



*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 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).

#### **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
Directors of Education:	Kate Sault, Halton
Director of Events:	Rhonda Grein, Waterloo Region
Director of Membership:	Lois Johnson, Niagara
Director of Operations:	Diane Wheler, Stratford
Director of Marketing & Partnerships:	Kathleen Gorsline, Lake Simcoe South
Director of Central Region:	Linda Gordon, Etobicoke
Director of East Region:	Anne Craig, Peterborough
Director of North Region:	Gail Cocker, Simcoe County
Director of South & West Region:	Janine Robertson, Guelph-Wellington

#### **Committee Members**

Statistician: Rhonda Grein, Waterloo Region  
Webmaster: Jim Cook [webmaster@mgoi.ca](mailto:webmaster@mgoi.ca)  
Newsletter Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton [newsletter@mgoi.ca](mailto:newsletter@mgoi.ca)  
Database/Supplies: Kelly Noel, Ottawa [database@mgoi.ca](mailto:database@mgoi.ca), [supplies@mgoi.ca](mailto: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
  - CFIA: Oak Wilt Disease
  - CFIA Seeds Alert
  - Live the Garden Life 2023
- MGOI
  - AGM 2023
  - Messages from the Webmaster
  - Board Vacancies: Vice President; Communications Director

#### **INSIDE MGOI**

#### **Newsletter of the**

#### **Master Gardeners of Ontario, Inc.**

**October 2023**

**Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton**

## Milestones

### Durham Master Gardeners

#### Returning Master Gardeners

##### David Ahmad

We would like to welcome **David** back to DMG! David received his MG education through the University of Guelph but before that attended Ryerson (Toronto Metropolitan University) for Mechanical Engineering. He has a soft spot for roses and loves growing his own vegetables from seed and seedlings. "Textures, colours shapes...They all fascinate me".



When asked what are some of the strengths he will bring to DMG, David answered: Enthusiasm. Hard worker. Open-minded to new and different techniques.

Another ask: Any fun stuff you would like other gardeners to know about you?

David: I am actually a Dance Music DJ. I can also be seen in the 2023 documentary "Drop the Needle" now in international release. My "real job" was with the Royal Bank in the investment side of the business for 20 years!

So cool, we now have a DJ amongst us! David thank you for returning to DMG; we all look forward to working with you.

##### Kathleen Pearce

WOW! Two returning members! **Kathleen** was a very active participant in our group, especially in making sure that we were a focus for many in social media – and guess what, she has already signed up to help with our social media. Way to go Kathleen, thank you. We are all excited to have you back in the group.

### Master Gardener Status Achieved

Carmen Lint

Carmen, congratulations on receiving your Master Gardener Certificate from MGOI – after completing the required courses from Dalhousie University and the required volunteer hours!

Carmen has been very active in DMG since 2021 and has been very keen with volunteering at Parkwood.

Keep up the great work!



### New Master Gardener in Training

Mani Goulding

Please welcome our newest member, Mani! Mani lives in Pickering and is a chartered accountant. She was a long-time member and board member of the Toronto Garden Club and has also been a volunteer with Room to Read, Toronto.

Mani is interested in continuing to learn about gardening and has decided to take the Guelph University courses starting in September. She is interested in gardening with perennials. Welcome to DMG and we all look forward working with you!



### Guelph Master Gardeners

#### New Master Gardeners in Training

Barbara Freuler  
Cathy McNabb  
Paul Lander  
Shane Adamson



## Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners

### 30 Year Anniversary

Rachel Burrows

### 20 Year Anniversaries

Gladys Fowler

Sally Rye

### 15 Year Anniversaries

Joan Harding

Margaret Higgins

Joanne Windrem

### 10 Year Anniversaries

Chris Freeburn

Lee Edwards

The Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners are rich in experience! This year we saw eight Master Gardeners receive recognition for a total of 135 years of membership and service!

Our group is certainly enriched by these long-term members who bring with them not only valuable gardening knowledge and experience but a dedication to supporting our group. We gratefully thank them for their years of service. Please stay tuned for more photos in the next newsletter!



L-R: Chris Freeburn, Sally Rye, Gladys Fowler



## Niagara Master Gardeners

### 30 Year Anniversary

Marilyn Shepherd



Marilyn Shepherd, left, received her 30-year pin from Coordinator Sue Lusted

### 20 Year Anniversary

Diane Turner



Diane Turner, left, received her 20-year pin from Sue Lusted at our October meeting

### 5 Year Anniversaries

Mary-Lyn Hopper

Kendy Steeves





## Northumberland Master Gardeners

### 20 Year Anniversaries

Margot Cox  
Judy Harris

**Margot Cox** has received her 20 year pin. Congratulations! Margot was a founding member of Northumberland Master Gardeners. During her twenty years of service, Margot has been active on many committees and has served in executive positions.



Congratulations **Judy Harris** on receiving your 20 year service pin! Judy was a founding member of Northumberland Master Gardeners. Over the years, she has served in many positions and on many committees. Most recently Judy has been our treasurer and has been a member of the membership committee.



*From left, Mary-Lyn Hopper and Kendy Steeves both received their 5- year pins from Coordinator Sue Lusted*

### Member Profile

by Heather Walton, MGiT



*Heather with Sue*

I have been an avid gardener since my teens. I ran a small farm business in Mansfield Ontario for about 15 years. On the farm we grew organic vegetables that we sold at local farmers' markets and from our farm gate stall. We also sold eggs and had pet chickens, horses, donkeys, dogs and barn cats!

We sold the farm when my husband retired two years ago and I really miss all my flower gardens and the vegetable garden I was growing there!

Currently we live in Dunnville Ontario. The downside is that we are on a small lot in a brand new subdivision with no landscaping and heavy clay soil so I have been busy working to create some gardens. I'm on my second U. of Guelph course and am enjoying taking these!

One of my goals this coming year is to create a pollinator or butterfly garden!



## London Middlesex Master Gardeners

### Member Profiles

Donna Slater and Nancy Abra in celebration of 20 years.

London Middlesex Master Gardeners would like to congratulate **Donna Slater** on her 20th anniversary volunteering with Master Gardeners! Donna began with the Cambridge area group and then moved to the London Middlesex group. She has been a past Coordinator of the LMMG and is a very active member. She shares her knowledge both with our group as well as with other horticultural community groups.

Donna is a member of the Canadian Peony Society and a member of the Middlesex Centre Pollinator team. She was also one of the founding teachers of the LMMG *Seeds to Table* course; she continues to support the group by answering incoming communications from our website.

Donna recently participated in our annual Garden Tour and advocates for native plants within her community in Komoka, Ontario. Thank you, Donna for your continued commitment to the community and to London Middlesex Master Gardeners.

London Middlesex Master Gardeners would like to Congratulate **Nancy Abra** on her 20th anniversary with the group! Nancy has been an integral part of the group in London and area. She has been a former Co-ordinator several times and currently leads the group by providing our educational component during our monthly meetings.

Nancy is very engaged as a volunteer, whether it's working to help out with our annual Garden Tour, sharing her knowledge at our *Seeds to Table* course (which she helped get off the ground 12 years ago), or speaking at various horticulture societies or Seedy Saturdays. Nancy's knowledge of gardening is priceless and she is our leading expert in harvesting, preserving, and canning. Nancy also has her own business "From my Garden" where she sells her various delicious unique gourmet jams, jellies, savory chutneys, mustards and vinegars.

She loves to present and is a talented writer/blogger; she has published a book about gardening and writes gardening articles for her local Thorndale newsletter.

Her contributions have been a huge part of the London Middlesex Master Gardeners and beyond. We thank her for her volunteerism and leadership in the community.



### 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 AGM 2023

by Lynda Bobinski, Corporate Secretary MGOI

This reminder is for Coordinators to register themselves and two of their members for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Member Groups of Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc., that will be held via Zoom on Saturday, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023. For more information, all the necessary documents and forms are on the Website under the Coordinators AGM & Conference section: <https://mgoi.ca/login/>. The poster below provides more details.



**mgoi agm**  
**2023**

**NOVEMBER 4, 2023**  
9:00 am to 11:00 am  
ON ZOOM

1. To receive the financial statements of Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. for the period ended the 30th day of April 2023.
2. To receive the report of the President of the Board of Directors.
3. To ratify the actions of the Board of Directors.
4. To approve the public accountant's review engagement of our 2022-2023 financial statements
5. To appoint the firm performing the next review engagement.
6. To transact such further business as may properly be brought before the meeting or any adjournments thereof.





## MGOI Board Vacancies

*Karen Sciuk, President MGOI*

MGOI currently has two (2) board vacancies: Vice President (VP); and Director of Communications. The Director of Communications is an immediate opening. The job description for the VP position follows below and the Communications Director job description is on the right.

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

### Job Description – Director of Communications

The Director of Communications 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 facebook group** – 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](mailto: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.



## Master Gardeners Out & About

### Projects & Events

#### Simcoe County Master Gardeners

##### **Name: Community Gardening with Simcoe Master Gardener Marianne Lepa**

**Details:** This summer, Marianne led a group of novice gardeners through a season-long course on growing vegetables in Collingwood. She had two garden plots donated by Free Spirit Community Gardens and support from the Collingwood Garden Club. Ten people learned the basics of vegetable growing in what has proved to be a very challenging year. The group dealt with flooding, swarms of striped cucumber beetles, and fungal diseases, but still managed to grow plenty of food and had enough for hefty food bank donations.

The group learned a lot, from sowing seeds, transplanting seedlings, thinning and pruning, insect and disease management through to harvesting and seed saving. The course ended on October 28 with a tool sharpening and maintenance workshop.

Six of the original ten caught the bug and have started gardens of their own. Marianne says it has been a wonderful experience for her to share her passion for backyard food growing. Friendships have been made and four of the six have taken plots in the same community garden where the relationships will continue.



*Marianne Lepa, blue shirt and hat, at the Collingwood Free Spirit Community Gardens*

#### Mississauga Master Gardeners

##### **Name: Port Credit Library Seed Saving Workshop**

**Details:** In the newly renovated Port Credit Library, MMG Diana Westland presented a seed collecting workshop to some very interested participants on Saturday September 16. No photo is available but this lovely note sent by the Mississauga Seed Library in the Port Credit Library was a nice thank you for the MMGs to receive!

*"I know some of you were not able to attend our Seed Saving Workshop with Diana from Mississauga Master Gardeners. She is a very knowledgeable presenter and we all agreed that seed saving is not as simple as we think." ~ Maria (Majka) Pakulnicka*

##### **Name: Advice Table at Blooming Boulevards & Native Planting at Spruce Park, September 30<sup>th</sup>**

*by Ramona Christiansen*

**Details:** We had a fun and sunny Saturday planting native plants at Spruce Park in Port Credit with Blooming Boulevards (BB). Planting was under the direction of Jeanne McKnight, BB President and MMG. The beautiful raised beds, designed by Jeanne and built by her team of BB members, had a group of student and family volunteers adding native plants to the site. Seed bombs were made and saving seeds was also on the agenda. MMGs answered questions and guided the volunteers in planting and spreading mulch. It was wonderful to be part of this day!



*L-R: Jennifer Beale, Ramona Christiansen and Diana Westland*

##### **Name: Advice Table at the Lakeview Farmers' Market**

*by Ramona Christiansen*

**Details:** On Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> MMGs were invited to host an advice table at the Lakeview Farmers' Market, located in the Small Arms Inspection Building at Dixie and Lakeshore Roads.





We ran two shifts (morning, attended by MMGs Karolina Marques and Jennifer Beale, and afternoon, hosted by MMGs Stuart Plummer and Ramona Christiansen). We enjoyed the many questions from the public, from worms to historical plants! Always an informative few hours interacting with the public and sharing advice and information back and forth. If you've never experienced this market you should put it on your "places to go" list! The smell of baked goods and perogies along with music, vegetables, fruit and handmade crafts makes for a nice Sunday stroll in a historic building.



Ramona Christiansen



## Stratford Master Gardeners

### Name: Native Shrub Sale

**Details:** The Stratford and Area MGs held a pop-up native shrub sale on Sept. 23. The wide variety of shrubs included bush honeysuckle (*Diervilla lonicera*) and nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*). Most were from spring cuttings.

However, we were privileged and excited to be able to offer American Chestnut saplings to the public. Stands of American or Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) in North America and Europe were decimated by Chestnut blight, introduced from Asia in the early 1900s. Until the 1940s, chestnuts were the dominant tree in Southern Ontario. They are now classified as endangered.

Our member Don Farwell, who loves nothing more than hiking and birding, contacted the Canadian Chestnut Council when he realized that the TJ Dolan Natural Area in Stratford is home to a mature American Chestnut tree. Chestnuts are not self-fertile, so they need others nearby for cross-pollination.

The Council came to see the Dolan tree and offered to provide seedlings. Ten were planted in the immediate area of the mature tree, and approximately 60 were given to the MGs to give away. Note that It is illegal to sell American Chestnut trees or seeds.

We are pleased to report that all the Chestnut trees (and the rest of the shrubs and trees) have found new homes in our tri-county area: Perth, Oxford and Huron. The saplings provided by the Council are third generation disease-resistant, so should thrive in these areas. Find out more about American Chestnuts at:

<https://www.canadianchestnutcouncil.ca/>.



## Niagara Master Gardeners

### Name: Annual Fall Plant Sale

**Details:** The biggest event hosted by Niagara Master Gardeners every year is the Fall Plant Sale, which features some beautiful plants and interesting specimens donated by local nurseries and MG members. The September event gives customers plenty of time to get plants in the ground and settled in before winter hits. The event is very well organized every year by long-time member Barb Large, and is by far the biggest fundraiser for the Niagara Master Gardeners.



From left, plant sale organizer Barb Large with volunteers Jennifer Qusen, Bev Campeau and Pam Coring





*Niagara MGs Chris Clark, left and Linda Wade are steady hands at the till as they speak to a customer*



*The Fall Plant Sale draws a good crowd from around Niagara*



*The plant sale includes a much-appreciated tool sharpening service offered by Allan Large (husband of Barb)*

### **Name: Monthly Meeting**

**Details:** The speaker at our October meeting was Charles Hunter, Horticultural director at Niagara Parks. He gave us

some useful information along with a peek into the big responsibilities he carries at Niagara Parks. Charles also kept people on their toes with some good quiz questions, specifically driving home the importance of soil to plant health.

He also spoke of some new and ongoing exhibits, including the Indigenous Gardens Exhibit Project at Niagara Glen. It is a living exhibit designed to educate guests about Indigenous relationships with culturally significant plant species, along with interpretive boards explaining the significance of each plant type. You can find more information [here](#).



*Charles Hunter, Director of Horticulture at Niagara Parks, gave an interesting talk at our monthly meeting in October*

## **Northumberland Master Gardeners**

### **Name: Flower Show, Advice Clinic and Demonstrations by Master Gardeners**

**Details:** The Northumberland Master Gardeners once again had an important role to play in the Plant and Flower section of the Port Hope Fair, held from September 14-17. Our committee tweaked a handful of categories to reflect the fair's theme of "Celebrating 190 Years of Agriculture". The 7 categories consisting of specimens, potted plants and designs had many entries.





They were viewed by many, often generating gardening questions which were then answered on the spot by our advice clinic staffed by Northumberland Master Gardeners for all the hours that the building was open.



*The Flower Show at the Port Hope Fair, including a poster of our demos*



*MG Claire Blahnik working at our advice booth*

This year we were able to offer free personalized Northumberland Master Gardener zinnia seed packets to both first-time and experienced gardeners who stopped by our advice clinic to ask a gardening question. They were well received.

New to the fair this year were gardening demos. Northumberland Master Gardeners presented seven different demos mostly relating to fall activities such as taking cuttings, planting fall bulbs, collecting tomato seeds and preparing dahlia tubers for winter storage.

We also presented a demo on soil type analysis and another on alternatives to oasis in floral arrangements. These demos led to stimulating conversations.



*MG Victor Freiberg demonstrating how to divide Heuchera*

The weather was good, attendance to the fair was good and our contribution to the fair was well received.

## Toronto Master Gardeners

### **Name:** Toronto Master Gardeners Visit the Meadoway

**Details:** Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) hosted Toronto Master Gardeners at the Meadoway, <https://themeadoway.ca/>, to learn about why and how the Meadoway was created as well as plans for the future. Chris Cormack, Project Manager, Biologist, Educator, and Sarah Kotsopoulos, Meadoway Site Supervisor, Ecosystem Management spoke and answered the many questions Toronto Master Gardeners had.







The site was in full fall bloom and was absolutely gorgeous. There were conversations around the challenges and strategies used to prepare and seed the sites as well as dealing with “invaders”. The area where the now Meadoway lives used to be mowed up to 8 times per year with no real habitat or biodiversity. They are close to finishing the last stretch of the 16 km trail through Scarborough. This restoration work enhances urban greenspace while hosting a wide variety of pollinators and providing habitat for humans as well. If you are in the area, definitely take a walk on the Meadoway.



For anyone who would like to read more, the CBC reported on the Meadoway’s progress, with a newly completed section of the trail opening on Friday, October 20, 2023: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/the-meadoway-new-section-trail-announcement-scarborough-1.7004039>; and here is another article on the background of the project: <https://www.designlinesmagazine.com/the-meadoway/>.

All photos of the Meadoway Visit are by Dianne Azzarello.



## Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

### Name: Children’s Garden Award, Summer 2023

**Details:** Our fifth annual Children’s Garden Award brought twenty-two enthusiastic kids to this year’s contest. It’s not easy – the kids must plan, plant, tend and document a garden of their own design throughout the summer. Two of our members visit each garden twice, and then we get together and pick the winners.

Each year it is becoming more difficult to choose a winner. The knowledge and dedication of these kids, some as young as seven, never fails to amaze us.



The awards ceremony this year was held in our newly renovated library in Picton. Sixty parents, grandparents, siblings and friends came out to support the young gardeners.

This year’s winners are:

Juniors (7-9 years of age):

- First Place: **Zoe Kulas**
- Second Place: **Marcella Jaskulski**
- Third Place: **Bentley Shantz**

Seniors (10-12 years of age):

- First Place: **Abbigail Wemyss**
- Second Place: **Mercy Norris**
- Third Place: **Hendrik Kuijpers**





*Left to Right: Mercy Norris, Hendrik Kuijpers, Abbigail Wemyss, Bentley Shantz, Zoe Kulas, Marcella Jaskulski*

Each year we pick an overall winner whom we feel has really stood out in the garden. This year's winner is well-known to us as she has been involved with the CGA for three years. We are delighted to announce that this year's overall winner is: Abbigail Wemyss



*Abbigail Wemyss, 2023 Winner*



*Abbigail with her parents and grandparents*

Finally, a huge thank you to the members of the CGA awards for 2023. Without them, the contest would not have taken place.



*Left to right: Diane McDonald, Susan Warrack, Kent Pawziuk, June Crocco  
missing from photograph, Andie Wiens*





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Etobicoke Master Gardeners

#### Name: 2023 Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series

**Details:** Join Etobicoke Master Gardeners and the Humber Arboretum for the final 2023 Eco-Garden Community Workshop; this one is virtual. Registration is through the Humber Arboretum at the following link:

<https://humber.ca/arboretum/learn/adult-programs/etobicoke-master-gardeners.html>

#### Topic & Date:

- Indoor Plants, (virtual) November 18



### London Middlesex Master Gardeners

#### Name: Seeds to Table

**Dates:** March 12 to April 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 now for individuals in London that 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.



## Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) – Oak Wilt Disease

As mentioned in the last newsletter, Oak wilt disease has been found in Canada, specifically in Ontario. The CFIA is strongly advising arborists, landscapers, and the public **not to prune oak trees until November** to help prevent the spread of oak wilt. Oak trees are at high risk for oak wilt infection during this time.

The CFIA is also asking for our help as a leading voice in the field of tree and plant health.

This disease can cause serious damage to Canada's oak tree population. There are several pathways by which oak wilt can spread, including:

- via root grafting, where the fungus travels through the interconnected roots of infected and healthy trees growing in close proximity;
- via insects, such as sap and bark beetles that carry spores of the fungus from an infected tree to a healthy one
- human-assisted spread through the movement of things such as firewood and pruning during high-risk periods.



*Oak wilt disease in an oak tree. Photo credit: Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org*  
[https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/oak\\_wilt\\_diagnosing\\_and\\_preventing](https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/oak_wilt_diagnosing_and_preventing)

**HOW YOU CAN HELP:** Given Master Gardeners' expertise in the industry, the CFIA would appreciate if we could share this message with the public, our clients, and staff. Please review the **links** and incorporate messaging into your own communications this fall. Content could be promoted in various ways including your website, newsletter and social media. Information and photos can be found [here](#).





By working together, we can help ensure **Canadians are well-informed** on the [signs and symptoms of oak wilt](#) and how to [report sightings](#). Please share this with others in your network who may be interested in amplifying this content. For more information, go to [inspection.canada.ca/oak-wilt](https://inspection.canada.ca/oak-wilt).

The CFIA is currently developing additional communications products in support of oak wilt prevention and will share additional information with us once available.



## 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. 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.

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.

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

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.

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](#)





Live the Garden Life  
Vivre la vie de jardin



## Let's #LivetheGardenLife

français

### International Garden Tourism



The International Garden Tourism Conference in Victoria, BC is just around the corner, and we can't wait to welcome all participating delegates to Canada's Garden City and the Best Small City in the World!

We are thrilled to share that we have now surpassed a significant milestone: over 80 delegates from 13 countries, representing 41 gardens, 7 tourism organizations, 10 garden-related organizations, and with endorsements from 7 associations. The overwhelming response we've received to this event is a true testament to the global interest in garden tourism and reinforces the immense importance of this conference!

[VISIT GARDENTOURISM.ORG](https://www.visitgardentourism.org)

Hosted by:



Endorsed by:



## VIA Rail Garden Getaway



Congratulations to Jennifer Kim of Etobicoke, Ontario on winning the VIA Rail Garden Getaway! In just a few days, Jennifer will be embarking on an exciting trip to Montreal, courtesy of VIA Rail, where she'll explore the enchanting Montreal Botanical Garden. Be sure to keep an eye out for updates on her remarkable journey!

Which garden you would have chosen to visit if you had won? Visit Canada's Garden Route to discover the many garden destinations!

[CANADA'S GARDEN ROUTE](https://www.canadagardenroute.ca)





## 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](#)

### 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](#)

Plants  you.

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.





*Copyright © 2023 Canadian Garden Council (Conseil canadien du jardin), All rights reserved.*

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.)

**Our mailing address is:**

Canadian Garden Council (Conseil canadien du jardin)

211 Russell Ave

Ottawa, ON K1N 7X6

Canada

[Add us to your address book](#)

