Inside MGOI

Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

Welcome to the August 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 and activities, short member profiles, upcoming events such as regional technical updates – anything about the functioning and happenings 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.

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Cover photo courtesy of Thunder Bay Master Gardeners.

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INSIDE MGOI
Newsletter of the
Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

August 2019

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke

Milestones

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Master Gardener Status Achieved
Candace Dressler

New Master Gardeners in Training
Andrew Arcello
Sue Schlatter
Frank Reid

Simcoe County Master Gardeners

Profile – Simcoe County Master Gardeners
We are a small group scattered all over Simcoe County. It is difficult for us all to get together especially in the winter months, but we are busy with events in our own areas.

Gail Cocker, Stephanie Brash and Charlotte Vorstermans host "The Gardener Is In" at the weekly farmer's market in Creemore, Ontario. Questions are varied, from 'what plant is this?' to 'what's wrong with my tree or shrub?' and of course, 'what is this weed'?

In July, half of our group, that is 6 members, attended the 2019 MGOI Workshop in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Our group attends many seminars and other educational opportunities to further enhance our skills.

L to R: MGs Tracy Bosley, Stephanie Brash, Inez Mitchell, Joan Nieman-Agapas, Pat Duncan, Charlotte Vorstermans

The Group has been involved in creating a heritage garden at the Simcoe County Museum. This is an ongoing project, and in the spring and fall we meet early at this garden to do some general maintenance and to see how it is progressing.

On June 22nd, 2019, we held an information session for Garden Ontario week at the Simcoe County Museum in Minesing ON.

L to R: MGs Inez Mitchell, Joan Nieman-Agapas, Charlotte Vorstermans, Pat Duncan, Linda Peacock, & Stephanie Brash

Haliburton Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training
Lee Ann Hobson
Lauren Forbes
Lori Andersen
Will Petersen

Thank you all!

292 Master Gardeners Completed the Survey!

46% of Master Gardeners 35% of Master Gardeners in Training

You most love learning, sharing your knowledge and passion for gardening!

70% plan to be around for at least 5 more years!

75% are tech savvy and 75% would like to be mentors!

So many ideas from hundreds of comments!

We need your help to put your ideas into action!

56 people expressed interest in the Board!
Where are you? We need you!

Contact Membership@mgoi.ca
Your Regional Director, Coordinator, or Board members

Special thanks to Suzanne Zacharczyk who facilitated the Survey Monkey.

Thanks to Sue Flinders-Adams for alerting us that the email got lost on the way to some members. We arranged to send them a special link so 20 more people could take part.

Thanks to Dale Odorozzi for advising some members were not on email so we could arrange for paper based surveys to be mailed – we received 6 more.

Master Gardeners Out & About:
Projects & Events

Simcoe County Master Gardeners

Name: Garden Walk Buffalo

Details: Simcoe County and Georgian Bay Master Gardeners recently journeyed on a three day trip to visit some of the most beautiful gardens that Buffalo, New York has to offer. For 25 years garden enthusiasts in the Buffalo city area have been getting together and presenting their gardens for public viewing every Thursday and Friday in the month of July. With over 400 gardens available, these travelling garden lovers visited 15 gardens in just three days.

One garden in particular, Smug Creek near Hamburg, New York, hit the sweet spot with shady gardens full of beautiful Hostas in peak performance. Owned and cared for by Mike and Kathy Shadrack, hundreds of Hostas were on display not only in the gardens but in pots of all shapes and sizes. Here the Master Gardeners caught Michael Shadrack for a photo opportunity and book signing.

Needless to say, these Master Gardeners were smiling widely for three days of garden hopping and beautiful, sunny weather.

L to R: Anne Bossart (Georgian Bay MG), Michael Shadrack (Smug Creek owner), Joan Nieman-Agapas (Simcoe County MG) and Tracy Bosley (Georgian Bay MG)

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Name: MGOI Summer Workshops

Details: The Niagara Parks School of Horticulture puts together a good program for Master Gardeners, and the workshops were great again this year. A few of the students volunteer to serve as clean-up people for the dining room and they are courteous and attentive. The school staff prepare all the snacks and meals for us – fresh and tasty!

MGs Cathy Thompson, left with Alex Wiens

The programs are run by school teaching staff who are very knowledgeable, enthusiastic, interesting to listen to and open to questions.

Cathy attended workshops this year on 'Developing Defenses for Diabolical Diseases' and 'Plant Adaptations'. 'Diabolical Diseases' was about the various diseases plants get. When we walked the grounds of the School, we looked at diseases on trees and roses especially. We talked about identifying diseases, how they are caused, and how plants are adapting to build defenses against them. We also heard about what the School is doing in the rose garden to reduce the incidence of disease, given the strict limitations on the use of chemicals, by testing varieties for disease resistance and choosing to plant only those that appear to thrive in the garden. We also heard of new and upcoming diseases headed for Ontario, how they are being tracked, the damage they will cause and the attempts to defeat them.

'Plant Adaptations' was also an interesting day. The workshop was about the different ways plants (including trees and shrubs) protect themselves from harmful insects and attract pollinators.

We also looked at how the same type of tree (e.g. oaks) varies from location to location – zone, soil type it grows in, etc. We used a type of microscope to look at defense mechanisms, thorns, prickles, etc. All in all a very interesting day as well!

Workshop fees are very reasonable given the quality of the workshops, however the travel costs of staying in the Niagara region for 2 nights and the gas for getting there and back adds up. MGOI gave MGs $60 if we stayed for the full 2 days to help defray travel costs – helpful indeed!

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: The Victorian Tea

Details: It was a lovely day for a proper Victorian Tea, including Victorian costumes, food, and flowers. Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton (MGOC) Past Coordinator Nancy McDonald and current Coordinator Julianne Labreche were invited in July to help out with this event, organized by the Friends of the Central Experimental Farm.

Many Master Gardeners in Ottawa, including Nancy and Julianne, are members of both groups. For years, MGOC has partnered with Friends of the Central Experimental Farm on numerous events, including the annual MG lecture series.

MGs Nancy McDonald (left) and Julianne Labreche (right) dressed in their Victorian costumes

Name: Gardening for Wellness Workshop

Details: MG Rebecca Last organized a 'Gardening for Wellness' workshop in early spring at Natural Resources Canada. About twenty participants received soil, containers, seeds and plants. Several MGOC MGs helped these new gardeners plant the containers destined to supply many luncheon salad greens for the hot summer days ahead.

MG Rebecca Last (middle) with two federal government participants

Name: Environment Day

Details: In June, MGOC were invited to the first Canada Border Services Agency's Environment Day which took place beside the beautiful Rideau River. Although it was chilly, the sun shone and a large number of employees turned up for the outside activities. There was a constant stream of people asking a range of questions, from choosing trees to gardening on balconies.
MG Claire Leduc did a fine job of organizing the event for MGOC.

MGs Josie Pazdzior (left) and Catherine Disley (right) helping out at Environment Day

Georgian Bay Master Gardeners

Name: Garden Centres Crawl &
22nd Annual (and final) Artful Garden in Bracebridge
Details: Georgian Bay Master Gardeners (GBMG) spent Saturday, August 10th on the road checking out the wonderful garden centres in the area as well as the 22nd Annual (and final) Artful Garden in Bracebridge.

The Artful Garden has been inviting the public into their garden every year for three weeks over July and August for 22 years. The garden owners are retiring from the garden open house/artwork sale and this is their final year. The GBMGs wasted no opportunity to make the trip to Bracebridge for the final show and were not disappointed with the blooms. The gardens were gorgeous with an abundance of fall blooming perennials and a rainbow of annuals, plus plenty of pollinator-friendly plants such as *Asclepias*. The gardens are a beautiful backdrop for the plentiful artwork that is set up in the garden each year showcasing everything from interesting iron garden ornaments and stained glass to creative pottery pieces. All artwork is for sale while the show is on.

Left to right: MGs Barbara Jackson, Fran Stewart, Anne Bossart, Tracy Bosley

While on the road these plant-seeking MGs stopped at the Port Carling Garden Centre, the Windermere Garden Centre, and Sandhill Nursery. Needless to say the cars were full of plants for the trip back to Parry Sound and these MGs were eagerly planning where their purchases would be planted.

Lanark County Master Gardeners

Name: Annual Garden Tour
Details: Every year, Lanark County MGs go on a garden tour. We visit gardens within 1-2 hours from us, sometimes visiting one or two gardens but always stopping for lunch. In the past, we have always focused on ornamental gardens. This year, we visited two community gardens in Lanark County.

For the past three years, we have donated money to these two community gardens to help them with special projects: planting fruiting shrubs and improving watering systems. The money for these projects has come in part from the MGOI "Good News to Grow On".

In addition to visiting these gardens, we also visited Indian Creek Orchard Farm where food is grown to support the CSA (Community Sponsored Agriculture) program. The day was sunny and hot but all agreed it was a very worthwhile learning experience!

Lanark County MGs: Gerda Franssen, Ottawa MG Joan McNab, Victor Wark, Judith Wall, Rennai Rennick, Kathleen Lang, Kevin Long, Helen Halpenny, Dale Odorizzi, Paul Pietsch

Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners

Name: Annual Peterborough Bus Trip!

Details: Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners had another successful two-day bus trip to the Hamilton and Guelph areas on July 9th and 10th. We began our tour at Gage Park in Hamilton. We enjoyed a stroll through their Rose Garden and had a very interesting tour through the tropical greenhouse. We learned about cycads and bromeliads. We continued our tour to Northland Nurseries for some shopping therapy and then enjoyed the 8-acre home of Inger Knudsen, coordinator of the Guelph Master Gardeners. Rows of several varieties of poppies were in full bloom!

Tropical Greenhouse Garden
Gage Park, Hamilton

After a lovely dinner at Miijidaa Café and a restful night at the Fairfield Inn & Suites in Guelph, we started Day 2 with a tour through the Guelph University Arboretum.

We wandered through the Gosling Gardens and then casually walked the trails to explore the many rare and beautiful trees.

The Arboretum
Guelph University

We then made our way over to the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. Who knew there were so many different kinds of turf and so much to study. The trial gardens were full of many wonderful annuals and perennials, all in a beautiful setting on the hills around Guelph!

Trial Gardens
Turf grass Institute, Guelph

After that we went to another private garden created by Robert Pavlis, owner of Aspen Grove Gardens. His artistic skills came through in the design which included a Japanese Tea House and a variety of statues! Our final stop was at Grobe's Nursery, which gave us another chance for retail therapy.

Aspen Grove Gardens
Robert Pavlis, Guelph

After another wonderful dinner at Mondello's restaurant, we arrived home in Peterborough with a bus full of plants and many wonderful memories to share!

Toronto Master Gardeners

Name: New Endeavour – 'Vault: Exchange'
Details: This summer Toronto Master Gardeners (TMG) were excited to team with the Ontario Science Centre to provide volunteers at an exhibit created by artist Dornith Doherty entitled **'Vault: Exchange'**. It comprised 5,000 X-ray images of seeds – the total number needed to preserve a species – housed within a transparent vault-like structure installed at the Science Centre. The exhibit was designed to prompt active participation during seed exchange events. Visitors were invited to remove an X-ray photograph from the vault's walls and replace it with a glassine envelope holding a single Canadian seed. From April until August, the vault-like structure changed from representational to actual, and from dark to light. Viewers were encouraged to examine their responsibility as global citizens while reflecting on the monumental effort required to safeguard botanical biodiversity. At the end of the exhibition, the 5,000 seeds will be donated to the Toronto Botanical Garden Seed Library.

TMG Georgie Kennedy in front of the exhibit. (Photo courtesy of the OSC)

Our volunteers were there to provide information about biodiversity and seed saving, as well as give horticultural advice. They interacted with people of all ages, encouraging visitors young and old to think about where food comes from, how it is grown and what happens if a species becomes extinct. This was the first time TMGs had teamed with the Science Centre – we hope it's not the last! For more information about the exhibit see: https://www.dornithdoherty.com/vaultexchange

Grey County Master Gardeners

Name: Self Indulgence Day
Date: July 29th, 2019
Details: Every year we reward ourselves for all our hard work with a day of doing things just for ourselves. Being gardeners, the day often includes a visit to a garden of some sort. This year the day started with a trip to a Bruce County lavender farm, "Essentially Lavender", and was followed by a walk in the Greenock Wetland.

After lunch and a visit to the Cargill Information Centre for a talk about the Wetlands, we adjourned to the "farm" owned by MG Brad Dewys and his wife Josie. Brad and Josie just purchased the property last fall, and we were keen to see the progress they are making in turning it from a barren piece of land into the productive area that Brad envisions.

We also had the opportunity to meet 2 year old Benjamin and the twins who were born this January. We're hoping for an invitation to return in a couple of years to check on developments.

MGiT Andrée Levie-Warrilow checks out the lavender at "Essentially Lavender"

Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: Mississauga Master Gardeners' Potluck
Details: On July 11th MG Susan Quirk hosted a potluck for Mississauga Master Gardeners (MMG) in her garden.

Front – MGs Marie Pearson, Susan Quirk
Back left to right – MGs Shirley Daniels, Emma Chow, David Pavanel, Mary Jean Kucerak, Rafiq Ahmed, Jeanne McRight, Alice Bur, Stuart Plummer, Phyllis Hall

Name: Mississauga Master Gardeners 25 Year Anniversary
Date: June 5th, 2019
Details: Our MMGs 25 Year Anniversary was celebrated at the Mandarin restaurant. MGs Marie Pearson and Shirley Daniels had previously received their 25 year badges.

Left to right – MGs Joe Gasparik, Suzanne Moreau, Phyllis Hall, David Pavanel, Jeanne McRight, Martha Kantorczyk, Susan Quirk, Marie Pearson, Rafiq Ahmed, Mary Jean Kucerak, Catherin Fleming, Shirley Daniels, Michelle Wilson, Emma Chow

Thunder Bay Master Gardeners

Name: Thunder Bay Art Gallery Annual Garden Tour
Details: Thunder Bay Master Gardeners were available to answer questions in the gardens at the recent Thunder Bay Art Gallery Garden Tour.

MGs Lynda Lahteenmaa, Lynne Thornburg, Carole McCollum, Sylvia Goodheart, Gwen Third, Lynda Bobinski, Linda Sharp, Holly Rupert, Linda Rintamaki, Louise Nadeau and MGiT Maggie Landry provided answers to the many questions asked by local gardeners.

MGs Gwen Third & Lynda Bobinski

Those attending this event were excited to see how the homeowners so meticulously transformed small, large, narrow, sloped or wide open spaces into gardens full of treasures and landscaping ideas that they could use in their own yards.

The gardens this year were unique and offered exceptionally diverse plantings, a Monarch Butterfly Waystation, as well as many unique focal points and hardscape elements all combined to reflect the gardener's passion for either growing annuals, perennials, succulents, fruits or vegetables.

During the garden tour artist Linda Dell painted this beautiful picture of water lilies in full bloom in one Homeowner's pond!

Artist Linda Dell

What a wonderful place to be on a sunny Thunder Bay Sunday!

MG Lynda Lahteenmaa (right) & Homeowner Helen Olsen enjoy Helen's peaceful garden oasis!

Muskoka Master Gardeners

Name: Artful Garden

Details: On July 31st, five of our members went on a field trip to the beautiful Artful Garden in Bracebridge. We invited several young people to come with us to view and discuss the beautiful floral gardens and also the very interesting garden art. The trip was certainly enjoyed by all of us.

Left to right
Back row: Sara Drawehn, Shelley Cowan, Sarah, Sandra Hartill, Rosemarie Meyer
Front row: Fiona, Alice, Lynn McIntosh, Keira, Quinn

Left to right
Back row: Keira, Quinn, Alice, Fiona
Front row: Sarah

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rideau 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

Name: Wildscaping in Kingston Ontario
Dates: September 7th & 8th, and October 5th 2019
Details: **The Project:** Rideau 1000 Islands MGs are spearheading a community wildscaping project in the Kingston region this summer and fall, working with community partners and homeowners to turn front lawns into ecological 'wildscapes' mimicking natural ecosystems as a way to regenerate the health of the spaces where we live and work. Each yard will be an individual project, suited to the site conditions and working toward a specific theme and goals. Regenerative gardening criteria will be employed on all the sites and the SOUL Organic Land Care Standard will be the overall guideline.

The Workshops: To set the stage for the project, Regeneration Canada hosted a gardening workshop on Monday, August 12th to prepare stakeholders and engage the public in the techniques of climate and ecosystem restoration and the possibilities of regenerative and rewilded gardens and landscapes.

A follow-up workshop on the naturalistic approach to planting design will be held **Saturday, September 7th** with special guest speaker Tony Spencer, The New Perennialist. Full details can be found here: https://organiclandcare.ca/Land_Care_Events/

NEW:
The Wildscaping Workshop: Planting Design
Rideau 1000 Island Master Gardeners have just announced 3 new events which follow the Regenerative Gardening Workshop August 12th:

#1
Wildscaping: An introduction to Ecological Plant-driven Design
Date: Saturday September 7th, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Details: Discover the aesthetic and ecological principles driving the New Perennial movement in naturalistic planting design. Learn about the design practices and methods championed by famed garden designer and plantsman Piet Oudolf and his peers with an eye to broaden and transform your own approach to planting design, plant selection, installation and maintenance in home-based or community projects. For more information: https://rideau1000islandsmastergardeners.com/

#2
The Wildscaping Workshop: Planting Design
Date: Sunday September 8th, 10:00am – 1:00pm. Includes lunch! Tickets and more info here
Details: Join the New Perennialist Tony Spencer in a two-part morning workshop exploring the new fundamentals of naturalistic planting design. Tony will guide us through the design work of leading figures like Piet Oudolf, Roy Diblik, and Cassian Schmidt to show the evolution of plant-driven landscape design. The second part is all about applying these methods and practices to residential scale gardens with a hands-on workshop to help you grasp the basics with a local spin.

#3
Interested in Wildscaping Your Front Yard?
Date: Saturday October 5th, 1:00pm – 3:00 pm: Tickets and more info here
Details: Wildscaping is a form of landscaping that mimics the way nature works, creating thriving plant communities based on natural relationships. Wildscapes invite the wild back into our lives, our yards, and our city. Wildscapes are as different as the gardeners who create them.
Be part of #rewildmylawn day on October 5th. We're looking for from 3 to 10 lawns for rewilding – swapping out a grass monoculture with wildscape alternatives such as:

- meadow
- woodland
- edible forest
- foodscape
- rainscape
- birdscape
- tapestry flowering lawn
- sedge lawn
- native wildscape

We are looking for a MAXIMUM of 10 people who:

- believe it's time to replace monoculture lawns with a rich tapestry of lawn alternatives that regenerate our soils, beautify our cities, and provide habitat for wildlife (helping mitigate our climate emergency)

- want to cultivate a deeper connection to place by learning more about gardening in partnership with the natural world
- are willing to purchase the plants for wildscaping their front yard
- are interested in their wildscaping story being part of an article or featured in blog posts

What we'll you help with:
- test your soil
- pair you with a mentor to help design your wildscape
- support you as a coach once it's planted
- supply a team to help plant your wildscape on #rewildmylawn day

Interested in learning more about a local wildscape? Check out this recent article on a rewilded yard in Collins Bay.

Once you've indicated your interest, a Master Gardener will contact you to find out more about your lawn and your goals to see if it would be a good fit for #rewildmylawn day.

Learn more about wildscaping:
By changing the way you garden and manage your land, you can become part of a global regeneration movement that is drawing carbon out of the atmosphere, sequestering it in soil and regenerating ecosystem health.
- Learn about how soil is the foundation of wildscapes, increasing biodiversity and regenerating ecosystem health.
- Join Tony Spencer, creative force behind 'The New Perennialist', an award-winning blog exploring the frontiers of naturalistic garden design, for a talk on *Wildscaping: An introduction to naturalistic plant-driven design*.
- Follow up Tony's talk with the *The Wildscaping Workshop* for a deep dive into the fundamentals of naturalistic planting design as well as hands on experience creating a design for a residential sized landscape.

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Friends of the Central Experimental Farm Lecture Series
Details: In 2019, Ottawa-Carleton MGs have partnered once again with the Friends of the Central Experimental Farm to provide a popular local lecture series.
The last remaining topic is:

From Pots and Small Plots - Come Edible Flowers and Herbs!
Date: Tuesday September 10, 2019
- With Master Gardener Nancy McDonald

Prince Edward County Master Gardeners

Technical Update: Wild About Herbs
Date: Saturday, September 14, 2019
Location: Picton, ON, in The County
Cost: $35 includes lunch
Details: Conrad Richter is the owner of Richter's Herbs in Goodwood, Ontario and a leading authority on herbs. His wife, Aku is originally from Ghana and is passionate about the healing nature of herbs. They will be presenting you with two lively discussions. Conrad will speak on herbs you should know and Aku will tell you about some of the herbs she loves and how she uses them.

Registration Information: Tickets went on sale June 1st. We only have 70 tickets available so get your tickets early, from Eventbrite at:
https://wild-about-herbs.eventbrite.ca.

Plan a weekend in The County!

Durham Master Gardeners

Name: Cannabis, Mysteries Unveiled
Date: Thursday, September 26th, 2019, 6:30pm – 9:00pm
Location: King Street Community Church, 611 King St. W., Oshawa
Details: Durham MGs are presenting a Panel Discussion and Information Night about *Cannabis*. The evening features: Sjoerd Visser, Horticulturist and Licensed Medical Grower; Joe Goldfarb, Cannabis Educator, Durham & Centennial Colleges; and Abby Sampson, Niche Canada. Registration is required, and the cost is $10.00. You may register and purchase tickets at:
www.durhammastergardeners.ca

Peterborough Master Gardeners

Technical Update: Bulbs for All Seasons
Date: September 28th, 2019
Location: Westdale United Church, 1509 Sherbrooke St., Peterborough
Cost: $35 ($45 after September 1st)
Registration Information:

www.peterboroughmastergardeners.com

Coordinators' Conference 2019
MGOI Annual General Meeting

Date & Location: The MGOI Annual General Meeting and Coordinators' Conference will take place on Saturday, October 5th at the brand new Landscape Ontario facility in Milton. Information will be coming soon from Corporate Secretary Terri Briggs.

Mississauga Master Gardeners

Name: Mississauga Master Gardeners' Fall Plant Sale
Date: Saturday, October 5th, 2019, 10:00am – 2:00pm
Location: Port Credit Library, 20 Lakeshore Rd. E., Mississauga, ON L5G 1C8
Details: Mississauga MGs will be selling Perennials, Bulbs and Houseplants. We will be presenting Seminars on 'How to Prepare Your Garden for Winter' and 'How to Save Seeds'.

London – Middlesex Master Gardeners

Technical Update: The What, Why and Wonderful of Therapeutic Gardens
Date: Sunday, October 20th, 2019, 8:30am – 3:30pm
Place: Civic Gardens Complex, 625 Springbank Drive, London, ON N6K 4T1
Details: *Bad knees? Arthritic hands? Eyesight not what it used to be?*

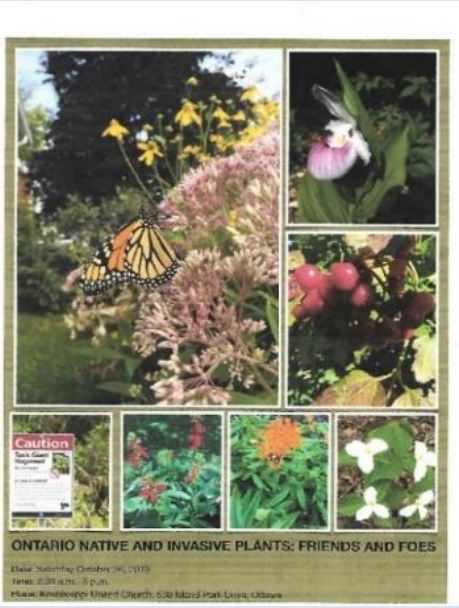
With an aging population comes a diversity of new challenges and needs. As Master Gardeners, it is important for us to be aware of and address these challenges so we can guide more people to continue a healthy interest in gardening. In this workshop, you will experience some of these issues first hand and learn about modifying gardens, strategies, and programs.

Speakers: Nancy Lee Colibaba, Royal Botanical Gardens; Bruce MacNeil, MG; Rosemarie Szalich, MG.

Cost: $60. Early Bird only $50 – Register and pay before September 15th!
Registration Information:
www.londonmastergardeners.com

Lanark County Master Gardeners

Technical Update: Ontario Native and Invasive Plants – Friends and Foes



Date: Saturday October 26th, 2019, 8:30am – 3:00pm
Location: Kitchissippi United Church,
630 Island Park Drive, Ottawa
Cost: $35 (includes Lunch)
Registration Information:
www.lanarkmg.blogspot.com
or www.mgottawa.ca – Save the Date!

Grey County Master Gardeners

Topic: **So You Think You've Got a Problem?**
Details: Horticulturist and eco-landscaper (& Master Gardener) Sean James explores creative and sustainable approaches to dealing with difficult sites. Open to the public as well as to other Master Gardeners.
Date: Saturday, October 26th, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: The Harmony Centre, 890 4th Avenue East, Owen Sound
Cost: No charge (donations welcome)
Registration Information: Contact Gary Kenny
Phone: 519-799-5804
Email: rivercroft16@hotmail.com

If it's October, it must be the
Grey County Master Gardeners
Annual Fall Seminar!
So You Think YOU'VE Got a Problem?

SATURDAY, October 26, 2019
Harmony Centre
890 4th Avenue East, Owen Sound

8:30 a.m., Registration & Coffee

9:00 a.m.
You dream of a lush, welcoming garden that incorporates native trees and shrubs as well as a variety of flowering plants; but you don't have enough room. Well, maybe you do. Horticulturist and eco-landscaper Sean James tackles the challenge of designing a small space.

Q & A, followed by Break & Door Prizes

11:00 a.m.
Does your garden resemble the Sahara? Or is it always soggy, even after an extended dry spell? After the break, Sean explores creative and sustainable approaches to these and other difficult sites.

No charge for admission.
Donations to the Grey County Master Gardeners are appreciated.
As space is limited, please reserve your seat by contacting Gary Kenny
Tel: 519-799-5804
Email: rivercroft16@hotmail.ca

Master Gardeners offer non-biased, science-based information to home gardeners & community groups.
The Grey County Master Gardeners (GCMG) is a member group of Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. (MGOI).

Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc.

Name: MGOI Website
Details: If you would like your Master Gardener event posted on the MGOI website under the **News & Events** tab, please send details to our webmaster Jim Cook at webmaster@mgoi.ca.
Images need to be in .jpeg or .png format.

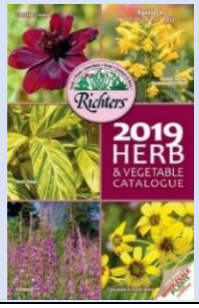
Of Possible Interest to Master Gardeners

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/events.html&car t_id=2154123.16186.

They also offer free on-line seminars at: https://www.richters.com/show.cgi?page=events/events2016.html.

The 2019 Richters catalogue, filled with culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs and seeds, is available to download or to order for free on their web-site: https://www.richters.com/



We Need Your help!
2 Remarkable Opportunities!
Amazing Board of Directors Seeking Charming Volunteers!
We Can't Do It Without You!

Director of Operations (this could be a shared position)

The Director of Operations will work with a team responsible for Policy/Procedures, Information Technologies, and Annual Reporting. The position serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors.

- Term: 2 years (plus transition period)
    - Start date: Transition would start immediately working with our current Director of Operations, Suzanne Zacharczyk
    - End date: Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2021 (usually October). Can be extended to a maximum of 2 more 2-year terms
- Description:
    - Review and monitor MGOI technologies, and provide recommendations to establish and maintain IT services
    - Support setups and liaison between MGOI and established providers
    - Work with board members and committee leads to identify issues, establish priorities, goals and responsibilities and develop annual budget requirements for technology
    - Support Annual Report development
- Skills & Qualities:
    - Ability to conduct business effectively and efficiently
    - Knowledge of (or interest in learning) technologies such as Survey Monkey, Video Conferencing, Spreadsheets, collection and analysis of data
    - Knowledge of MGOI policies & procedures

For additional information or to apply, please contact: **info@mgoi.ca**

Treasurer

The Treasurer is responsible for general financial oversight and works with the Board Executive and Directors. The Treasurer is a voting member of the Board of Directors.

- Term: 2 years (plus transition period)
- Start date: Transition would start immediately working with our current Treasurer Cathy Thompson
- End date: AGM 2021 (usually October). Can be extended to a maximum of 2 more 2-year terms
- Description: Main responsibilities include maintaining the financial records, issuing charity receipts, banking, financial planning and budgeting, and working with the Accountant who prepares year-end statements
- Skills & Qualities:
    - ability to conduct business effectively and efficiently
    - ideally, an accounting/bookkeeping background
    - knowledge of QuickBooks software (or willingness to learn)
    - access to a TD branch bank

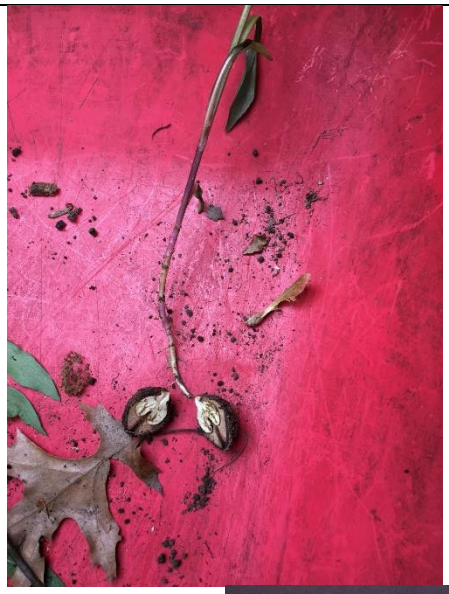
For additional information or to apply, please contact: **info@mgoi.ca**

Petra Donnelly, Toronto Master Gardeners

For the past 10 years I have had a vision of a totally grass-free property filled with trees, color, succession of blooms, and variation in heights and texture. My Markham property has become a serene space that is attractive to pollinators and wildlife alike. My passion is daylilies; the following are just a few of my favourites.

Leslie Ferguson, Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Chionanthus virginicus – later bloom for pollinators.



Juglans nigra (walnut tree) interrupted.

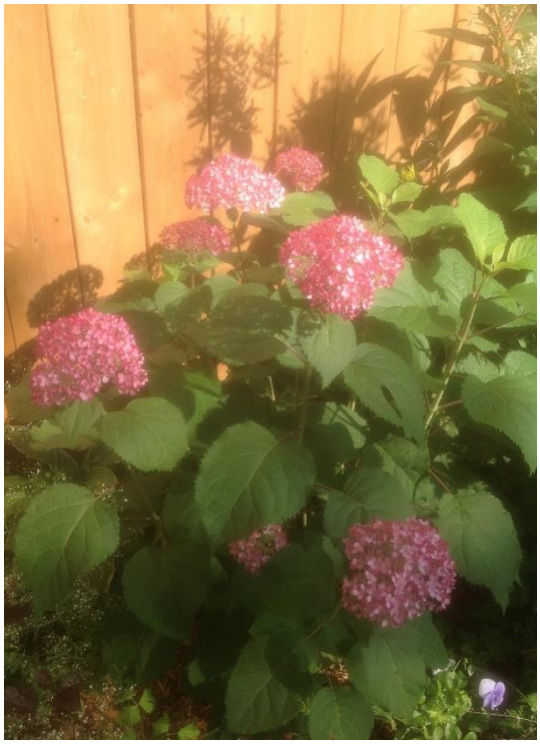
In order to provide back up bloom for cooler weather, some protected sweet peas (*Lathyrus odoratus*) that will provide seed for next year are a perfect choice in a sheltered situation.

A beautiful melee: Geraniums, Anemone, Heuchera, Aster and *Athyrium niponicum*.

Mother's Day gift from 2018

Rosa 'Abraham Darby' can be notoriously difficult to overwinter, but made it through this year with flying colours.

Chris Spence, Etobicoke Master Gardeners



Hydrangea arborescens 'Invincibelle Mini Mauvette'.

Asarina scandens – a much under used annual climber.

Carol Mccollum, Thunder Bay Master Gardeners

Growing veggies in every available space – Red Runner beans in a pot by my deck.

More pictures of my garden can be found on my website at:
https://www.smugmug.com/gallery/n-Vd3XTp/

Nancy McDonald, Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardener, as told by Julianne Labreche, Coordinator

MG Nancy McDonald's garden is alive with beautiful herbs and flowers that burst into bloom each summer for family, friends and visitors to enjoy. Walking into her garden is always a pleasure, especially as homemade baking and summer drinks are always waiting. Nancy has turned her love of flowers and baking into a presentation called **Cooking with Edible Flowers and Herbs** that will be presented on Tuesday September 10th. Please see details under **Upcoming Events**.

Lynda Bobinski, Thunder Bay Master Gardeners

I have chosen these plants as they have been welcome surprises in my garden.

I used Nonstop White Tuberous Begonia – *Begonia x tuberhybrida* – in a hanging basket and true to name they have been non-stop flowering. Interesting though, some flowers have a yellow centre while others are pure white. Perhaps some were labelled wrong at the nursery and it was difficult to sort out as I have 5 potted in a large planter. Deadheading is minimal with this begonia ~ it just keeps blooming!

A pink/green Double Columbine (*Aquilegia*) appeared as a surprise in my garden this year. A few years back I had *Aquilegia vulgaris* 'Black Barlow' growing in the same location. I have searched the internet for this columbine and have not been able to find it.

Bud of a Vintage Black Hollyhock ~ after the rain! Seeds for this plant have been collected and passed down through the years in Thunder Bay MG Gwen Third's mother's family. I thank Gwen for sharing a few of her mother's beautiful plants with me!

Purple Angel's Trumpet (*Datura*) planted in a pot ~ they have continued to bloom all summer and we are still enjoying them.

Japanese Tree Peony

Shelly Cowan, MGiT, Muskoka Master Gardeners

These are recent photos of our property in Muskoka which we began transforming 2 years ago. It continues to be a work in progress. We are enjoying the many perennials which give us an abundance of colour throughout the growing season as well as many birds, bees and butterflies visiting. I have found a new passion in gardening and continuing my education to become a Master Gardener with the Muskoka Master Gardeners.

This is the bottom of our lot.

Isabel Belanger, Etobicoke Master Gardeners

I grew dill in a pot on the deck this year but got to eat hardly any of it as the caterpillars moved in – Black Swallowtail butterfly caterpillars. There were about 5 or 6 in total. One moved into the herb planter containing parsley and ate some of that. Knowing they would run out of food, I had to move the pot of lovage onto the deck, and one of the caterpillars ate some of that. A yellow woolly bear moth caterpillar also helped itself to the dill.