Inside MGOI

Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Welcome to the July edition of the Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. (MGOI) Newsletter. Our focus is on you, Master Gardeners! This is your vehicle for providing updates, insights and the inside scoop from MGOI Board & Committee members, Directors, and the 31 Master Gardener groups throughout Ontario. The Newsletter features member milestones, new group projects, short member profiles, upcoming events such as regional technical updates – anything about the functioning and activities of our groups and our members. And pictures – please feel free to submit pictures!

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:	Claudette Sims, Halton
Vice President:	vacant
Corporate Secretary:	Terri Briggs, Lake Simcoe South
Treasurer:	Cathy Thompson, Niagara
Director of Communications:	Kelly Noel, Ottawa-Carleton
Director of Education:	June Streadwick, Niagara
Director of Events:	vacant
Director of Membership:	Pam Love, Durham Region
Director of Operations:	Suzanne Zacharczyk, Etobicoke
Director of Relationship & Partnerships:	vacant
Director of Revenue Development:	vacant
Director of Central Region:	Katherine Mathewson, Durham
Director of East Region:	Sue Flinders-Adams, Peterborough
Director of North Region:	Kathleen Gorsline, Interim Director
Co-Director of South & West Region:	Rhonda Grein, Kitchener
Co-Director of South & West Region:	Karen Sciuk, Kitchener

Committee Members

Recording Secretary/Statistician: Rhonda Grein, Kitchener
Webmaster: Jim Cook webmaster@mgoi.ca
Newsletter Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke newsletter@mgoi.ca
Twitter: Dale Odorizzi, Lanark County
Facebook: Linda Hugli, Sudbury
MG Advice Clinic Manager for Canada Blooms: Christine Spence, Etobicoke
Manager of MG Participation in Canada Blooms: Adrienne Hanbidge, Toronto

In This Issue

- Master Gardeners
  - Milestones
  - Master Gardeners Out & About
  - Upcoming Events
  - Employment Opportunities
  - Volunteer Opportunity
  - Summer Feature – MG Gardens
- MGOI
  - Canada's National Flower Contest
  - The President's Corner
  - 9th Annual M.G.O.I. Summer Workshop
  - Volunteer Opportunity

INSIDE MGOI
Newsletter of the
Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

July 2017

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke

Milestones

Brantford Master Gardeners

In Memoriam
Pat Locker passed away on Saturday, July 1, 2017 at the age of 86. Pat joined the group in 1987 and celebrated her 30 year anniversary this year. She was an enthusiastic member who held many committee positions including that of Coordinator. Pat wrote a monthly column for the Brantford Expositor for many years. Her wisdom, experience and enthusiasm for all things gardening will be missed.

30 Year Anniversary
The following members joined our group in 1987:
Nancy Lee Colibaba
Len Cole

Member Transfers
The following MGs transferred from Kitchener to Brantford:
Liz and Mike Stacey
Sue Willemsen
Lynne Goulet-Smith

Ottawa – Carleton Master Gardeners

5 Year Anniversary
Susan Bicket

Peterborough Master Gardeners

In Memoriam

Loss of Beloved Peterborough Master Gardener

Two weeks after celebrating her 90th birthday, Norma Evans died on July 16th. Norma's true passion was gardening, a love she passed on to her daughters. She was also a certified Ontario Horticultural Association judge. Her lush woodland garden was a frequent stop on garden tours and was featured in Gardens Central magazine in June 2011. She was quite the lady who will be remembered with a smile as we think about her wit and great sense of humour, along with her caring for others. A donation will be sent on behalf of the Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners.

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

In Memoriam
Jean A. Sinclair, January 29, 1929 – July 13, 2017

It was with great sadness that members of the EMG learned of the passing of one of our founding members, Jean Sinclair, on Thursday, July 13, 2017. Jean was the long-time Treasurer of our group, only retiring from this position in January 2017. Jean was a kind and generous individual, and will be truly missed by us all.

Another of Jean's great passions was Montgomery's Inn, the 1830's Etobicoke Inn where we hold our monthly meetings. Jean put in many an hour at the Inn as a volunteer docent / tea room server / gardener. Jean often talked about seeing the Inn on her way to elementary school when she was a child.

A Celebration of Jean's life will be held in September at Montgomery's Inn. The EMG is looking into a memorial in her name.

Jean sharing a laugh

Toronto Master Gardeners

August 7, 2017 – Anna Leggatt received a 2017 Media Awards Silver Medal of Achievement for an article in a Newsletter, Bulletin or Brochure, presented by GWA: The Association for Garden Communicators. The Medal for her article entitled 'Anna's Plant Pick: *Taraxacum officinale* Dandelion - is it a weed?', published in the Summer 2016 issue of Trellis, the magazine of the Toronto Botanical Garden.
This national award recognizes individuals and companies who achieve the highest levels of talent and professionalism in garden communications. The 2017 competition had more than 200 entries in 61 categories. Recipients of the Silver Medal represent the top winners in each competition category and will now compete for best of group in the areas of writing, photography, digital media, broadcast media, publishing and trade.

President's Corner

Making the World Better One Garden and One Hour at a Time!

Volunteer hours and how to count them continue to be a mystery to some individual members and groups. When you become a Master Gardener, you agree to volunteer 20 hours annually giving advice to the public, and 10 hours annually on administrative (admin) work. Interestingly, these numbers were chosen by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) when they started up Master Gardener groups in Ontario. According to the 2015 Annual Report, MGs in Ontario average about twice the minimum amount required with an impressive 56 hours per member reported.

Advice time and admin time should be tracked separately, but what counts as admin time and what counts as public advice time is sometimes difficult to figure out, especially for new members.

Public advice hours generally involve the public and have an instructional component related to gardening. Therefore include any time such as researching or answering gardening questions at clinics or via emails, doing gardening presentations / workshops, writing gardening articles / blogs, as public advice hours.
We are lucky to be in an age of technology where some of this time might occur participating in online chats, answering questions on Master Gardener Facebook groups pages, or more recently, doing webinars for the public. Check with your group or coordinator to find out if they have a specific policy limiting how many hours you can claim for activities such as writing an article or blog.

For admin time, include any other time you spend planning MG activities or contributing to the management of your group. This includes time volunteered for your group on committees, executive duties, secretarial work, planning for and setting up workshops / presentations, or any technology related event. Travel time may count as admin if your group allows it – that is a group policy decision as it varies considerably according to geography.
You can also count the time spent attending the annual Coordinators' Conference or planning MG Technical Updates (attending the TU itself counts as 6 Continuing Education Units (CEUs)).

Working in a community garden is one activity that cannot be included in your volunteer hours – but that doesn't mean it isn't a great way to support gardeners and gardening.

We count the hours in order to be accountable and to keep track of our contributions. All your volunteer time, regardless of whether it is admin or public advice time, makes a worthwhile contribution to your community.

You should be proud that you are making the world better one garden and one hour at a time!

Claudette Sims, President MGOI

Press Release: July 2017

Bunchberry Voted Canada's National Flower in Ontario Master Gardener Contest

The votes are in. Canadians have spoken. Bunchberry *(Cornus canadensis)* is the popular choice for our new national flower. A nation-wide contest to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary, sponsored by the Master Gardeners of Ontario, has embraced the bunchberry, known as quatre-temps in French and kawiscowimin in Cree, as the winner.

Since the beginning of the National Flower Contest, the little white flower has held the lead with an average of 80 per cent of the on-line vote, says Maureen Hulbert, Executive Director, Toronto Master Gardeners, who spearheaded the contest. Since it was announced in March, almost 10,000 Canadians took up the challenge to help select our national flower.

Cornus canadensis
Photo courtesy of Todd Boland

Bunchberry, along with Hooded Ladies Tresses (*Spiranthes romanzoffiana*) and Twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*), were identified as finalists with the help of Todd Boland, Research Horticulturist with Memorial University of Newfoundland. Each of these plants is found all across the nation, growing wild in most areas, and none are already designated as provincial or territorial emblems.

Bunchberry changes with the seasons with white flowers in late spring, red berries in summer, and great fall colour. One of the smallest members of the dogwood (*Cornus*) family, bunchberry forms a low, carpet-like mat of leaves, up to 10 cm tall, usually in the understory of moist and shady woods. In late spring, it produces showy flowers which appear above the mat of leaves. These white "flowers" are actually modified leaves called bracts, which attract pollinators to the tiny actual flowers in the centre. It is largely self-sterile, which means it is dependent on pollinators for sexual reproduction – bumblebees, solitary bees, bee flies and syrphid flies. Once pollinated, it produces edible fruit, a food source for black bears, martens, snowshoe hares and other small mammals, as well as for many migratory birds. Bunchberry is also a winter forage plant for caribou, elk, deer and moose.

Hulbert says she likes bunchberry's very Canadian botanical name: *Cornus canadensis.* "It has Canada right in its name. It's a great selling feature."

The Master Gardeners have submitted an online petition to Parliament to have the winner declared Canada's official National Flower. To add your signature to the petition, please go to:
https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-1179

For more information, contact:
Maureen Hulbert at 416-670-6616 maureen@downtoearthtoronto.com

What a legacy for the Master Gardeners of Ontario if we can say that we made this happen!

Master Gardeners Out & About:
Projects & Events

Brantford Master Gardeners

Name: Bite of Brant
Details: This is an annual event held at the Burford Fairgrounds in Brant County each April. Its purpose is to show grade 5 students from Brantford and Brant County how their food is produced. The theme this year was 'Growing a Pizza'. Local organizations and farmers set up hands-on displays such as egg production, sausage making, pork production, wheat /flour production, to name just a few. Brantford MGs review with the students the requirements for successful seed germination and plant growth, and each student transplants a tomato or basil seedling to take back to the classroom. This year during the 2-day event we planted seedlings with over 500 children. We are a small group so we asked for help from other groups in our area. We are most grateful to members from London-Middlesex, Guelph, and Norfolk County who volunteered and made it possible for us to continue participating in this worthwhile event.

A student receives a seedling transplant

Name: Glenhyrst Art Gallery Family Day
Details: This annual event takes place the last Sunday in May each spring. It is a free for all families in the area and, like Bite of Brant, is a wonderful opportunity for the Brantford MGs to interact with about 300 children each year. Again, we help children transplant a seedling to take home. Many of the adults have gardening questions and indicate they are learning as much as the children. A tiring day but very gratifying!

Niagara Master Gardeners

Name: Labrynth Project at Start Me Up Niagara
Details: Niagara MGs donated and planted 10 new lavender plants at the Labrynth Project at Start Me Up Niagara.

Pictured are Rose Setosta and Vince who won an award last year for this project. They, along with Alan Large, planted 10 new lavender plants. Vince and Rose are well pleased with the results.

Director of Education, June Streadwick

Name: 9th Annual M.G.O.I. Summer Workshop – 2017
Details: The M.G.O.I. Summer Workshop was held on Saturday, July 8th and Sunday, July 9th, and was attended by a record number of Master Gardeners and Master Gardeners in Training. They came from many places to enjoy a weekend of horticultural learning. All three topics, "Creating Gardens – a Designer's Approach", "The Carolinian Zone – Understanding a Unique Habitat" and "Urban Agriculture" were very well received, and the evaluations reflected the satisfaction of everyone present. Comments such as: "excellent knowledge of instructors, learning by direct observation in the Botanical Gardens, the instructors were totally captivating, the enthusiasm" were just some of the positive comments.

Darren Schmahl, NPD, Instructor of Landscape Design, with some of the group who took "Creating Gardens – a Designer's Approach", in the Legacy Prairie Gardens

Darrell Bley, Instructor/Curator of Woody Plants, showing a plant that would be in the Carolinian Zone, during his session "The Carolinian Zone – Understanding a Unique Habitat"

Information on next year's M.G.O.I. Summer Workshop will be in the newsletter towards the end of the year. Save the date when it is published, and **register early** to avoid disappointment!

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Garden design at the 9th Annual Summer Workshop
Date: July 8-9, 2017
Location: Niagara Botanical Gardens
Attendees: Alex Wiens and Susan Warrack
Details: This proved to be a very interesting and informative weekend for the PEC MGs who attended. Enthusiastic and knowledgeable instructors, a beautiful location, excellent lunches, and of course a wonderful group of very keen 'students'!

Project: Macaulay Heritage Gardens
Details: PEC MGs continue to maintain the gardens throughout the summer ….. and have a lot of fun in the gardens!

Many thanks to Susan Warrack for the photographs

Name: PEC Flooding Update
Details: Shorelines and neighbourhoods near the Bay of Quinte are still flooded and many streets are closed to traffic. Water levels in Lake Ontario remain at record highs for this time of year.

"The flood warning was put in place by Lower Trent Conservation on May 8 and will continue until at least August 25. The environmental agency says water levels have been dropping, since peaking at the end of May, but continued rainfall is slowing the process". (*Quintenews.com, July 14, 2017.)*

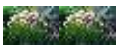
Many fields are not going to be planted this year at all due to the flooding.

Zwicks Park, Belleville, ON
With thanks to Michiel Duinker for the flooding photos.

Project: Wild Parsnip
Details: The invasive wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) has become increasingly troublesome in Ontario and throughout Prince Edward County. It is a very adaptable plant that can grow up to about 1.5 metres and spread in many conditions - open fields, along roadsides, hiking trails and agricultural land. The seeds are spread by wind, mowers and other equipment.

PEC MGs urge you to familiarize yourself with this plant which can cause painful burns to the skin. The sap of wild parsnip, once exposed to sunlight, causes the skin to itch, blister and burn; symptoms can last for several months. We are in the process of developing a plan to control wild parsnip in the County.

Please see our poster sent with this newsletter. For more information contact us at: pecmastergardeners@gmail.com
Or visit our website at: https://pecmastergardeners.com



Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Tour of the Ornamental Gardens and Arboretum at the Central Experimental Farm
Details: MGs Polly McColl, Diane McClymont Peace, Pat Beechey and Nancy McDonald (who are also Friends of the Central Experimental Farm) gave a tour of the Ornamental Gardens and Arboretum to the Peterborough Master Gardener Group, and others, as part of their bus tour to the Ottawa area.

Polly is giving details on the important horticultural history of the Farm

Name: Garden Consult
Details: MG Agnieszka Keough is doing a garden consult and checking damage on a Blue Spruce tree.

Peterborough Master Gardeners

Name: Peterborough Master Gardener Bus Tour
Dates: July 11-13, 2017
Details: This year, our annual MG Bus Tour adventure was a three-day affair in the Ottawa area – a delight because we could celebrate Canada's 150th year since Confederation!

We visited many different gardens and garden centres, starting with Rock Wall Gardens in Perth: www.rockwallgardens.com owned by Lanark County MG Judy Wall. There are several display gardens including Judy's favourites - alpines, rockery plantings, sedums, sempervivums, and veronicas.
They carry over 700 varieties of plants.

Next was Kiwi Gardens in Perth: www.kiwigardens.ca. There we had a wonderful tour with owner Paul Loiselle of his 10 acre garden featuring numerous mature beds, each of which showcases an array of spectacular perennials

Our final spot of the day was in Almonte at the award-winning White House Perennials: www.whitehouseperennials.com.
They were named by Gardening Life Magazine as one of the Top 40 Boutique Garden Nurseries in Canada.

Day 2 began with a stunning tour of Rideau Hall in Ottawa, the official residence and workplace of every Governor General (GG) since 1867: http://www.gg.ca/document.aspx?id=94.

We had a private tour of the house and, because of an MG connection, we were treated to a guided tour of the Heritage Rose Garden and an inside peek at the GG's private gardens behind the house, including a chat with Mark Burleton, Manager of Grounds and Greenhouses with the National Capital Commission.

Then it was across the Ottawa River to MosaiCanada, a most spectacular horticultural technique that combines the following different art forms:

- sculpture for the structure
- paint for the palette of colours
- horticulture as the means of creating living and changing artworks with plants.

http://www.gatineau2017.ca/mosaicanada-150gatineau-2017/

The theme reflects 150 years of history, values, culture and arts in Canada, represented by some 40 different arrangements.

Our afternoon was spent at the Central Experimental Farms: www.friendsofthefarm.ca. There we had a tour of both the Ornamental Gardens and Arboretum. Lots of sore feet after all that walking!

Our final day began with the Rideau Woodland Ramble: www.rideauwoodlandramble.com in Merrickville.

Specializing in rare and unusual conifers and hostas, they won the Canadian Garden Centre Destination of the Year award in 2015.

They were also featured in Canadian Gardening Magazine as one of Canada's top 20 nurseries.

This was followed by the Maitland Garden of Hope: www.maitlandgardenofhope.ca

This is a private 1.5 acre garden owned by Colleen O'Connell and David Cybulski, whose mission is to provide a garden habitat that will aid in the conservation and enjoyment of our native butterflies, birds and honeybees.

Last but not least we were excited to visit Ottawa-Carleton MG Mary Ann Van Berlo at Van Berlo Gardens: www.vanberlo.ca (also in Maitland).
There we had a wonderful tour of her private 2.4 acre property with extensive gardens. The emphasis is on tough plants that don't need pampering.

And this is what the back of a Master Gardener bus looks like!

Finally, thanks to our wonderful 2017 Bus Trip Committee: Joan Harding, Rachel Burrows, Gladys Fowler, Sharleen Pratt, and Joanne Windrem.
Who knows what next year will bring?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto

MG Volunteers Needed!

Susan Quirk, Mississauga Master Gardeners

Dates: Friday, August 18th – Monday, September 4th
Details: Check out what is on at the CNE that interests you and sign up for hours on that day or days. As per last year there are three times slots each day, and there is room for two MGs in each time slot. This makes a total of 6 volunteer openings per day.

To sign up for hours please send your request for hours and dates to me, Susan Quirk directly at: "organicsince16@gmail.com".
Once I insert your date(s) and time(s) into the schedule I will confirm with each person individually. Requests will be put on the schedule in the order I receive them. I will be sending out an updated schedule weekly until we are full.

Shirley Daniels needs to have names and dates by the **end of July** in order to get all the **free** entrance tickets in good time to send them out.

N.B. When you sign up please think about a possible person to replace you should anything happen last minute.

Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners

Name: Advice Tables
Murillo Fair
Hymers Fall Fair

Dates: August 19th – 20th, 2017
September 3rd – 4th, 2017

Details: Thunder Bay & District MGs will be hosting advice tables at Murillo Fair, hosted by Oliver Agricultural Society, on August 19th & 20th.
They will be hosting advice tables at Hymers Fall Fair on Labour Day weekend, September 3rd and 4th.

Etobicoke Master Gardeners & Humber Arboretum

Name: Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series – Pruning
Date: Saturday, September 23rd
Details: Hosted at the Centre for Urban Ecology, Humber Arboretum.

To register please visit humberarb.eventbrite.ca

Save the Date

Name: Coordinators' Conference
Date: Saturday, October 14th, 2017
Location: Landscape Ontario, Milton ON

London Middlesex Master Gardeners

Technical Update: Topic - We're Going Native
Date: October 15th, 2017, 9:00 am- 4:00 pm
Location: London Civic Garden Complex
625 Springbank Drive, London ON
Cost: Early Bird registration by Sept. 15th - $50 (After Sept. 15th - $60)

Registration Information:
Register online through our website:
www.londonmiddlesexmastergardeners.com

Ottawa-Carleton & Lanark County Master Gardeners

Technical Update (TU):

Topic: The Resilient Gardener
Date: October 21st, 2017
Location: Ottawa
Details: This TU is hosted jointly by the Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton and the Lanark County Master Gardeners.

Richters Herbs

Location: 357 Highway 47, Goodwood, ON L0C 1A0 (north of Toronto to the end of the 404, then east to Goodwood); Tel. 1.905.640.6677 Fax. 1.905.640.6641
Details: Richters Herbs is offering seminars at their greenhouse location this winter and throughout the year. For more information visit: https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=Events/events.html
Richters also offer free on-line seminars at: https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=events/events2016.html

The 2017 Richters catalogue is available, and is filled with culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs and seeds.

Employment Opportunities

Call for Instructors and Course Developers for Online Horticulture Program

University of Guelph, Open Learning and Educational Support

Open Learning and Educational Support (OpenEd) is recruiting instructors and course developers who can support the redevelopment of, and teach several courses in, the Horticulturist, Creating Landscapes, and Growing Plants for Profit certificate programs. We are seeking candidates with combined expertise in their respective field and a demonstrated commitment to teaching, learning, and student success.
Please visit the website www.guelphhort.com/opportunties for full descriptions of these opportunities.

Volunteer Opportunities
Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. MGOI)

Position: Director of Events
Timeframe: 2 years, October 2016 – October 2018 (potential to stay on until October 2022)
Description: Immediate opening for this rewarding Board position. The Director of Events has the privilege of providing vision and guidance for any event that welcomes MG volunteers from all over Ontario. Detailed procedures and timelines are available.

Teams for both Canada Blooms and the Coordinators' Conference are already in place, so year 1 would be a very leisurely acclimatization to the role.

Have more questions? I would be delighted to answer any questions at casey.vanandel@sympatico.ca.
Be warned! You'll have to be prepared for some gushing about how much fun and how being the Director of Events changed my life. It could change yours too!

Cochrane District Master Gardeners (CDMG)

Position: Co-host for Online Webinar
- Co-hosting a live internet webinar via Google Hangouts

Timeframe: Once, on a date of your choosing.
Description: If you have "Google Hangouts" on your internet device (home computer, iPad, Smartphone, etc.) and would like to co-host a live webinar to discuss your favourite gardening subject, this volunteering opportunity is perfect for you.

The Cochrane District Master Gardeners host a monthly YouTube Webinar (live and interactive) for the public. The hosts of the webinar connect via Google Hangout while the CDMG Coordinator displays a slideshow and link to a live chatroom, where the public can ask questions. You won't have to show your face online so don't worry about looking your best. What we need is your gardening expertise and a passion for the subject matter. You can broadcast from anywhere, as long as it is relatively quiet.

Information and photos, included in the Webinar, would be sent to the CDMG coordinator one week before the live show allowing her time to put the presentation together. Demonstration videos may also be included in the presentation as long as there is no audio; the hosts would provide the explanation for the video. A Google Hangout test would be done a couple of days before the event to work out any technical issues.

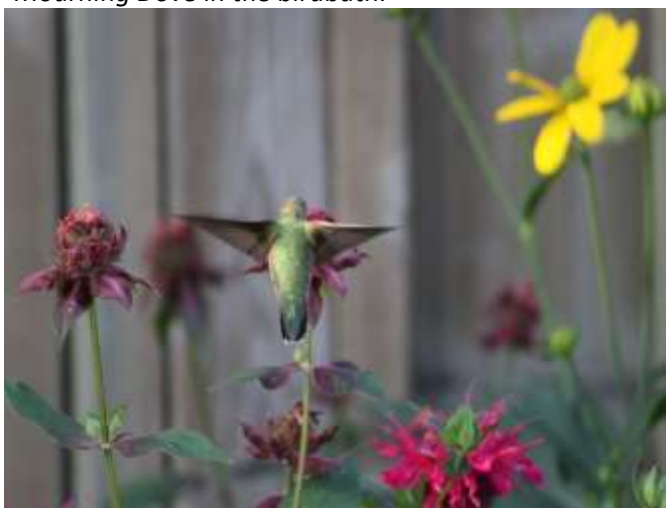
Total Volunteer Hours: Expect to earn one and a half volunteer hours to the public for the webinar, plus administration time for the Google Hangout test plus your own preparation time. For more information please contact the CDMG Coordinator, Pamela Dallaire, at pameladallaire@hotmail.com or via phone at 705-262-1506.

Summer Feature - Master Gardeners Gardens 2017

Is there an area of your garden that you particularly like – a colour combo, variation in textures, spectacular blossom, or something that worked particularly well? Send a picture for the August issue – include a caption explaining what the picture is and why it is special to you.

Lois Fowler, Toronto Master Gardener

What I love about my garden is the serenity I feel when I'm in it and the wild life it attracts. Here are two photos: one of a Hummingbird on Bee Balm, the other of a Mourning Dove in the birdbath.



I've also had foxes, a humming bird moth, chipmunks, cardinals, blue jays, and all sorts of little birds, not to mention the bees. I just love the action that takes place!

Pam Love, Durham Master Gardener

The Miracle of a Bulb

I received the bulb for this lily in my loot bag at the April 2016 International Master Gardener Conference at Deerhurst. It got misplaced when I came home, and I didn't find it and plant it until early October. It was so dried up by then I remember thinking I would give it a try, not really expecting to see anything. But here she is in all her beauty.

Dixie Szasz-Taylor, Etobicoke Master Gardener

An early June morning evoking the allure and magic of nature in a beautiful, wildlife-friendly, small urban garden. The lovely sculptural birdbath fountain is surrounded by deciduous and semi-evergreen azaleas and purple alliums in a border garden bed. A gravel path behind leads off to a shed in back and an arbor on the right, and hardly visible in the background is the essential chicken-wire, raccoon proofing.

Nancy Dattrino, Etobicoke Master Gardener

Here is my front urn which is red and white for Canada's 150th birthday.
The Fuchsia are the plugs that Shane Rajapakse, a fellow Etobicoke MG, brought to our plant sale.

This yellow flower is my Hibiscus that I put outside.
I love the raindrops on it.

Cathy Cribbs, Cochrane Master Gardener

Here is a picture of one flower on the rose hedge. I have masses of pink – different types – and will later have red, white, and yellow.

This picture is a shot under the tree where the Sweet Cicely (Myrrhis odorata) is blooming.
This is a very fragrant spot, and it's just nice to sit and read here, in a folding chair, on a hot day.

Judith Cox, Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardener

I enjoyed my lilies this year with no red lily beetles!

Anita O'Connell, Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardener
A lovely Iris pumila 'Orange'!

Judith Cox, Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardener
A glorious rose, the Morden Blush!

Amanda Carrigan, Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardener

Do you sometimes hunt out cultivars with names special to you? I planted Echinacea 'Julia' this year as it shares my cat's name. I love the orange-red colour with a bit of magenta in centre.

Julianne Labreche, Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardener

My bubbler rock is proving to be popular with visiting birds.

Angelina Singson, Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardener

I particularly like the maple shaped leaves of the Thimble Berry (Rubus parviflorus).

Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke Master Gardener

*I am particularly pleased with the hydrangeas this year – they are veritable blooming machines. Hydrangea macrophylla '*Shugert*' has produced spectacular flowers / bracts in shades of mauve and blue – a first for this plant. The orange in the background is H. macrophylla '*Next Generation Pistachio*'.*

*Darcy dog is more impressed with the Calamagrostis x acutiflora '*Karl Foerster*' which is looking quite ragged with wear (and tear).*