Burrows

*Profile by Lois Scott*

It was aptly put that Rachel Burrows is a volunteer extraordinaire and we congratulate and celebrate her 30 years as a Peterborough and Area Master Gardener! As a prelude to describing her years of gardening excellence and involvement it should be mentioned

that Rachel, a Golden Retriever devotee, would take her beloved Tansy into the Lakefield Extendicare to visit the residents. She is also a very involved member of the Survivors Abreast Dragon Boat Team.



Born in England, Rachel says she quickly developed a love of flowers and gardening. She trained at Constance Spry's School of Floristry and worked in their decorating department for one year:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constance\\_Spry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constance_Spry). Moving to Canada in 1964 Rachel took another career path but has now returned to work part time in a flower shop in Lakefield. She is known to create stunning arrangements! Rachel is also a life member of the Peterborough Horticultural Society and served on their board for several years.

During her 30 years as a Master Gardener Rachel was coordinator of PMGs for five years. She chaired the committee that organized the famous Peterborough Garden Show, known at that time as "For the Love of Gardening". She was also an announcer at the garden show and is known for her "lovely voice". Rachel is a member of the PMGs Bus Trip committee that organizes our very popular out of town, overnight trips to wonderful gardens and garden centres. She was also on the Peterborough, McNamara Park Pollinator Garden PMGs planning committee and helped install and maintain it.



As a presenter for our Day for Gardens and other educational events Rachel is second to none in her knowledge, presence and ability to connect with her audience.

In the past Rachel had a large garden that included a forest walk, a spring fed pond, rockery, ornamental pond, an extensive herb garden as well as a fruit and vegetable garden. Wow!!! She moved to Douro-Dummer, east of Peterborough, in 2005 where she discovered a “very rocky township”. She says that with lots of compost and topsoil, she has made a perennial and vegetable garden that she is now trying to make easier to maintain by planting more bulbs and shrubs. We can vouch for the fact that Rachel’s current garden is both beautiful and inspiring, as is its gardener!



## London Middlesex Master Gardeners

### Profile Picture

LMMGs celebrated Nancy Abra’s 20 year anniversary profile in the October newsletter, but did not provide a picture. Here is Nancy, left receiving her 20 year pin from Coordinator Sandra Elfman, right.



### 15 Year Anniversary

Julie Dorssers

Julie has been a member of our group since December 2008. Julie enjoys teaching others how to garden, and over the years has been a very dynamic speaker. She is our social media go to. Julie grew up on a farm, next to her grandparents, where she learned how to grow

vegetables and a variety of berries, and how to preserve them. Now that Julie has her own house, she wants to further her



*Julie with Coordinator Sandra Elfman, right*

knowledge with different types of plants, gardening, and landscaping. When cannabis became legal, Julie was curious about growing it for medicinal purposes.

Congratulations Julie! Thanks for your enthusiasm and sharing your knowledge and experience with us for all these years!

### New Master Gardener in Training

Pam Bushell

Pam joined our group in November. She is planning to take courses from the University of Guelph. Pam shows a true passion for gardening and has been experimenting with plants at her house for 33 years. She has several large gardens that include a wide variety and type of plants ..... from deciduous and coniferous trees, rose bushes, perennials, annuals, plants that grow from bulbs/tubers, and, more recently, native plants. She also has a collection of 30 varieties of houseplants. Pam is excited to learn more about everything related to plants, something she loves to do! She wants to assist others to garden confidently and teach the importance of gardening, especially now that our earth’s health is more in peril.

Welcome to our group! We look forward to working together!

### Member Transfer

Heather Kamps

Heather joined the Toronto Master Gardeners in January 2013, where she did a lot of public presentations. After moving to London, she decided to join our LMMG group in September. Heather has a large property with a rain





garden and several flower beds where she grows herbs, vegetables, perennial flowers, and a large variety of berries. Heather is very interested in hostas, heucheras and dahlias. She likes to experiment with propagation from seeds and cuttings, loves botany and all aspects of plants, and is always eager to learn new things. Encouraging others to enjoy and to learn about gardening is very rewarding for Heather! Welcome to our group! We look forward to working together and sharing your previous experience with Master Gardeners!



## Halton Master Gardeners

### 10 Year Anniversary

Isabel Belanger



*Coordinator Kate Sault, left with Isabel*

### Master Gardener Status Achieved

Christine Scheewe



*Coordinator Kate Sault, left with Christine*



## Grey County Master Gardeners

### Master Gardener Status Achieved

Elizabeth Brims

Susan Cox

*Profiles by Carol Warren*

#### Elizabeth Brims

can lay claim to the unusual accomplishment of becoming a certified Master Gardener not once, but twice.



*MG Elizabeth Brims(r) with fellow GC MG Ann Joyner (l) at the Sep. 2023 plant sale/ photo Becky Bouwmeester*

She first joined Lake Simcoe South Master Gardeners in late 2004, while living in Aurora with her husband

Drew and their three children. She completed the educational requirements in a speedy 19 months – this, when course materials and assignments had to be sent back and forth by mail. An active member from the start, Elizabeth took on leadership roles, including a stint as secretary. She obtained her MG Certificate in the spring of 2006.

Like so many of us, Elizabeth's passion for gardening was inspired by her mother, who taught her that with good soil, patience and love almost everything will blossom. She poured that enthusiasm into the gardens around her home – veggies, perennials, shrubs and trees – and firmly believes that there is always room for one more plant in every garden. (She's so right!)

But in 2010, the growing demands of work and family led her to resign her membership. Looking at her challenging career, you can understand why. Over 25 plus years, Elizabeth held a variety of senior management roles in human services, with a focus on poverty reduction, food insecurity and homelessness. Career highlights included acting as project manager to open [Belinda's Place](#), York Region's first emergency housing facility for women, and leading the implementation of a person-centred delivery model for Ontario Works.



In 2019, a new job as manager of Ontario Works for Grey County prompted a move to Meaford, on Georgian Bay. Her new home has very little property for gardening, so Elizabeth (being Elizabeth!) is finding other ways to get her hands in the dirt. In 2021, she joined the [David Suzuki Foundation's Butterflyway](#) project as a Ranger, and co-founded the grassroots organization "[Pollinate Blue Mountains](#)" to raise public awareness of native pollinator plants and create public and private pollinator gardens across the community.

That same year, Elizabeth joined Grey County Master Gardeners as a MGIT – and in addition to taking on presentations, advice clinics and anything that needed doing Elizabeth applied her considerable organizational skills to getting all our assets in order. A Herculean task! Now retired, she has yet another leadership role in the group; in addition to assets coordinator, Elizabeth is now vice-coordinator.

#### **Susan Cox**

A quick walk around the farmhouse that Susan Cox shares with her husband, Peter Huggins, and you know you're at the home of gardeners. They bought the 100-acre farm – with views for days – between Wiarton and Owen Sound fourteen years ago, moving into it full time in 2015.



Over those years, they've created a little paradise with a variety of perennial gardens, native plants, a veggie plot, strawberries, fruit and nut trees and a chock-full herb garden beside a small greenhouse. ("Building it was like putting together a 10,000 piece Lego set," she says.)

Susan is a knowledgeable and amiable tour guide, full of stories about each of the plants, what's doing well, what isn't, and what needs to be moved to a happier spot. A gardener's gardener.

Born and raised in Toronto, Susan credits her grandmother for passing on the gardening DNA, something she started exploring in her twenties after acquiring her first home in Waterloo.

Husband Peter came from England, so every couple of years they'd make the pilgrimage back, always including visits to many of the beautiful gardens there, including the biggies Sissinghurst and Westonbirt. That led to an interest in design, as well as plants, fed by a constant diet of *Fine Gardening* and *Harrowsmith* magazines. (She still has every *Harrowsmith* published from the mid-seventies on!)

Susan spent her career with Corrections Canada, working for many years on the front line as a parole and probation officer; then, for the last fifteen, putting that knowledge to work on the corporate side, developing rehabilitation programs, writing training materials and training staff.

By 2020 she was mostly retired, doing consultancy work, when the pandemic hit. She had been looking for volunteer opportunities, but wanted to stay away from the social services world she came from. Master Gardeners, with its focus on science-based horticultural information for the home gardener, offered an opportunity to use both her passion for gardening and a well-honed skill set.

She signed up with GCMGs in the winter of 2021 and jumped in with both feet, taking on the challenging role of secretary as well as presenting a number of Zoom presentations. After the world opened up a bit, she hit the road with her 2001 Volvo Station wagon. She figures she delivered 12 presentations last year, along with creating new ones and refreshing others.

Her final course done and dusted, Susan received her certification as a Master Gardener this spring. This November, Susan resigned as secretary of GCMGs to take on a new role – Group Co-ordinator.



## **Grand Erie Master Gardeners**

### **New Master Gardener in Training**

Carolyn Bennett





## Access to MGOI Webinars & The MGOI Members Private Discussion Group

### Access to MGOI Webinars

Many of you have participated in the excellent webinar series organized by Education Director Kate Sault. This is a reminder that all webinars have been taped. Webinars from the current series will be uploaded to the MGOI site after the series is finished – the last webinar was November 27<sup>th</sup>. All past webinars are available for viewing now.

The link is on the MGOI website, <https://mgoi.ca/>; members' login is on the far right. Your Coordinator will be able to provide you with the password. Once in the members' section, scroll down to the bottom and click on workshops/webinars.

### The MGOI Members Private Discussion Group – FB:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1329062317277822/>. This is a private group, basically 'A discussion page for registered Members of the Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc., Canada. This includes current active Master Gardeners and Master Gardeners in Training. To join this group, you must be an active member of the Master Gardeners of Ontario and belong to a local MG group.' To join you must answer 2 questions that you would know the answers to.

The group is:

#### Private

Only members can see who's in the group and what they post.

#### Visible

Anyone can find this group.

#### History

Group created on January 3, 2020. Name last changed on October 12, 2023.

#### See more

May include flagged content

Admins may allow some posts and comments to be visible in the group even if they're flagged by Facebook's systems. [Learn more](#)



## Messages from the MGOI Webmaster, Jim Cook



### Advertising Technical Updates

Does your group have a technical update you'd like to advertise on the MGOI home page? We can link to your website. Please forward information to Jim at [webmaster@mgoi.ca](mailto:webmaster@mgoi.ca). Thanks!

### Master Gardener Group Websites / Links

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

This is a reminder to please inform me of any changes to your links to keep them up-to-date. My address is: [webmaster@mgoi.ca](mailto:webmaster@mgoi.ca).

Thanks!

Jim



## **MGOI Board Vacancy – Vice President**

*Karen Sciuk, President MGOI*

MGOI currently has a board vacancy: Vice President (VP). The job description for the VP position follows below.

Interested candidates should contact me, Karen Sciuk at [president@mgoi.ca](mailto:president@mgoi.ca).

### **Board Vacancy – Vice President**

I do not expect to continue my term past the end of 2024 and would like to find a VP to start as soon as possible so that they will be well aware of how the Executive functions prior to becoming President.

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

Please see the VP job description below and feel free to contact me, Karen Sciuk at [president@mgoi.ca](mailto: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 Director of Membership and others to fill vacant Board positions
- Assumes the duties of the President in his or her absence
- Succeeds the President





## Master Gardeners Out & About

### Projects & Events

#### Simcoe County Master Gardeners

##### **Name: Growing Vegetables in Collingwood**

**Details:** In the October newsletter we highlighted a season-long growing vegetables course that Simcoe County MG Marianne Lepa ran at a community garden space in Collingwood in the summer. Ten students enthusiastically participated in the educational program and learned the basics of vegetable gardening.

Unfortunately the photos that were to accompany this article were omitted, and as many friendships were made over the course of the summer we felt it important to publish a record of this successful community garden educational initiative. The following photos show new gardening friends and their bountiful harvest.



#### Algoma Master Gardeners

##### **Name: Algoma Lost Apple Project**

**Details:** A very successful fruit tree grafting workshop with Phil Beauchamp of Beautiful Fields Farm and Nursery was run in late March. What was to be a single workshop grew to be 3 due to the demand from the public.

Phil is an amazing instructor and everyone was thrilled with the workshops. Attendees got rootstock to plant in their supplied pot and medium. Onto that they were guided by Phil to graft on scions from some of his apple trees. So far, it would appear that there was a 95% success rate with these grafts!







*L-R, Algoma Project Advisor Norma Griffen, Algoma Project Coordinator MG Sheila Campbell and University of Guelph Researcher Paul Kron doing field work*

In July Dr. Brian Husband and Paul Kron of the University of Guelph Ontario Heritage and Feral Apple Project, along with three of their students, spent three days touring old orchards on St. Joseph Island, the North Shore of Lake Huron and Manitoulin Island collecting samples all along the way. They were able to see for themselves many of the trees we have sampled in the previous three years. These samples have been DNA tested by Paul and students.

Properties toured included the original site of the David Tait Nursery on St. Joseph Island and the farm where Tait and his brothers grew up and where a lot of the stock for the nursery was grown over on the North shore.

### **Name: Algoma Seedy Saturdays**

**Details:** Representatives from Seedy Saturday Sault Ste. Marie, Central Algoma Seedy Saturday, Sustain Algoma, and members of our little group womaned a table every Saturday morning at the Algoma Farmers' Market from May through Thanksgiving. We promoted Master Gardeners and educated the public by answering their gardening questions.

Members also helped to plant and maintain the beds at the Pollinator Garden at the Farmers' Market. This is a garden that draws a lot of attention from shoppers, especially the young ones, as well as from Pollinators.



## **Stratford Master Gardeners**

### **Name: Donald McTavish Conservation Fund**

**Details:** Stratford and Area Master Gardeners and ReLeaf Stratford volunteers began the installation of a native plant garden at the Emergency entrance to Stratford General Hospital. The first phase included planting a white swamp oak (*Quercus bicolor*) with 5 bush honeysuckles (*Diervilla lonicera*) and 4 sumac shrubs (*Rhus* spp.) planted around it.

This project was made possible due to funding from a Community Foundation grant, courtesy of the Donald McTavish Conservation Fund. Master Gardeners will complete the project next spring by adding native perennials.



*Tree Planting at Stratford Hospital: l-r, MG Don Farwell, MG Leslye Glover and Felicity Sutcliffe of ReLeaf Stratford*





The Community Foundation grant also allowed Stratford Master Gardeners to plant a native red oak (*Quercus rubra*) at Optimism Place Women's Shelter in Stratford. Construction at the facility removed most of the mature trees. The staff and administration were delighted with the donation and installation of a red oak.



Tree planting at Optimism Place: From left, Heidi Culliton of the Community Foundation Stratford, Optimism Place director and staff, MG Elizabeth Spedalieri (grey jacket), Stuart McTavish from the Donald McTavish Conservation Fund, and MG Don Farwell



## London Middlesex Master Gardeners

### Name: Bloomin' Tour Update

**Details:** On October 27th at the LMMGs Executive meeting we presented a \$2,200 cheque to Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT) Executive Director, Daria Koscinski. The amount given was raised through ticket sales for our Bloomin' Tour this past summer. Daria provided us with updates on TTLT's many current projects.



Sandra Elfman, chair (left) and Lynne Campbell, Bloomin' Tour chair (right) present a cheque to Daria Koscinski, TTLT



## Niagara Master Gardeners

### Name: Jeffery's Greenhouse Tour

**Details:** The Niagara MGs were invited to tour Jeffery's Greenhouses, a leading grower and supplier of bedding, container and seasonal potted plants to retail stores across Ontario and upper New York state. At this time of year the company is in full-on cyclamen and poinsettia production. The group was treated to an up-close look at the two sections where an enormous number of those two seasonal flowers are grown. Jeffery's Greenhouse facilities are located in St. Catharines and Jordan Station.

Here are pictures from the tour.



From left, Jennifer Qusen, Bev Campeau, Lois Johnson, Karen Epp and Kit Thompson listen to the guide during the tour







### Name: Heartland Forest Tour

**Details:** Another great experience for the NMGs was a tour of the Heartland Forest in Niagara Falls. The 200-acre property was founded in 2003 by Dan Bouwman and contains grasslands, wetlands and the largest stand of Carolinian Forest in the Niagara Peninsula. It was sadly vandalized earlier in the year and the Niagara MGs offered a donation to help restore damaged property. Programs on the property include wetland and woodland restoration, environmental education and adventure camps for school children among many other programs. They are open to the public year-round free of charge. You can visit their website at: <https://heartlandforest.org/>



*Linda Wade and Pat Bowman pause for a photo during the tour*



### Grand Erie Master Gardeners

#### Name: Gardening for Nature Committee

**Details:** The Gardening for Nature Committee is continuing to meet at least once monthly via zoom. This committee, headed by MG Kevin Kavanagh, is hard at work creating simple one-page information sheets on individual native plants, shrubs and trees as well as on other topics relevant to native plant gardening such as how to incorporate native plants into existing gardens, removing lawn, etc.

We aim to provide simple and easy-to-follow answers and guidelines for gardeners and gardening groups such as horticultural societies who are interested in learning more about the benefits of native gardening.





As this information becomes available, we hope to reach out to many gardening groups on a regular basis and encourage and support them in educating their members about native gardening.

Kevin Kavanagh has been giving many popular presentations to local horticultural societies and other groups, and educating members about invasive species and the benefits of native plants. MGIT Kim Hutton has been very helpful in getting our website (grandierieng.org) up to date.



*Solidago flexicaulis* (zigzag goldenrod)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Name: Grand Erie Master Gardeners 2023 Christmas Get-Together**

**Details:** We are all looking forward to having a Christmas luncheon together at MGIT Laura Rodger's home in Port Dover on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>. Because of the spread-out nature of our membership, we are rarely able to meet in person.

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## **Etobicoke Master Gardeners**

### **Name: Winter 2024 Lecture Series: An Evening of Design with Frank Kershaw**

**Time:** 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**Location:** Auditorium,  
Kingsway Lambton United Church

85 The Kingsway,  
Etobicoke M8X 2T6

- street parking
- admission by donation/pwyc



### **Dates & Topics:**

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 – Artist Gardens

Inspirational, unique gardens reveal the artist's mastery of scale, proportion, perspective, colour and lighting.

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 – Creating Garden Mysteries

Love a good mystery? Learn how to tweak the senses with a little creativity and visual techniques in the garden.

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 – Oft Neglected Front & Side Yards

With smaller backyards, larger houses, additions and setbacks, front and side yards are gaining more importance. Learn how to plan these spaces to reflect their new role in garden design.

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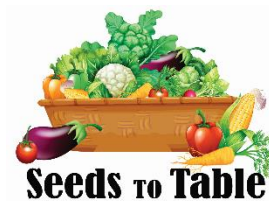
## **London Middlesex Master Gardeners**

### **Name: Seeds to Table**

**Dates:** Mar. 12 to Apr. 30, 2024

**Details:** The ever popular Seeds to Table course is being run again for our London community. We have been running this course for over 10 years for individuals in London who want to learn how to grow their own food from their own backyard or balcony. We provide them with the knowledge and confidence to grow their own veggies and fruit and to increase their food security.

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## Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Seeds Alert

**Canadians are encouraged to connect with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) before sending seeds abroad.** As Canada's plant health regulator, the CFIA plays an important role in making sure seeds from Canada meet internationally agreed upon regulations. 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. Not meeting requirements has consequences such as the destination country destroying the seeds and issuing 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.

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. CFIA 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](mailto: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)

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Live the Garden Life  
Vivre la vie de jardin



## Let's #LivetheGardenLife

français

### 2024 Colour of the Year



In collaboration with [Communities in Bloom](#), we would like to invite everyone to plant orange in honour of our Indigenous communities as we celebrate all the ways **Plants Love You**, by adding the warmth and energy of orange to our green spaces. This gesture is a beautiful way to make a positive and symbolic statement in our communities.





Scan here for more!  
Scannez ici pour plus d'informations





### Growing Great Places Together

Communities in Bloom is a volunteer and partnership-driven charitable organization that inspires all communities to enhance their quality of life and the environment through people and plants in order to create community pride. We strive to ensure that we are a collaborative and inclusive organization where all people are welcomed and can feel comfortable, respected and valued.

In 2024, we invite everyone to plant orange in honour of our Indigenous communities as we celebrate all the ways Plants Love You!

[communitiesinbloom.ca](http://communitiesinbloom.ca)

Plants  you.

### Cultivons ensemble de beaux espaces

Collectivités en fleurs est une organisation caritative basée sur le volontariat et le partenariat qui inspire toutes les collectivités à améliorer leur qualité de vie et l'environnement grâce aux gens et aux plantes, afin de susciter un sentiment de fierté collective. Nous nous efforçons d'être une organisation collaborative et inclusive où toutes les personnes sont accueillies et peuvent se sentir à l'aise, respectées et valorisées.

En 2024, nous vous invitons à planter de l'orange en hommage à nos collectivités autochtones et à célébrer toutes les façons dont les plantes vous aiment!

[collectivitesenfleurs.ca](http://collectivitesenfleurs.ca)

Les plantes vous .

## Let's stay connected!

We'd love to stay in touch with you beyond this newsletter! Be sure to follow us on our social media platforms for more updates and to engage with our growing community.



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You are receiving this newsletter as a member of Canada's Garden Family. (Vous recevez ce bulletin en tant membre de la Famille-jardin du Canada.)

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