Inside MGOI

Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Ontario

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

This Newsletter aims to be the voice for Master Gardeners—a 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.

MGOI Board Members:

President:	Anne Craig, Peterborough
Past President:	Karen Sciuk, Waterloo Region
Vice President:	Vacant
Corporate Secretary:	Lynda Bobinski, Thunder Bay
Treasurer:	Susie Cosack, Simcoe
Director of Communications:	Ruth Treloar, Haliburton County
Director of Education:	Kate Sault, Halton
Director of Events:	Isia Yeo, Durham
Director of Membership:	Lois Johnson, Niagara
Director of Operations:	Dianne Wheler, Tri-County
Director of Marketing:	Elizabeth Stewart, Toronto
Director of Partnerships:	Sean Patchett, Muskoka
Director of Central Region:	Linda Gordon, Etobicoke
Director of East Region:	Rebecca Last-Guenette, Ottawa-Carleton
Director of North Region:	Gail Cocker, Simcoe County
Director of South & West Region:	Lynne Goulet-Smith, Grand Erie
Advisor to the Board:	Rhonda Grein, Waterloo Region

Committee Members:

Webmaster: Sabine Behnk, Waterloo sabine.behnk@icloud.com
Newsletter Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton newsletter@mgoi.ca
Membership Database, Exams & Certificates: MJ Pilgrim, Peterborough database@mgoi.ca
Badges & Pins: Lois Johnson, Niagara supplies@mgoi.ca
MGOI Wear: Lynn Goulet-Smith, Grand Erie
Twitter: Dale Odorizzi, Lanark County
Facebook: Claudette Sims, Halton & Cathy Kavassalis, Halton
Manager, MG Participation in the CNE & RWF: Kate Sault, Halton

In This Issue

- Master Gardeners
  - Milestones
  - Invasive Species Action Fund (ISAF) Open
  - Master Gardeners Out & About
  - Upcoming Events
  - Oak Wilt Disease & Spotted Lantern Fly
  - CFIA Digital Toolkit; CFIA Seeds Alert
- MGOI
  - Board Vacancy: VP

INSIDE MGOI
October 2025

Newsletter of the
Master Gardeners of Ontario, Inc.

Editor: Isabel Belanger, Halton

Milestones

Grey County Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary
Karen Young

A former educator with a 30-year background in Horticulture, Karen runs her own business called Willow Farm Grasses in Bognor, Ontario. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the group.

Karen (right) received her 15-year pin from chairperson Susan Cox

Karen actively participates in local programs such as the Gardener in Residence at the Owen Sound Library, Grown in Grey, Forest Festival and our annual plant sale in September.

5 Year Anniversary
Jennifer Deeks

Jennifer (right) was presented with her 5-year pin by chairperson Susan Cox

Jenn works full-time as a veterinary tech. In her "spare" time, she runs her own gardening business as well as being actively involved with projects and programs associated with our group!

Jenn's our photo and technology wizard too!

Master Gardener Status Achieved
Karen Newark

Karen (left) receives her Master Gardener certificate from chairperson, Susan Cox

Karen joins the Grey County Master Gardeners with a background in Horticulture & Geography from the University of Guelph, and a career in research and education. She enjoys planning and developing gardens on her retirement property near Wiarton, Ontario.

Halton Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training
Gavin Hudson
Jess Shaw
Jean MacKinnon
Denise Cusson

A very warm welcome is extended to our newest members!

Lake Simcoe South Master Gardeners

5 Year Anniversary
Deborah Campbell

Deborah, our current Treasurer, is celebrating five years as a Master Gardener in October. LSS appreciates Deborah's easy smile, willingness to jump in when help is needed, and her extensive knowledge of all things horticultural.

Congratulations Deborah!

Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners

Golden Trowel Award 2025
Aili Dampier

Every year the Thunder Bay & District Master Gardeners recognize one of their valued members by presenting them with the 'Golden Trowel Award'. This year we are happy to celebrate Aili Dampier. She is one of the founding members of the Thunder Bay & District MG group and has been a member for over 35 years.

She lives in Nipigon which is roughly 120 km from Thunder Bay and rarely misses a meeting or event. Over the years, she has dedicated herself to working with seniors. She helped establish a horticultural therapy program at a long-term care facility in Thunder Bay for 5 years, and then started a horticultural therapy program at the long-term care facility in Nipigon for the past 11 years. She tries to meet weekly with the residents and plans plant related activities to improve their social, physical and cognitive abilities.

We celebrate her commitment and dedication.

Aili, middle with Coordinator Andrea Steinhaeusser, left and last year's winner Lynda Lahteenmaa, right

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

20 Year Anniversary
Tania Kroman

Master Gardener Status Achieved—September 2025
Jennifer Hagan

New Master Gardeners in Training
Kaye Puhlmann
Ralph Walton
Tatiana Rafique

Congratulations Tania and Jennifer! And welcome to our new members who joined us in September!

Transfer In
June Too

MGiT June transferred from Niagara and is finishing her studies at Guelph. Welcome June!

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carlton

New Master Gardeners in Training
Kathleen Atkinson
Shelley Pelkey
Victoria Walker

Niagara Master Gardeners

15 Year Anniversary
Pam Coring

5 Year Anniversary
Eva Weber

Congratulations Pam and Eva on receiving your 15-year and five-year anniversary pins.

At centre, Lois Johnson (MG membership coordinator) stands with Niagara MGs Eva Weber, left, and Pam Coring, right, who marked milestones at our October meeting

Pam wrote a few words to mark the occasion:
My earliest memories of gardening were as a young adult after purchasing my first home and trying to fill all my empty garden beds with anything I could get my hands on. There were many lessons learned in those early years and now my passion is perennials and shade gardening. I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the Niagara Master Gardeners group and continue to learn and grow with them. I always look forward to volunteering in the many activities that the Niagara group is involved with throughout the year.

Northumberland Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Status Achieved
Christine Westbrook

Christine received her Master Gardener Certificate at our September meeting. Christine is a lifelong learner and has an affinity for dahlias. At our October meeting she ran a workshop on how to split dahlia tubers and get them ready for winter.

Christine, left receiving her certificate from Coordinator Judy Kaufmann

New Master Gardeners in Training
Michelle Driscoll
Sarah Hopper
Saskia Hummel
Deb Knox
Kim Murray

The NMGs have had several people interested in joining as MGiTs. Kim joined last fall, Michelle and Saskia joined over the winter, and this summer Sarah and Deb joined. All are at different stages of their education and training, but all bring a love of gardening and learning to the group!

London Middlesex Master Gardeners

New Master Gardeners in Training
Mary Leslie
Emily Logan

Member Profiles

Mary has the same challenge a lot of folks with walnut trees face. Still, she's made the most of her space with loads of spring bulbs, dogwood, hostas, and hydrangeas that really brighten things up. She's no stranger to garden design and knows her way around managing erosion and starting fresh with new garden beds. Her latest project is a pond! It's a lovely addition and shows she's always up for trying something new.

Mary's always learning and is excited about what LMMG can offer — especially when it comes to native plants and making her yard feel more natural and wilder.

As a lifelong teacher, she's a pro at public speaking and absolutely loves organizing big presentations for kids, parents, colleagues, and supervisors. With her energy and experience, I have no doubt Mary's going to be a fantastic addition to the LMMG crew.

Emily has her hands in three gardens right now — one at her condo, another at a park, and the third in a polytunnel at a local church. She's especially passionate about growing vegetables and loves experimenting with different varieties.

She's super active in the community, too! Emily's involved with Friends of the London Civic Garden, the Byron Food Bank, Belvedere Community Gardens, and she's a member of the Pollinator Pathways Project Group. Talk about busy!

With a background in mechanical design and having completed both the *Seeds to Table* and *Toastmasters* courses, Emily brings a unique mix of skills and experience. She's got a lot to offer, and we're really looking forward to having her as part of the LMMG group.

Lanark County Master Gardeners

New Master Gardener in Training
Kelly Morrison

We are delighted to announce that Kelly Morrison has joined Lanark County Master Gardeners. Kelly joined us in June and immediately started volunteering at our newest Farmers Market in Carleton Place.

She is an active participant at our meetings and has volunteered to help with certain administrative chores. She is a very welcome addition.

Kelly is currently pursuing the Master Gardener program at Dalhousie and has submitted her first assignment. Welcome Kelly!

Board Vacancy—Vice President (VP)

MGOI is looking for 1 or 2 VPs to support the President. This 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*

Invasive Species Action Fund (ISAF)—Open

Applications are open for the 2026/2027 ISAF! The Fund supports projects that catalyze action on invasive species in Ontario. Please visit the Invasive Species Centre website for information: https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/grant-opportunities/

Applications must be submitted electronically by Friday, January 9, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

There are two grants: one grant is for the Invasive Species Action Fund (ISAF), open now for applications and eligible for invasive species that are not phragmites; the other grant—The Invasive Phragmites Control Fund for 2026/27—will open soon.

The Invasive Species Action Fund (ISAF) is a grant program designed to facilitate on-the-ground management and monitoring of invasive species in Ontario. The program is supported by Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).

Master Gardeners Out & About

Projects & Events

Halton Master Gardeners

Name: Announcing the 2025 Monarch Award Recipients

Details: The names of the Monarch Award recipients were announced on September 20th. Recipients were Allison Barnes, Jessie Blake, Kirsten Bodenstedt, Mike Costanzo, Laetitia Eyssartel, Angela Larson, Karen Logan, Michael Love, Jen McNeill, Valerie Meneguzzi, Amanda Powell, Catharine Stewart, Liam Thorne and Nikolett Toth. Congratulations!

These gardens exemplify ecological gardening practices. Monarch recipients received a certificate and a plaque to display in their gardens.

Participants at the Chrysalis and Caterpillar levels received a certificate and a garden sign to acknowledge their progress towards creating a fully ecological garden. Gardeners at the Good Start level received a certificate to celebrate the start of their ecological gardening journey.

Plaques were designed by Halton MG Krista Elvey.

This year's event wrapped-up with the presentation of plaques, garden signs and certificates by Lorraine Johnson, celebrated native gardener, author and advocate, at the October 15th Monarch Awards celebration. For more information visit:
https://haltonmastergardeners.com/events/monarch-awards/
https://haltonmastergardeners.com/2025/04/30/monarch-awards-2025-in-celebration-of-native-plant-gardening/

Photos of the 2025 Monarch Award gardens are available for viewing in the gallery of Monarch Awards on the HMG website. Here is the link: https://haltonmastergardeners.com/events/monarch-awards/gallery/.

Grey County Master Gardeners

Name: Among the Peonies

Details: A group of Master Gardeners attended a local annual event called *Among the Peonies* at the home of Dennis and Emily Bi in Leith, Ont. Each year the hosts open their gardens for people to tour and admire over 300 varieties of peonies! Our group offers demonstrations on splitting/dividing peony plants as well as fielding a variety of gardening questions.

Left to right are MGs Elizabeth Brims, Karen Young, Carole Warren, Shirl Thorn and Jen Deeks

Name: Local Summer Markets

Details: Master Gardeners are often on hand to answer questions at local markets on the weekends during the summer.

MGs Ann Joyner, left and Elizabeth Brims at the market in Thornbury, Ont.

Name: Annual Plant Sale

Details: The Grey County MG annual plant sale had another successful turnout this September! The sale is held on the second Saturday in September at the pavilion in Meaford, Ont.

Name: Club Education Day
Details: Every summer, our club members enjoy an excursion with an educational component. This summer we were treated to a guided tour and video describing the development of a large pond and gardens at a residence on McCullogh Lake near Williamsford, Ont. The hosts are parents to one of our club members. A potluck lunch topped off our outing!

Mike Sedlezky (blue shirt) addressed the group on this hot July day!

The large pond with gardens

Tri-County Master Gardeners

Name: TCMG Autumn Pop-Up Sale
Details: Tri-County Master Gardeners followed up their highly successful spring native plant sale with a pop-up sale on Saturday, September 27th. Whereas plants for the spring sale were obtained from a commercial native plant grower, the plants for this sale were provided by TCMG members who dug them up from their own gardens, or started them from seed, etc. Most plants on offer were native.

The fall sale was again held in the gym of Stratford's Avondale United Church, with lead up preparations made at Don Farwell's home. Don himself was the source of many of the native plants that he was anxious to see spread throughout TCMGs communities. Don and his wife Stella kindly hosted our group members for a BBQ working lunch on the Wednesday before the sale.

The sale was not as wildly popular as the spring sale (perhaps because more people are inspired to plant in spring).

Pop-Up Sale preparation at the home of Don & Stella Farwell - l. to r. MGs Leslye Glover, Maureen Cocksedge, Nancy Burnett & Dianne Wheler

However, leftovers were donated to various groups, thereby accomplishing the goal of spreading more native plants throughout Huron, Perth and Oxford Counties.

Pop-Up Sale trees and shrubs ready at Avondale United Church

Pop-Up Sale set-up prior to doors opening - Don Farwell chatting in the foreground & Elizabeth Spedaliere sharing information with fellow MGs in background

Markham Fair Booth

Left to right: MGs Deborah Coleman, Kathleen Gorseline, Susan Sue-Ling

Name: Richmond Hill Blooms Garden Social
Details: We also attended the Richmond Hill Blooms Garden Social, an event dedicated to meeting fellow gardeners, playing environmental games, free plant giveaways, and Richmond Hill sponsored purchases such as backyard composters.

Lake Simcoe South

Name: Markham Fair
Details: Lake Simcoe South spent four days with the Markham Fair, covering seasonal topics from garlic to flowering bulb planting, creating simple bird feeders on a pinecone with the kids, and offering free native plant seeds all set for winter sowing.

Left to right: MGs Julie Frend, Arun Kumar, Lumi Hutanu

MG Sally Hossain shares advice on preserving the bounty of your garden

Grand Erie Master Gardeners

Name: Native Plant Fair, October 4th
Details: The Grand Erie Master Gardeners volunteered at the Native Plant Fair hosted by the Hamilton Naturalists' Club in Hamilton.

Left to right: MG Kim Hutten, MGIT Marilyn Park, MGIT Liz Hopkins
Halton MG Pam MacDonald, right in the red hat

Name: Relocation of the Pollinator Garden
Details: Volunteers gathered with the Grand Erie Master Gardeners to relocate the pollinator garden at Jury St. Park in Paris, Ont. between April 12th and October 5th of this year. Here are a few photos:

MGs Anne Saunders (left) & Lynne Goulet-Smith in the middle

MGiT Liz Hopkins in the foreground

MG Kim Hutten's dog Mr. Dot was a great assistant!

Name: Social Visit
Details: Some of our group were able to get together in person for a social visit on September 14th since we always meet over zoom due to our substantial geographical distance from each other.

Thanks to MG Anne Saunders for hosting in her beautiful garden in Paris Ont.

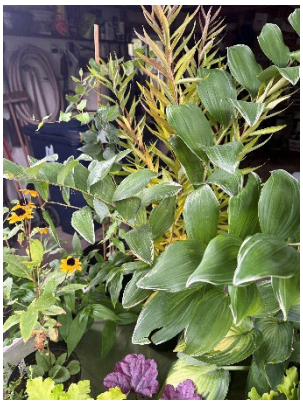
Name: Presentations
Details: MGs Anne Saunders, Alex Kucharew and MGiT Betty Goodfellow gave a presentation on "Planting Bulbs" for the Brant Library at the Scotland Branch on October 4th.

MG Nancy Lee-Colibaba and MGiT Liz Hopkins presented on "Leave the Leaves" on October 21st at the St. George Library Branch.

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: Annual Fall Plant Sale, September 13
Details: Pictures worth a thousand words! These were taken on location at the fall plant sale held at MG Lesie Ferguson's home.

Aerial view of the fall 2025 plant sale



Detail of plant design display

Leslie Ferguson, 3rd on the left, briefing plant sale volunteers

Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton

Name: Technical Update: The Wonderful World of Trees
Details: On Oct 4th, 96 gardeners learned a lot more about trees. Owen Clarkin, PhD, advocate and citizen scientist, spoke on how climate change is bringing more near-natives such as heartleaf birch and sassafras trees into the Ottawa area. He also spoke about fostering native obscure species such as red spruce, black maple (drought adapted), pitch pine and black willow, as well under appreciated trees such as grey birch and rock elm.

Owen Clarkin, vice president of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club and leading contributor to iNaturalist
(Photo Stuart Kinmond)

From the City of Ottawa, Martha Copestake, Senior Forester of Natural Systems and Tracy Schwets, Program Manager of Forest Management, spoke about initiatives to plan, monitor and plant trees.

Martha Copestake explained the city's Urban Forest Management Plan (Photo Barbara Sibbald)

The city is aiming for a 40% canopy; areas such as downtown currently have only 14%. With a budget of $2.4 million, the city plants about 88,000 trees a year; 60-80% are seedlings.

Tracey Schwets said her department answers 23,000 calls a year
(Photo by Barbara Sibbald)

More than half of the technical update's registrants then gathered at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Arboretum for a guided tour by Robert Glendinning (AAFC/AAC) who is passionate about propagation. He focused on unusual and lovely species, such as the white oak and various magnolias.

Robert Glendinning talked about propagating Isabelle Preston crab apple species (Photo by Barbara Sibbald)

Lanark Master Gardeners provided dessert and organized a raffle. See their write-up on the next page.

Name: Advice Clinics and Talks
Details: Late season clinics were held at Lansdowne's Ottawa Farmers' Market, Barrhaven Market, Cumberland Farmers Market, Westboro Market, Main Street Market, and Watson's Mill Farmers Market in Manotick.

MG Nancy McDonald presented her lecture "What's This in My Garden? Friend or Foe?" to the Kanata-March Horticultural Society on Oct. 7th.

Niagara Master Gardeners

Name: Fall Flower-arrangement Workshop
Details: Niagara Master Gardeners held a workshop in October at Tabor Manor Long-term Care home helping residents create some vibrant autumn-themed flower arrangements. These activities are always well appreciated by residents.

From left, MGs Pam Coring, Sue Lusted and Kendy Steeves hosted a fall flower planting activity at Tabor Manor Long Term Care in St. Catharines in October

Northumberland Master Gardeners

Name: Port Hope Fall Fair
Details: The Port Hope Fall Fair ran from September 11-14 this year. NMGs were present in the plants and flowers exhibit, and members were on hand to answer questions about the flowers on display and gardening in general. Members Claire Blahnik, Suzi Gabbany and Christine Westbrook entered flowers and all three won several awards. Claire won the most points in the flower class!

Lanark County Master Gardeners

Name: Annual Potluck Luncheon, October 21st
Details: Our October meeting is always a combination Potluck and business meeting. This year, it was extra special in that we had a painting workshop led by our own Tim Deslippe.

Tim Deslippe explaining the process

Tim brought the canvases, the paint, the plastic sheet to protect the place and we brought the plant materials. (Tim brought some of those too!).

He showed us how to spray the canvas and place the plant materials and then drop dots of acrylic paint on them. Once the canvases dried, we could remove the plant materials and admire our artwork. He was an excellent teacher and very patient with us, offering tips for improvement in a very supportive way. Thanks Tim.

Kelly Morrison's art

Helen Halpenny's art

Group picture, left to right: Judy Wall, Gerda Franssen, Victor Wark, Kelly Morrison, Tim Deslippe, Kevin Long, Helen Halpenny, Dale Odorizzi

Name: Technical Update (TU)

Details: Lanark County Master Gardeners cohosted the October 4th TU: The Wonderful World of Trees with the Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton, in Ottawa. (See the MGOC write-up, above). Our group provided the desserts for the luncheon and ran the very successful Raffle.

The event had two speakers in the morning and after lunch everyone headed to the Experimental Farm for a guided tour of the Arboretum, a place no one should miss. Since 2005 we have cohosted Technical Updates with Ottawa. This year a group from Thousand Islands Master Gardeners and our MGOI President, Anne Craig also attended.

Name: Lanark County Farmers Markets

Details: This year we added a third Farmers Market to our rotation. We do the two original markets, Almonte and Perth biweekly, and have added the third at Carleton Place on a monthly basis.

The last market date was on October 11. Many of our regular customers stopped by with a question, or to thank us for our help over the summer. It is always a happy/sad time to see the end of the markets.

Last customer at the Carleton Farmers Market with, from left to right, MGs Kevin Long, Dale Odorizzi and Nancy Barnard

UPCOMING EVENTS

Toronto Master Gardeners

Technical Update 2025
Changing Cities, One Garden at a Time

Last Chance to Register!

Date: Saturday, November 8
Schedule:
8:00 a.m.: ***Registration opens***
8:30 a.m.: ***Continental breakfast***
9:00 a.m.: ***Welcome remarks***
Cost:
$65 for Toronto Master Gardeners
$75 for other Master Gardeners
$85 for members of the public

Cost includes a continental breakfast and boxed lunch.

Details: Join the Toronto Master Gardeners at the Toronto Botanical Garden to explore how gardeners can support biodiversity in city gardens. The event will include a panel discussion, breakout sessions, and keynote speaker.

This will be a great opportunity to cross pollinate ideas and share inspiration with other Master Gardeners!

Registration: Visit the Technical Update page (https://www.torontomastergardeners.ca/technical-update/) to choose your breakout session preferences and then visit https://forms.gle/vUB7FEUsCpUVpRqH7 to register.

Etobicoke Master Gardeners

Name: EMG Talk Series at the Humber Arboretum
Next Date & Topic:

- Saturday, November 15th – Nurturing Indoor Greenery: A Guide to Growing Indoor Plants

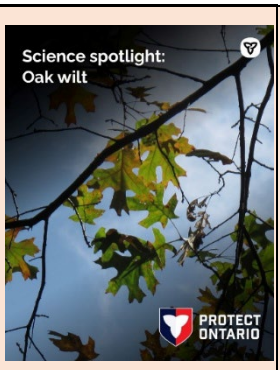
Time & Place: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Virtual—On-Line via Zoom
Details: Learn how to create your own indoor garden oasis by selecting indoor plants, learn about the benefits of indoor plants, how to care for and grow them successfully and some of the challenges of indoor gardening. Explore a variety of plants, from common favorites to unique and trending options, including succulents, tropical indoor plants, and more.

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

---

Ontario, Environment and energy, Wildlife and nature

https://www.ontario.ca/page/environment-and-energy



There's something shady about **oak wilt (*Bretziella fagacearum*)**, and it moves fast!

- This invasive fungus can kill oak trees quickly — sometimes in just a few weeks.
- All oak species can be affected, but red oaks are most susceptible.
- Oak wilt is spread by tiny sap beetles and root contact between infected trees.
- Our science staff are studying sap beetle movement and fungal DNA found in infected trees to better understand how to detect oak wilt early and minimize its spread. Since the first detection in 2023, oak wilt has been found in the Niagara and Barrie areas.

How can you help prevent the spread of oak wilt?

- **April 1 to November 30: avoid pruning oaks** when sap beetles that can spread oak wilt are active
- mid to late summer: watch for trees wilting and shedding discoloured leaves
- don't move firewood
- report suspected infections to OakWiltReporting Ontario-Flétrissement Du Chêne@inspection.gc.ca
- CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) website: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/invasive-species/plant-diseases/oak-wilt; also includes info on types of oak tree and leaf decline not due to oak wilt

Learn more at **ontario.ca/page/oak-wilt**.

#ScienceON #InvasiveSpecies #ForestResearch #ForestHealth

Canada's oak wilt response framework is available here, through the CFIA: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/invasive-species/plant-diseases/oak-wilt/response-framework

---

Spotted Lanternfly

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has reported a number of sightings of Spotted lanternfly (SLF) in southwestern Ontario in October but has not confirmed any established populations in Canada. https://inspection.canada.ca/en/plant-health/invasive-pests-and-plants/insects/spotted-lanternfly/observations-canada#wb-auto-4.
If you think you have found a Spotted lanternfly, **please ensure you follow these steps:**

- **Snap it:** Take clear photos of the specimen
- **Kill and/or catch it**: If you are able, collect the specimen or squish it and put it in a sealable container such as a small jar, vial or plastic bag. Live specimens can be placed in a freezer to be killed. Retaining the sample is important so that a positive identification can be made.
- **Report it:** Collect as much information as possible such as your accurate location and **report the find to the CFIA (Canada Food Inspection Agency).**

The Invasive Species Centre is hosting free SLF workshops in Windsor on November 17th, 2025. Reservations are necessary. This is a great opportunity to learn more about SLF and how to recognize and report this pest.
Monday, November 17, 2025
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. OR 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm—Location: Ojibway Nature Centre (5200 Matchett Road Windsor, ON)
Click here to register for the morning session (9:30 am – 11:30 am); Click here to register for the evening session (6:30 pm – 8 pm)

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.

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
Tel: 613-773-6600

Follow:

Facebook ; X ; YouTube ; LinkedIn

Instagram

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

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! Please contact Maria Kubacki at the following coordinates:

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