



*Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of  
Ontario*

# Inside

# MGOI

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

This Newsletter aims to be the voice for Master Gardeners! This is your venue for providing updates, insights and the inside scoop from MGOI Board & Committee members, Directors, and the 28 Master Gardener groups throughout Ontario. *Inside MGOI* features member milestones, group projects and activities, short member profiles, upcoming events such as webinars/conferences—anything about the functioning and happenings of our groups and our members. Please feel free to submit pictures—they are most welcome! Contributions to future editions of *Inside MGOI* may be sent at any time to the Newsletter Editor, Isabel Belanger, [newsletter@mgoi.ca](mailto:newsletter@mgoi.ca).

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#### **Committee Members:**

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 Facebook: Claudette Sims, Halton & Cathy Kavassalis, Halton  
 Manager, MG Participation in the CNE & RWF: Kate Sault, Halton

#### **In This Issue**

- Master Gardeners
  - Milestones
  - MGOI Webinars / Private FB Group
  - Master Gardeners Out & About
  - Upcoming Events
  - CFIA: Oak Wilt Disease & Spotted Lantern Fly; Digital Toolkit; Seeds Alert
- MGOI
  - Board Vacancy: VP

**INSIDE MGOI**

**May 2025**

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

**Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton**

## Milestones

### Simcoe County Master Gardeners

#### Master Gardener Status Achieved (September 2024)

Jane Ying

Congratulations Jane on becoming a Master Gardener on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024!



*Coordinator Gail Cocker, left with Jane*



### Thunder Bay Master Gardeners

#### 10 Year Anniversary

Catherine Cribbs



Congratulations Catherine on receiving your 10-year pin!

Catherine lives in Porcupine (near Timmins) and keeps very active in her community. She has spent the last 2 years creating and revitalizing a pollinator garden at a

school nearby; the grades 1 & 2 classes are also involved in the project. Catherine has recently helped to plan a sensory garden in unused city land. She is also busy with providing gardening presentations at her local library.

It is great that we can keep in contact via Zoom meetings despite the distance between Porcupine and Thunder Bay (about 779 km).



### Halton Master Gardeners

#### 20 Year Anniversary

Claudette Sims



*Claudette, left, receives her twenty-year pin from Halton Co-ordinator Kate Sault*

#### Profile – by Hariette Henry

Claudette, like many of us, was first introduced to gardening by watching her father tend to the family vegetable plot. Later, as an adult one of her first gardens was a 5' x 5' patch where she grew tomatoes and an assortment of other plants.

Claudette loves gardening, in fact her garden is her happy place where she can get away from the hustle and bustle of daily life. When in the garden she can become totally engrossed in what she's doing to the point where she loses track of time and might forget to come in for dinner. She says being in the garden allows her to focus on what's right in front of her. She often just likes to sit and admire the plants.



*Claudette's Front yard garden in full bloom*



Claudette was an elementary school teacher in her professional life. Educating students and sharing knowledge was great preparation for being a Master Gardener.

Claudette's a natural communicator as she enjoys listening to other people's gardening stories and challenges, and is skilled at offering advice that's just right for the person she's speaking with. She loves all gardeners, especially her Master Gardener friends.

Claudette has held many roles over the last twenty years. Throughout, she's always been ready to step up and volunteer. At her first Master Gardener meeting, she volunteered to take on the [Halton MG] newsletter. This meant that most of the regular columns we see today in *Cross Pollination*, such as "Featured plant" and "Question of the Month" were done exclusively by her.

Twenty years later Claudette is still very much involved in the newsletter and is very proud of today's version. She likes the collegial atmosphere of the current team and how we all come together to create a professional and attractive newsletter.

Over the years Claudette has held a variety of roles both within the Halton group and with Master Gardeners of Ontario. She has been Co-ordinator for the Halton group as well as Zone Director, Vice-President and President of MGOI. There was a learning curve in each of those roles, and sometimes a certain amount of anxiety and stress. A key learning for Claudette has been that patience leads to better communication and more effective management.

Claudette has witnessed a lot of change in the Master Gardener program in the last twenty years. A lot of that change was due to the adoption by most people of new modes of communication. Social media has allowed us to communicate more broadly. As we speak with a wider, more diverse group of people, it raises our profile and attracts more people. Being able to have our monthly meetings virtually is also a great time saver and it means that our younger members, who are more likely to be working, can participate quite easily.

Claudette's most recent project, undertaken with fellow MG, friend and co-founder Cathy Kavassalis is CCIPR, the Canadian Coalition for Invasive Plant Regulation. As we know, horticulture is the primary pathway for the introduction of invasive plants into our environment. CCIPR is focused on protecting Canada's environment, economy, and public health from the negative impacts of invasive plant species.



*Hence the co-founders are wearing superhero capes as they fight invasive plants*





## **Board Vacancy: VP / MGOI Webinars / MGOI Members Facebook (FB) Private Discussion Group**

### **Board Vacancy – Vice President (VP)**

MGOI is looking to find a VP as soon as possible, or potentially 2 VPs, to support Anne Craig in her role as President.

#### ***The Position***

- *Supports and works closely with the President*
- *Monitors the progress of the organization's goals and objectives*
- *Reviews information submitted in Annual Reviews and in the Annual Report to recognize achievements, share best practices, and identify potential areas of concern*
- *Assists Directors in resolving potential areas of concern, potentially bringing them to the attention of the Board of Directors*
- *Works with the Director of Membership and others to fill vacant Board positions*
- *Assumes the duties of the President in her absence; succeeds the President*

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### **Access to Past MGOI Webinars**

All MGOI Webinars have been recorded, and the links are on the MGOI website: <https://mgoi.ca/>. Members' login is on the far right. If you don't have a password your Coordinator will be able to provide it.

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### **The MGOI Members Facebook (FB) Private Discussion Group**

This is a private group: 'A discussion page for registered members of the Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc., Canada. .... To join, you must be an active member of the Master Gardeners of Ontario and belong to a local MG group.'

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## Master Gardeners Out & About Projects & Events

### Lanark County Master Gardeners

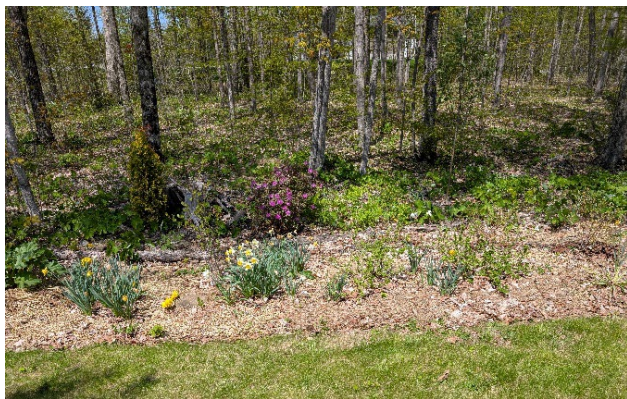
#### Name: Earthfest, May Meeting & Plant Sale

**Details:** Lanark County Master Gardeners started off the month of May with **Earthfest** in Carleton Place. We had an advice table manned by Gerda Franssen, Jordan Scott-Richer and Dale Odorizzi. Gerda and Dale also conducted a learning session entitled “Gardening woes and woes”. Singer Ian Tyson got a great chuckle out of the name.



Earthfest 2025—left to right, Jordan, Gerda, Dale

Our **May meeting** was held at the home of Tim Deslippe where we had a wonderful tour of his native plants, mainly in the forested area. The Bloodroots (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) were over but the Trilliums (*Trillium* spp.), Twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*) and Jack-in-the-Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) were blooming away.



Tim's spring garden

On May 17, we hosted our **Plant Sale** at the Perth Farmers' Market. Gerda Franssen, Judy Wall, Kevin Long, Tim Deslippe, Victor Wark and Dale Odorizzi hosted the sale and donated plants. Helen Halpenny donated plants but was busy with an Advice Clinic at the Almonte Farmers Market with Jordan Scott Richer. Finally, Tim Deslippe is making two presentations—Gardening and Mental Health at the Almonte Horticultural Society and Curb Appeal at the Smiths Falls Horticultural Society. Busy Month!



Plant Sale—Kevin Long

### Guelph-Wellington Master Gardeners

#### Name: Annual Plant Sale—May 17, 2025

**Details:** This year the plants were inside (a few exceptions). We also had the children's area outdoors where kids received a plant to bring home. It was a good decision to be indoors when a brief thunderstorm came through in the early afternoon. Our supporters were not deterred; we had a great turnout! MG Donna Kahn coordinated this important event. It was our most successful plant sale to date!



MG Rosemary Fernandez-Walker





*Our patient supporters*



*From left, sitting, Sharon Leggett, Leslie Newman, Sharon Z, Bob Newman and Danielle Gignac (standing, with apron)*



*MGs Dorthea Stephan(l) & Lianne Krane  
Background MG Esther Reid*



*MG Judy Brisson (apron, left)*



*Children's area with MG Kay Verdone, left  
and MGIT Marcus Kotyk*



## Grey County Master Gardeners

### Name: 2025 Winter Seminar Series

**Details:** We have had a busy start to our 2025 gardening year hosting three speakers, from January to March, as part of our 4<sup>th</sup> Eco-Responsible Gardener Series!



**Seminar One:** “What’s that Plant?” with plant biologist Jodi Healy.

If you have taken courses at the University of Guelph, you may have had Jodi as an instructor already! This talk provided a detailed, scientific look at how plants are named

and identified, the universal usage of botanical names, and how some names change as new information becomes available.



**Seminar Two:** “From Challenges to Change” with Cathy Kavassalis. Cathy is a passionate gardener and conservationist who spoke on the historic role of gardeners in the introduction of many invasive species. Ornamental plants have become the largest group of invasive plants

resulting in a significant reduction in local biodiversity and resilience. Fortunately, there is a growing shift in values and attitudes where we are beginning to prioritize ecology over esthetics.



**Seminar Three:** “Shrinking the Lawn” with Lorraine Johnson. Lorraine is an engaging speaker and a well-known author of several books on native plant gardening. She is active in many community groups and has been a long-time advocate for the reform of grass and weed

bylaws in support of biodiversity. She had practical suggestions for turfgrass alternatives in order to increase plant diversity and resilience.

### Name: Gardener in Residence (Meaford/Thornbury)

**Details:** Grey County Master Gardeners (Stephanie Fletcher, Elizabeth Brims and Ann Joyner) offered a 3-part workshop entitled “The A-Z of Starting Your Garden” at the local libraries this spring. The series included design guidelines and site evaluation, site preparation and turning plans into reality, appropriate plant choices, and garden care/management for the future.



MG Elizabeth Brims

### Name: Gardener in Residence (Owen Sound)

**Details:** Grey County Master Gardeners are also offering monthly workshops/demonstrations in Owen Sound. There has been a demonstration/talk on pruning with Karen Young, and a presentation on seed starting with Carole Warren so far this year. More to come throughout the summer months!

### Name: Seedy Saturdays

**Details:** Club members have attended various Seedy Saturdays across the county. Our booth offered gardening advice and information, an assortment of native seeds as well as vegetable seeds for gardeners of all ages.



Karen Newark, left & Carole Warren at Seedy Saturday in Wiarton



## Grand Erie Master Gardeners

### Name: “Stuck in the Mud? Embracing Native Plants in Clay Soil”

**Details:** The Grand Erie Master Gardeners held their first workshop of the year in Haldimand County on April 27<sup>th</sup>. It was a resounding success with perfect weather conditions at beautiful Ruthven Park National Historic Site. The morning started out with an educational talk by MG Kevin Kavanagh, including cameos by MGs Laura Rodger, Anne Saunders, Lynne Goulet-Smith, Nancy Lee Colibaba, and MGiTs Kim Hutten, Carolyn Bennett and Erin Casey.



*Kevin Kavanagh presenting a lecture on native gardening in clay soil at the Ruthven Park workshop*

This was followed by a delicious lunch prepared by the Local Carolinian Café. After lunch, the GEMGs demonstrated to attendees how to plant new flowerbeds by removing existing invasive species and filling them with environmentally beneficial and beautiful native plants that will thrive in the clay soil around Ruthven Mansion.



*left to right: Dylan (potential MGiT), MG Laura Rodger, MGiT Erin Casey, & MGs Nancy Lee Colibaba, Lynne Goulet-Smith, and Alex Kucharew demonstrated the planting of native plants in the clay soil around Ruthven Mansion*

This was followed by an hour long walk through the woods of Ruthven Park to observe native trees and spring ephemerals in bloom, guided by MG Kevin Kavanagh. After the walk, attendees were given the opportunity to have a guided tour through Ruthven Mansion by park staff.



*Kevin led a guided tour through the woods at Ruthven Park*



*Many spring ephemerals, including yellow Trout Lilies, were in full bloom during the guided walk through the woods*



*Workshop attendees finished the workshop with a tour of the Ruthven Historic Mansion*



## Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

### Name: Plant Sale

**Details:** Plants from our gardens were practically sold out within 90 minutes of the MGOC booth opening at the 'Friends of the Farm' Plant sale on May 11. The advice table was extremely popular too with the swarms of shoppers / gardeners.



Left to right: MGs Adair Heuchan, Amanda Cardigan, Pauline Yelle, Candace Dressler and Rebecca Last  
Photo: Tong Zhao-Ansari

Smiles all around among MGOC volunteers despite a chilly start to the day. Thank you to MG Tong Zhao-Ansari who organized MGOCs participation at this event.

### Name: Talks in the Community

**Details:** MGOC members gave 8 educational talks between April 21 & May 20: Claire McCaughey on "Garden basics: gardening with a beginner's mind" at two branches of the Ottawa Public Library; Barbara Sibbald on "Notes on a Japanese garden", the final lecture in the 2025 'Friends of the Farm/MGOC Lecture Series'; Claire Leduc on "Why we love annuals" at the Kanata Horticultural Society-March meeting; Candace Dressler on "Colour through the seasons" to the Cornwall Horticultural Society; Claire Leduc on "Les annuelles: multiples façon de les aimer et de les utiliser"; and Josie Pazdzior on "Rocking your garden with stone" at the Russell Horticultural Society.

### Name: Earth Day Celebrations

**Details:** Advice clinics were launched at two events: the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Earth Day on April 26<sup>th</sup>; and the Earth Day Festival at McNabb Park on April 27<sup>th</sup>. The latter attracted 43 visitors with 62 questions.



MGOC booth at the McNabb Park Earth Day Celebration with MGs (left to right) Adair Heuchan, Pauline Yelle and Barbara Sibbald  
Photo: Stuart Kinmond

## 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

TIMG members are having a busy spring, hosting advice clinics at several events in the region. Here are some highlights:

### Name: Sun Harvest Greenhouse Spring Fling Advice Clinic

**Details:** Several TIMGs were on hand at Sun Harvest Greenhouse Spring Fling on April 26. The event was well attended despite the rainy weather, and our members were busy for much of their time, answering hundreds of questions. We visibly had an important impact on buyers' choices and practices at the event.



(from left) Diane Huddle (MG Emeritus), MGs Nancy Shepherd, Tracey Filson and Nathan Nesdoly  
Photo taken by MG June Crocco



**Name: Kingston Memorial Centre Earth Day Festival Advice Clinic**

**Details:** TIMGs Bev Wagar and Jane Bailey, and MGiT Sandra Jass attended this Earth Day event on April 27, hosted by SCAN Kingston, 350Kingston and the Kingston Climate Justice Coalition.

**Name: Quinte Field Naturalist Sale**

**Details:** MG Gail Walker and MGiT Dale Smith were on hand to answer questions at this fundraising event hosted by Quinte Field Naturalists on May 17. Funds raised will be invested in area tree planting.

Thanks to a local print shop for the single day turnaround on our new rain and windproof sign!



*Gail Walker (left) and Dale Smith*

**Name: Lemoine Point Native Plant Sale**

**Details:** TIMG Jane Bailey answered questions at this annual event hosted by Friends of Lemoine Point on May 17.

This is a well-attended annual event, but the first year for a Master Gardener table. Attendees could purchase a selection of locally grown native plants, trees and shrubs. In total, 28 contacts were made, with several requests to access the weekly 'Ask A Master Gardener' Zoom meetings, as well as questions on meadow naturalization, swale development, invasive plant identification and removal techniques, right plant/right place selections, and one request for a presentation on native plants to a public school.

**Name: Upcoming Events**

**Details:** The TIMGs are looking forward to several events coming up later in May and June. Stay tuned for details!

- The TIMGs are off on our first Field Trip of the season! We will be visiting Kiwi Gardens in Perth, ON in the morning, with a choice of Gossamer Gardens, Port Elmsley, ON or the Perth Wildlife Reserve in the afternoon. Thanks to MG Joanne Whitfield for organizing this!
- We will be hosting advice clinics at the Wellington Market, Prince Edward County (PEC) on May 24 & 31 and June 7 & 14.
  - The famous winds in Wellington will be a true test for our new signage!
- Friends of Lemoine Point have asked us back for their event on June 21 at the Lemoine Point Native Plant Nursery in Kingston. We will also be at the Canadian Federation of University Women Garden Tour in Belleville that day.



**Toronto Master Gardeners**

**Name: Educating Ourselves: Ecological Gardening Presentation**

**Details:** The May meeting of the Toronto Master Gardeners was devoted to a presentation on Ecological Gardening featuring 15 TMGs, members of our Ecological Gardening Special Interest Group. It was an educational, entertaining, interactive "mini-conference", packed with gardening information, resources, discussion and Q&A.

We unveiled a new presentation, "Ecological Gardening" and a Pilot: Plan to Plant to help gardeners taking their first steps towards designing native plantings. There were discussion tables on Resources for the Public, Rain Barrels, Seedlings and Soil, Design-Pilot, and a Photo Table.

It was a fantastic event, and we are thrilled with the number of Toronto Master Gardeners who participated and attended.

To add to the fun, we started the evening with a tour of native plants at the Toronto Botanical Garden, led by Toronto Master Gardeners Karen Hughes, Wai Yeung and Abdullah Hamidi.

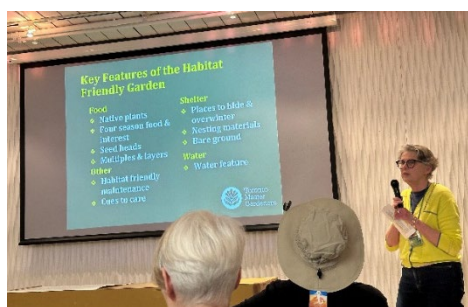




TMG Group Shot, Toronto Botanical Garden, May 2025  
Photo – Wai Yeung



TMG May Meeting – Resources for the Public



May 2025 Presentation



TMG May 2025 –TBG Native Plants Tour  
Photo Georgie Kennedy

## Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners

### Name: Day For Gardeners

**Details:** Gardeners came from around Central Ontario to our very successful sold out 2025 Day for Gardeners event in Peterborough on April 26<sup>th</sup>, a major fundraiser for the group. The event included four speakers, lunch, a plenary speaker and door prizes. We had our advice table running all day. Being multitasking, PMGs also prepared all the food (various stews and soups, sandwiches and desserts) for our attendees – a few people even requested we put out a cookbook!

Presentation topics included Beyond Bee Hotels (MG Laura Gardner), Harvesting Rainwater (MG Grant Murphy), Vegetable/Edible Gardens (MG Christine Freeburn), Shade Gardening (MG Jennifer Guertin), Trees and Shrubs for Small Urban Spaces (MG Silvia Strobl), and Composting and Soil (MG Cheryl Harrison). We also had a plenary speaker on Friends, Enemies and Frenemies: A Wildlife Guide for Gardeners (MGiThom Luloff).

Mark your calendars now – next year's event is on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026.





*(left to right) In the Kitchen!  
Lois Scott, Sharleen Pratt, Carol Ireland and Deb Fraser*

## Name: Ecology Park Native Plant Nursery's Kick Off Sale

**Details:** On Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup>, Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners joined longtime environmental community partner Peterborough GreenUp for their annual Ecology Park Native Plant Nursery's kick off sale that we have supported for many years. We had our advice table but also spent time talking to customers and helping them select the right native plants for their gardens.

Over the summer we hope to do a few workshops and talks at the park to answer questions and further educate visitors about native plants.



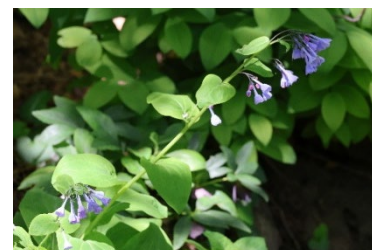
*Seated, Rachel Burrowes (back) and Sally Rye (front) welcoming attendees at the registration table*



*From left to right – the morning shift –  
Carol Ireland, Jenn Guertin, Emma Murphy,  
Anne Craig*



*Emma Murphy answering questions at the advice table*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Etobicoke Master Gardeners

**Name:** Free Workshop—Get Familiar with Flora: Plant Identification

**Date, Time & Place:** Saturday, June 7, 2025, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 205 Humber College Boulevard, Toronto

**Details:** In person. Indoor presentation followed by an outdoor tour. Advance your knowledge of plant identification through plant names and classification. Delve into essential plant structures and learn to identify plants by their scientific names using resources such as botanical keys, identification manuals, and online tools. You'll deepen your understanding of plant identification and its applications in landscaping while also learning the fundamental requirements and cultural practices for plant care.

The workshop is followed by an outdoor tour. Wear your walking shoes and dress for the weather to take the learning outside and enjoy the gardens and woodland. **For**

**More Details and to Sign-up** please visit:

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



### Toronto Master Gardeners

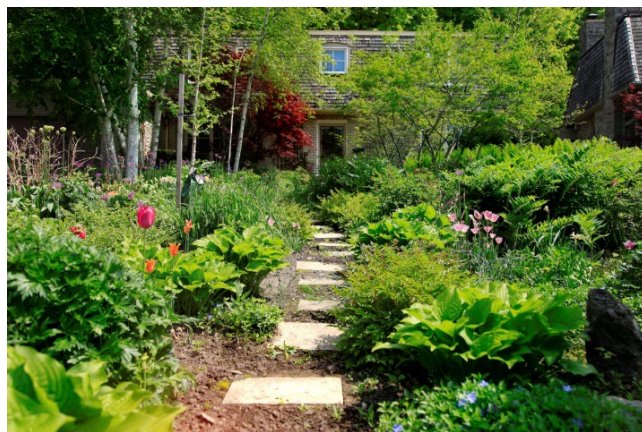
**Name:** Toronto Botanical Garden 'Through the Garden Gate 2025'

**Dates & Time:** Saturday and Sunday, June 7 & 8, 2025; 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Tickets:** Now available online at:

<https://torontobotanicalgarden.ca/enjoy/special-events/through-the-garden-gate/>

**Details:** One of Toronto's largest tours of private gardens! Garden-goers will have the opportunity to **visit 14 residential gardens** of varying sizes and themes in the unique Toronto enclave of Hogg's Hollow. Garden seekers will also have a chance to ask questions and learn something too! Knowledgeable **Toronto Master Gardeners** will be stationed in each garden and are happy to answer plant and garden design questions. All proceeds from the tour support the Toronto Botanical Garden.



### Toronto Master Gardeners Technical Update: Changing Cities, One Garden at a Time



**Date, Time & Place:** Saturday, November 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Toronto Botanical Garden.

**Details:** We are excited to announce that the Toronto Master Gardeners will be hosting our first in-person Technical Update since 2020! Join us at Toronto Botanical Garden to explore how gardeners can support biodiversity in city gardens. Check-out the complete program here:

<https://www.torontomastergardeners.ca/technical-update/>. The event will include a panel discussion, breakout sessions, and keynote speaker.



**Cost:**

\$65 for Toronto Master Gardeners

\$75 for other Master Gardeners

\$85 for members of the public

Includes a continental breakfast and boxed lunch

This will be a great opportunity to cross pollinate ideas and share inspiration with other Master Gardeners. We look forward to seeing you!

## Grand Erie Master Gardeners

**Name: Workshop: "From Dirt to Delicious: Planning and Planting a Vegetable Garden"**

**Date & Time:** Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am – 4:30pm

**Place:** Meet at Red Fox Farm, 25 King St. N., Simcoe

**Details:** Hosted by the GEMGs 'The Gardening for Food Committee', the Workshop will take place in Norfolk County, starting at Red Fox Farm followed by a tour of the Garlic Shed Property owned and operated by MGIT Erin Casey and her husband.

**Entry Fee:** \$55. Lunch is provided.

**Registration:** For more information and to register visit:

<https://granderiemg.org/events>

The poster features a green background with white and yellow text. At the top, the title 'From Dirt to Delicious: Planning and Planting a Vegetable Garden' is written in a large, elegant font. Below the title is a photograph of a wooden crate filled with fresh vegetables like tomatoes, cucumbers, and leafy greens. To the right of the photo, it says 'Workshop & Tour hosted by the Grand Erie Master Gardeners' followed by a bulleted list of activities: 'Presentation covering a breadth of food gardening techniques', 'Full guided tour of the Garlic Shed, including greenhouses, small and large-scale gardens, wide variety of crops', 'Hands-on learning opportunities', and 'Lunch provided'. At the bottom left, the date and time '8 JUNE 2025 SUNDAY AFTERNOON 11:30 AM - 4:00 PM' are listed. In the center bottom, the location 'MEET AT: RED FOX FARM 25 KING ST N SIMCOE' is shown. At the bottom right, the entry fee '\$55' is displayed. The bottom of the poster is divided into two photographs: one of a greenhouse and another of a large garden field with rows of plants. At the very bottom, there is a small logo and the text 'FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER: https://granderiemg.org/'.

**Name: Annual Native Plant Sale in Brant County**

**Date:** Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>

## 1000 Islands Master Gardeners

### Technical Update

### Biodiverse Garden Tour 2025 – Transitioning to Turf-Free Yards

**Date:** August 2025

**Location:** Kingston and Area

More information to follow.

## Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

### Oak Wilt Disease

**Reminder – Do Not Prune Oak Trees (*Quercus* spp.) from April 1<sup>st</sup> until**

**December:** winter pruning when the tree is dormant needs to be the new norm.



*This is a friendly reminder to hold off pruning your oaks until the end of November to protect trees from oak wilt disease.*

Oak Wilt (*Bretziella fagacearum*) is a fungal disease that can kill oak trees within one year. Red oaks are particularly susceptible. The pathogen that causes oak wilt (*Bretziella fagacearum*) is present in the Ontario environment, and prevention is key to defend against oak wilt. All ages and sizes of oak trees are susceptible to oak wilt:

<https://onnurserycrops.wordpress.com/2024/04/02/reminder-no-pruning-oaks-from-now-until-november/#more-6673>.

The Ontario government advises 'you should not prune or wound oaks between April 1 and November 30, when the sap beetles that spread the disease are active'.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/oak-wilt#:~:text=Oak%20wilt%20is%20an%20introduced,Falls%20area%20of%20Southern%20Ontario>.



Pathways by which oak wilt can spread include:

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

**How You Can Help:** The CFIA would like Master Gardeners to share this message with the public and our members.



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



The city of Philadelphia has excellent information including identification on their website:

<https://www.phila.gov/2020-10-13-stop-the-spotted-lanternfly-identify-and-destroy-their-eggs/>. For more information, visit [Canada.ca/spotted-lanternfly](https://canada.ca/spotted-lanternfly).

The **SLF Timeline** is:

Sep to Nov – egg laying

Oct to Jun – egg mass

**May to Jul – early stage nymph**

Jul to Sep – late stage nymph

Jul to Dec – adult

Here is a link to the CFIA's one page infographic:

<https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/invasive-species/insects/spotted-lanternfly/infographic>



## CFIA Digital Toolkit

The CFIA is looking for help and expertise to engage Canadians on how we can successfully keep Canada's natural landscape, bountiful plants, and beautiful gardens healthy and protected against the threat of invasive species. The CFIA has developed a user-friendly [digital toolkit](#) full of outreach materials in both English and French, including posters, social media messaging and images, and more! Please use these and share freely. This toolkit includes extensive material on invasive species.

Feel free to bug us if you have any questions or would like to discuss opportunities to work together!

*Maria Kubacki, Manager / Gestionnaire*

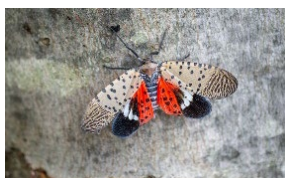
Marketing and partnerships / Marketing et partenariats  
Communications and Public Affairs Branch / Direction  
générale des communications et affaires publiques  
Canadian Food Inspection Agency / Agence canadienne  
d'inspection des aliments

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada  
343-542-3856 / [Maria.kubacki@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:Maria.kubacki@inspection.gc.ca)



## CFIA – Spotted Lanternfly

Canada is preparing for the potential arrival of the Spotted Lanternfly (SLF), present in the United States and getting closer to the Canadian border. The SLF would be devastating for Canada's wine, fruit, nursery and forest industries.



SLF – CFIA

The CFIA has spokespeople available for interviews, people who are experts in plant health imports and exports. CFIA experts are also willing to write and submit a piece if that is of interest. Please contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Media Relations, Canadian Food Inspection Agency /  
Government of Canada: [cfia.media.acia@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:cfia.media.acia@inspection.gc.ca)  
Tel: 613-773-6600



## CFIA Seeds Alert

**Canadians are urged to connect with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) before sending seeds abroad.**

As Canada's plant health regulator, the CFIA plays an important role in making sure seeds from Canada meet internationally agreed upon regulations. There have been notifications of non-compliance from foreign countries about seeds exported from Canada without proper phytosanitary (plant health) certification.

Seeds can potentially be invasive in some countries or spread plant diseases or other pests. Not meeting requirements has consequences such as the destination country destroying the seeds and issuing Canada a notice of non-compliance. All seeds, including those in small packets for gardeners, must comply with the import requirements of the destination country.

Please share this information with the Canadian public to increase awareness of the important steps to take when shipping or exporting seeds to protect international plant resources, our economy and the environment.

Additional Links & Background Information:

- [Shipping and exporting seeds from Canada](#)
- [Plant health at the CFIA](#)
- [Chronicle 360 plant health](#)
- [Canada's plant health hero challenge](#)
- [Join the plant health movement](#) (Chronicle 360)

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