



Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Inside

MGOI

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, Prince Edward Cty
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, Lake Simcoe South
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 & Anne Bossart, Muskoka-Parry Sound
MG Advice Clinic Manager for Canada Blooms: Christine Spence, Etobicoke
Manager of MG Participation in Canada Blooms: Adrienne Hanbidge, Toronto

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INSIDE MGOI
Newsletter of the
Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

July 2018

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke

Milestones

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

10 Year Anniversaries

Ray Bielaskie – joined November 2008
Agustin Gonzalez – joined November 2008
Shane Rajapakse – joined October 2008
Suzanne Zacharczyk – joined September 2008

New Master Gardener in Training

Lesia Szyca – Joined May 2018
Welcome Lesia!



Durham County Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training

Nick Boileau
Welcome Nick!



Ottawa – Carleton Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved

Claire McCaughey



A Moment for Membership



Help Us Cultivate Membership Committees

A message from MGOI Membership Director Pam Love (Durham Region Master Gardeners)

Good day Master Gardeners of Ontario!

Background: In 2015, member groups voted to reorganize the MGOI board so that directors would be elected to fulfill a specific responsibility, such as Education, Communications, Membership, Operations or Regional support. We knew it would be a work in progress and adjustments would have to be made as we grew into the roles.

**My area is Membership. We have some Membership ideas in the works but we need HELP!!!
Will you volunteer to be on one of the Membership committees?**

Working like this:



beats this!!



Some benefits of taking on a committee role are similar to taking on a gardening project: it shares the responsibility and gives us more opportunities to bond and grow.

We need 3 – 4 team players to help and support **each** of the following committees:

1) Resources for Coordinators and Support for Regional Directors (one person is already helping)

I am taking the lead on this committee. I need the help and support of a team to:

- Maintain and create resources for coordinators such as “The Journey Begins”, and the “Mentor Guide” that we introduced last year
- Run ideas by and get ideas from
- Support and be a resource for regional directors/coordinators in dealing with group or member issues

Good listeners and communicators, anyone with experience dealing with personnel, HR experience, people managers, past coordinator or officer in another volunteer organization, or people wishing to develop these skills would be good candidates.

2) Reward and Recognition of Members and Groups

Karen Sciuk, Co-Regional Director South West (Kitchener Master Gardeners) has agreed to take the lead in this area. She needs the support of a committee who will:

- Make recommendations for recognition of 35 and 40 year milestones, etc. (note: the administration of the pins and badges is handled by another volunteer)
- Administer Board Nominations for the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards (Karen did this last year and will mentor a new volunteer)
- Make recommendations for recognition gifts for coordinators at the Coordinators’ Conference
- Administer the “Good News to Grow On” program with the support of the Treasurer
- Survey members to identify other forms of reward and recognition

Past coordinators, cheerleaders, anyone with experience in motivating or managing people or sales would be good candidates, as would people wishing to develop these skills.

3) Growth – marketing ideas to attract new members (1 person has indicated interest)

Kathleen Gorsline, Regional Director North (Lake Simcoe South Master Gardeners), has agreed to take the lead in this area. She needs the support of a committee to:

- Develop and execute marketing strategies, review existing and generate new promotional materials, and examine current and future social media participation to promote the growth of awareness of and membership in the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Creative thinkers and anyone with advertising or sales and marketing experience would be good candidates, as would people wishing to develop these skills.

If you can help us make our organization stronger, bigger and better please contact one the following ASAP so we can get ideas growing.

Pam at: pamlovenews@gmail.com

Karen at: karen.sciuk@teksavvy.com

Kathleen at: gorsline@sympatico.ca

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Pam Love, Director of Membership



The President's Corner: The Master Gardener Network

One of the stated benefits of being a Master Gardener is to “Meet and volunteer with enthusiastic like-minded people who are willing to share their horticultural knowledge, gardening interests, and passion for gardening.” Well this summer I really took advantage of those benefits!

June 16th Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors usually has two in-person meetings a year. With construction going on at Landscape Ontario, we had to look elsewhere for a meeting place. Luckily, the Executive Board Room at the Royal Botanical Gardens was available and, best of all, free! The high-backed swivel office chairs and oval mahogany table made me feel kind of special, and the computer connection to the large plasma TV was not too shabby at all!

We discussed a number of matters such as the upcoming Coordinators' Conference, reward and recognition of members, and developing and centrally providing resources for our members.

Our Board consists of members from about 10 of our current 30 groups, so decisions well represent the interests of our members. Our current focus is to increase overall membership in order to ensure the viability of our organisation.

I'm amazed at how much I've learned by working collaboratively with such talented individuals. I feel privileged to be part of the leadership of our organisation and proudly count many directors and coordinators as friends - that's a real plus of working with great people.



Board of Directors lunch at the RBG café - look at all those smiling faces!

*On the left-Regional Director Central Katherine Mathewson, Corporate Secretary Terri Briggs, Regional Director East Sue Flinders-Adams, Director of Communications Kelly Noel.
On the right-Regional Director North Kathleen Gorsline talking to RD South-West Karen Sciuk, Director of Membership Pam Love, President Claudette Sims, and (partially visible - Treasurer Cathy Thompson, Director of Education June Streadwick, Director of Operations Suzanne Zacharczyk)*



You know you're a Master Gardener when you carry gardening gloves in your purse! (L-R, Kelly, Kathleen and Karen)



July 14th – 15th Niagara Workshops - my first, but not my last!

Did you know that the Niagara two-day workshops are offered exclusively for Master Gardeners of Ontario? This was my first time at the workshops and I was very impressed with the overall experience - from June Streadwick's smiling face greeting us with her clipboard in hand, to the delicious lunches and great networking with Master Gardeners who attended from near and far. The workshop leaders, Tanya Blankenburg, Darrell Bley, and Kris Mahoney bring extensive horticultural experience to this educational weekend event. I chose *Four Season Vegetable Gardening* and learned a ton of interesting things from Tanya, who has worked with commercial growers and in research and development, including:

- When you pull root crops, the root and root hairs aerate the soil, so don't fill the hole in.
- Dust plants affected by the white cabbage moth with all-purpose flour to control the cabbage looper caterpillar - do this in the morning when plants are dewy so the flour sticks.
- When harvesting food, cut rather than tear leaves and fruit to prevent disease and pests from entering damaged plant tissue.
- Add 2 Tbsp. of milk powder in the planting hole of tomatoes to add calcium to the soil.
- Sprinkle Epsom salts on the soil around roses to make the leaves glossy.
- Cardamom makes a great houseplant!



Tanya, who has the rapt attention of our group, seems to be growing out of the veggie patch herself!

My Sunday workshop was *Practical Insect ID – The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* with Kris. Given the complexity and diversity of insects, this is an impossible topic to cover in one day. But I did appreciate Kris's overview of some insect orders focusing on the meanings behind the names. Many insect orders include the suffix "ptera" which means "wings":

- Coleoptera = "sheath wings" → beetle
- Lepidoptera = "scale wings" → butterfly and moth
- Hymenoptera = "membrane wings" → ant, bee, wasp
- Diptera = "two wings" (rather than 4 wings) → fly, mosquito
- Hemiptera = "half wings" → bug
- Neuroptera = "nerve wings" → lacewing



This perspective helped me to focus on just one physical aspect in order to give a starting point to insect ID.

The last part of the workshop focused on the “ugly” - a growing number of non-native invasive insects that we should all be able to recognize: [Emerald Ash Borer](#), [Hemlock Woolly Adelgid](#), Marmorated Stink Bug, [Spotted Lanternfly](#), [Asian Longhorn Beetle](#) and many more. A comprehensive list can be found at this [Canada Food Inspection Agency](#) link.

July 21st Halton Master Gardeners BBQ

Halton MGs hold a yearly BBQ in the garden of a member, and this year we were welcomed to David Marshall’s diverse garden in Oakville. David is a long-time MG, has attended numerous Niagara workshops and is an encyclopedia of knowledge. A change of pace from our monthly meetings, this occasion includes spouses and allows us to get to know each other better. I’ve been a member of this group since 2004 and cherish the new and ongoing friendships that have sprouted from this group. Topics of conversation included gardening (of course) and David’s garden (what’s that flower?), the weather (too dry), interests (golf, food, summer), politics (scary), and promises to get together for “a nursery run” before the end of summer!



[A smiling David Marshall hosting our yearly BBQ in his garden](#)

Share Your Passion & Make a Difference

If you haven’t taken advantage of all of these “stated benefits” of being a Master Gardener, you’re really missing out. Volunteering for a position in your local group will develop your skills and make you feel part of the success of your group. Signing up for one of the many educational opportunities will grow your knowledge in horticulture. “Many hands make light work” is true when you volunteer to help out as part of a provincial committee. At the Niagara workshops I was thrilled that three new people told me they wanted to help out with membership at the provincial level. 😊

Stepping up to a role on the Board of Directors will ensure the future success of our organization for all Master Gardener groups. You can do it - because Master Gardeners are there to support you and welcome you into a new circle of “enthusiastic like-minded people with a passion for gardening”!

Claudette Sims, President MGOI



Durham Master Gardeners Event Planning

Durham MGs (DMG) are a small group of 18 members who will be participating in 74 volunteer events throughout Durham Region in 2018. By inviting speakers to five of our eight yearly meetings, our members become informed about many diverse topics related to horticulture in a social setting while obtaining their Continuing Education Units (CEUs). We often invite our community partners to our speaker series, in the hope of growing our membership while sharing our events.

We are delighted that Lorraine Johnson will be speaking at our upcoming open house and thought her presentation would be a wonderful opportunity for an open house event with our community partners. It promises to be an informative and exciting evening for everyone involved. We felt that by sharing how we organized the event, it might help our affiliated groups plan their events. Our objectives are to highlight our work in the community as well as promote the benefits of membership in the DMG.

The planning started at our April general meeting where members were canvassed to help organize the event. We compiled a list of 10 volunteers who expressed interest in various elements of the planning: registration, publicity, advertising, set up, and refreshments. The planning group met in June, focusing on finding a venue, preparing the advertising and planning event details. As the emphasis was on sustainability, we invited like-minded vendors from local businesses, sustainability coordinators from regional environmental groups, and garden clubs. Committee members were allocated tasks to complete by July 4th, our next planning meeting. During this time, we chose wording and artwork for the brochures and tickets, invitation lists were collected, a venue was rented, and online ticket sales initiated.

A month later we met again, with a clear focus on how to proceed. Artwork was ordered. We found volunteers to distribute infocards throughout the community. We chose volunteers to set up and man information displays about our endeavors, and to solicit door prizes from local businesses, partners and our members. At the time of writing, we are well along in implementing our action plan, and will continue to update everyone in the MGOI newsletter, space permitting.

After three decades of gardening—and almost as long writing about it—Lorraine Johnson still gets excited (and unrealistic!) every spring about the amount of space she has in her small city front and back yards. So she regularly scrounges space from others: in community gardens, at family members' houses, even city parks... Her interests are mainly in the ways that growing plants (for food, for environmental benefits) nurtures the good in ourselves and the world. She views gardening as a deep and meaningful conversation with the planet. Johnson was the president of the North American Native Plant Society and is the author of numerous books on gardening and environmental issues, including *The New Ontario Naturalized Garden*, *The Gardener's Manifesto*, and *City Farmer: Adventures in Urban Food Growing*. Lorraine is much-in-demand throughout North America as a garden speaker on native plants. She currently lives in Toronto.



Open House Durham Master Gardeners Learn How to One

Featuring Guest Speaker, Author & Avid Gardener

Lorraine Johnson

"Tending the Earth - How our Gardens Can Change the World"

Thursday September 27, 2018

6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

at

King Sreet Community Church, 611 King St West, Oshawa ON

Book Signing, Refreshments, Vendors, Displays and Door Prizes

DUE TO LIMITED SEATING REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Register at www.durhammastergardeners.ca or contact
info@durhammastergardeners.ca

Cost \$10



Master Gardeners Out & About: Projects & Events

Guelph & Wellington Master Gardeners

Name: Courtyard Garden Rejuvenation

Details: Diane Marchese, Joanne Garnett and Inger Knudsen of the Guelph & Wellington Master Gardeners group helped some residents of the Stone Lodge retirement community rejuvenate their courtyard garden in June. We held a talk on the benefits of planting an herb garden in their existing raised bed along with tomatoes, peppers and the use of companion plantings. We then guided the residents as they planted up everything throughout their courtyard. Smiles, laughs and gratitude were received from the residents for the advice and time spent with the master gardeners (and we were pretty happy with our experience seeing horticultural therapy in action!).



L-R, Joanne Garnett and Diane Marchese with resident Dao happy with the completion of the raised herb garden



Joanne Garnett listening to the resident as she helps her with a container



A Stone Lodge resident who enjoyed getting into the planting up of the herb garden



The Herb Garden



G & W MGs Inger Knudsen, left and Joanne Garnett, right stand beside the residents' completed raised bed



Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Fairy Garden Workshop

Details: On Saturday June 23, during Garden Days, MGs of Ottawa-Carleton hosted fairy garden workshops that delighted young participants and those who accompanied them. Thanks to MG Judith Cox, children learned ways to attract fairies and created their own unique fairy garden to take home. For those of you who don't know about fairies, their gardens are actually pollinator gardens. It was a fun teaching moment as children planted small, pollinator-friendly gardens complete with their own miniature bee baths. The 2 pictures below display the creativity of the young participants.



Name: The Opportunity to Be an 'Armchair Mayor'

Details: MGs of Ottawa-Carleton were asked if one of us would write a 500-word opinion piece during the run up to our municipal elections that would be featured in the Ottawa Citizen. MG Julianne Labreche accepted the challenge and here is the link to her article on making Ottawa a 'Bee City'.

<https://ottawacitizen.com/opinion/columnists/armchair-mayor-make-ottawa-a-bee-city>

Name: MG Polly McColl Work at Macoun Garden, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa

Details: Polly McColl, as well as being a founding member of the MGs of Ottawa-Carleton, is also a very committed volunteer with the Friends of the Central Experimental Farm. Polly's latest work included drawing up a plan for part of the revised Macoun Gardens. Her plan was approved by Agriculture Canada and you may enjoy reading about this project in the Friends of the Farm latest newsletter. <http://friendsofthefarm.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SUMMER-2018-Vol30-No3.pdf>

Other: Fifi and Friends

Details: No, it's not a picture of gardens but a picture of MG Judith Cox's beloved chickens - also beloved by some who receive manure from Fifi and friends! When visiting on a member tour at Judith's on a very hot day we noticed the chicken enclosure had a wooded area for the chickens to roam and get needed shade. Judith, when planning her chicken enclosure remembered visiting Anstace and Larry Esmonde-White's gardens in the past and how they had a wooded area as part of their chicken enclosure. We get so many ideas from visiting and sharing and that's a great reason to visit member gardens!



Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: Prince Edward County Horticultural Society Garden Tour

Date: June 24, 2018

Details: It's always a treat to be invited into someone's garden and although this was not an MG event, several MGs did go on this tour. The weather was on and off all day but that's never stopped a group of curious MGs!

It was a great day and of course I always learn something when I visit other gardens!



Lise Bois (on the right in the photo), President of the Prince Edward County Horticultural Society with PEC MG Ren Duinker touring Lise's vast gardens



The pond in Lise Bois' garden



This is a Buff Beauty Rose in another garden we toured, Rose Cottage Studio in Picton



Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens & School of Horticulture Workshops

Dates: Saturday & Sunday, July 14 & 15

Details: Five EMG MGs attended the three sessions in Niagara Falls, Ontario, choosing two of three workshops on offer:

- Practical Insect ID – The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
- Climate Change: The Horticultural Implications and Approaches to Success
- Four Season Vegetable Gardening

These were intensive full day workshops and included a catered lunch.



Ontario MGs hungry for lunch!



Insect display cases



Here are a few pictures of Ontario MGs in full learning mode.

Practical Insect ID



Ontario MGs are raptly listening to Ken as he speaks about the truly ugly insects and the damage they cause. These are stations set-up throughout the grounds to demonstrate the damage done
Photos: Paivi Evars, EMG

Climate Change

Darrell speaks about people-assisted migration of species into new territories. Seed collection and distribution play a prominent role in this area.



Darrell Bley spoke about some of the impacts of climate change on insect, animal and plant distribution. Many plants and trees are migrating into new growing areas.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Toronto Botanical Gardens

Name: Zimsculpt

Dates: August 3 - September 30, 2018

Details: A FREE outdoor, dazzling exhibition and SALE of hand carved stone sculptures by contemporary Zimbabwean artists will be displayed throughout the gardens. There will be demonstrations, sales, night events, etc. Visit:

<https://torontobotanicalgarden.ca/enjoy/special-events/zimsculpt/>

2018 National Extension Master Gardener Coordinators Conference

Dates: August 6-9, 2018

Location: Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Details: This year's conference for group coordinators is a great mix of learning and networking opportunities. Our guest speakers and selected coordinators will be presenting on topics ranging from program development to diversity and inclusion.

We have also very intentionally built in ample space and time for networking and brainstorming with peers and colleagues from coast to coast.

Everything you need to know is online

<https://fyi.uwex.edu/emg2018/>.

Registration is currently open and is \$300 per person U.S. after June 1.

You can register online

at: <https://fyi.uwex.edu/emg2018/registration/>.

Lodging information is also available on the website.



Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: Canadian National Exhibition (CNE)

Date: August 17 to Sept 3, 2018

Details:

Hello Master Gardeners,

We are still planning for the summer event of the year! The CNE runs from August 17th to September 3rd this year, and Master Gardeners will be there again. Just like last year we will have two places for Master Gardeners for each of three time slots: 10:00am-1:00pm; 1:00pm-4:00pm; and 4:00pm-7:00pm. There are still a few spots open; this is ideal for getting in more advice hours if you need them.

The CNE means entertainment, concerts, shopping and fun for the whole family. You will get your free admittance ticket so stay and enjoy the day and evening. A final sign-up sheet went out to all coordinators on July 27th.

Hope to see you there!

Co-coordinators Shirley Daniels and Susan Quirk



Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Eco-Garden Community Workshop Series - Birds, Bees and Veggies

Date: Saturday, August 18th, 2018, 10 am – noon

Details: Hosted at the Centre for Urban Ecology, Humber Arboretum. Future workshops will take place on Nov. 17, Jan. 19, Feb. 23 and Apr. 13, 2019. Stay tuned. To register please visit: humberarb.eventbrite.ca



Durham Master Gardeners

Name: Durham Master Gardeners Open House

Date: September 27, 2018 in Oshawa

Details: Featuring Lorraine Johnson as the keynote speaker (please see page 7's event planning article).



Open House
Durham Master Gardeners
Learn How to  One

Featuring Guest Speaker, Author & Avid Gardener
Lorraine Johnson
"Tending the Earth - How our Gardens Can Change the World"

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Register at www.durhammastergardeners.ca or contact
info@durhammastergardeners.ca
Cost \$10

COORDINATORS – MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

2018 Coordinators' Conference

Date: October 13, 2018

Location: Bethel Church in Waterdown, ON

Details: They have a large parking lot, well lit hall and large kitchen. More details to come.

Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

Name: Edible Landscapes: Kingston Home Gardeners Conference

Date: Saturday October 27, 2018

Details: Special guest Diana Beresford-Kroeger (author of *The Call of the Forest: The Forgotten Wisdom of Trees*) will attend. Topics covered are featured in the green box.



EDIBLE LANDSCAPES
Saturday October 27, 2018
9am-1pm (Registration - 8:30am - \$25)
Christ Church Parish Centre
990 Sydenham Road

**Kingston Home
Gardeners Conference**

with special guest
Diana Beresford-Kroeger,
world renowned author,
medical biochemist &
botanist

TOPICS:
Converting lawns to new gardens – 2 easy methods
Unusual varieties & germinating & saving your seeds
Edible mushrooms and wild plants in the garden
Why and which trees for our area?
Making your own fertilizer – new insights on how to make great compost
New approaches to pruning fruit trees
Edible perennial polycultures, mimicking forests & permaculture design

FOR MORE INFO & TO REGISTER:
[www. Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners .com](http://www.Rideau1000IslandsMasterGardeners.com)

Richters Herbs

Details: Richters Herbs offers seminars at their greenhouse location throughout the year. For more information visit:

https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=../events/event_s.html&cart_id=2154123.16186. They also offer free on-line seminars at:

https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=events/events_2016.html. The 2018 Richters catalogue, filled with culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs and seeds, is available.



Special Summer Feature – the Gardens of Ontario Master Gardeners

Calling all MGs – we would like to feature a photo of YOUR garden in the August issue. Please send a photo to newsletter@mgoi.ca. Include your name, group and a caption telling us what we are seeing!

Carol Mccollum, Thunder Bay Master Gardeners



This planter contains Gaura and Zinnias. It was supposed to be Gaura and cream zinnias, however some of the cream zinnias aren't the right shade of cream. I love it anyway!

Carol Mccollum, Thunder Bay Master Gardeners



As a volunteer, I look after a large inner courtyard garden at the Thunder Bay Regional Hospital that is utilized by patients, staff and visitors from May to October. One end of the large courtyard is near the windows for paediatrics (three levels of patient rooms look down onto the courtyard, and it is fully accessible to all). The nurses in the paediatric oncology department brought in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs which are easily seen from the kids' rooms. Snow White is growing in the Siberian Irises, and Sleepy is having a nap in the perennial geranium 'Biokovo'. The rest are scattered throughout the garden (and move frequently!)

Nancy Dattrino, Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke Master Gardeners



I love the way *Clematis* 'Betty Corning' falls over the back-laneway fence.



My Big Daddy Hosta surrounding Gareth the Gargoyle.



Marina Dimitriadis (MGIT), Lake Simcoe South Master Gardeners



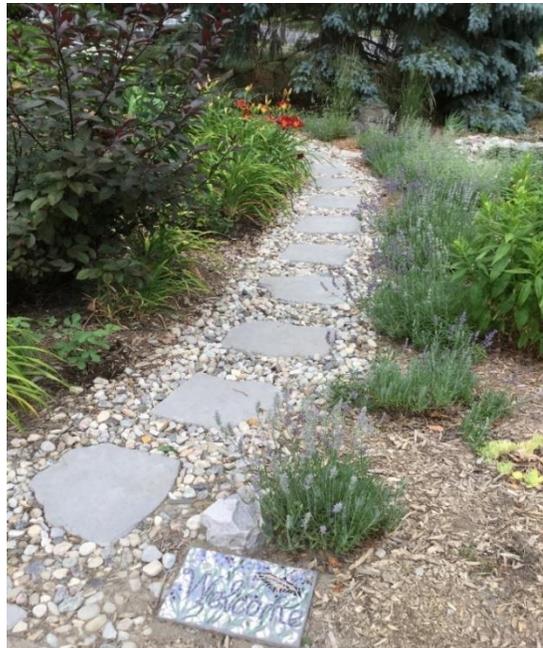
Chris Spence, Etobicoke Master Gardeners



These are my favourite container tomatoes ('Lizzano'). In the foreground are some *Acidanthera* just coming into bloom.



Julianne Labreche, Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardeners



Despite the hot, dry summer bees, birds, butterflies and other creatures are busy in my wildlife-certified garden.

These are 2 photos of part of my front garden: zebra grass, periwinkle, serviceberry, astilbe and coralbells in 1 photo and in the other photo (the other side of the path) are hicks yew, serviceberry, periwinkle, Japanese spurge and astilbe. The gardens are coming in beautifully and we are so pleased!



Lynda Lahtenmaa, Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners



One of the dimensions of gardening pleasures is sharing the beauty and spirit of our garden.



Pond with three *Nymphaea* 'Comanche' water lilies in bloom and more to come. Have had this lily for over 10 years and it never disappoints!

Dixie Szasz-Taylor, Etobicoke Master Gardeners



The top photo features our crowded, wildlife-friendly garden May 24th, just before the EMG plant sale. The ITOH peony has since been taken out and replaced it with a soft purple, dwarf Buddleia (bottom photo). The Itoh was too big, bloomed for only a short time, and didn't seem to attract many pollinators.



A Red Admiral butterfly is enjoying the new Buddleia.

