



Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com

Issue 61, July 2021

We sit in other people's gardens, why not in our own?

--Mirabel Osler

A Gentle Plea for Chaos (1989)

SPEAKER JULY 19

Liana D'Andrea, on Sustainable Balcony Gardening.

WHAT'S EATING YOUR GARDEN?

Everything eats, or How to keep animals from eating your plants:

Barriers and fences help, or you can introduce predators. Dogs and cats can do wonders for keeping away wildlife.

Plant things they won't eat. If rabbits keep eating your peas, don't plant them. Alternatively, try planting in a raised bed or fence them in.

There are many trees and shrubs that deer don't like, such as azaleas, rhododendron, boxwood, butterfly bush, junipers, oleander, tansy and smoke tree.

Trap animals and take them into a wooded area. If you're afraid of a raccoon attack, call a wildlife company to deal with it.

Try natural sprays, sonic devices, remedies and repellents. Cayenne and blood meal will work, but they'll have to be reapplied after every rain.

The best way to control mice and rats is to keep things clean and tidy. Never put meats, fats, dairy products or cooked grains in compost piles, as they will surely attract vermin.

We can all live in harmony by having a diverse mix of animals and plants and an abundance of food sources.





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HIDING EYESORES

Some unsightly things in the garden cannot be helped. Other than moving or designing a whole new look, there are easy ways to cover up unattractive surroundings:

Plant evergreens or dwarf bushes around them like a hedge.

Build a trellis over whatever you're trying to hide and plant fast growing annuals, climbing ornamental or vegetable vines on it, such as honeysuckle, Thumbergia or scarlet runner beans.

Build a wall or fence as a design element, and plant tall flowers and bushes in front of it.

A giant rock will hide a multitude of problems, including a too wet spot where nothing will grow.

CURBSIDE APPEAL

Attention all gardeners and gardening enthusiasts: Nominate a neighbour in Ward 2 by emailing their home address to curbappeal@vaughan.ca or calling Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281. The Curb Appeal Program is an important part of Vaughan's beautification mandate, as it recognizes homeowners and businesses who demonstrate exceptional pride and effort in maintaining their properties. Nominees will be visited by dedicated community volunteers who evaluate the properties. Judging is based on overall esthetics of property. Use of variety, colour and textures in plantings and landscape; perennials as well as annuals and creativity in design and materials. For more tips, visit vaughan.ca/CurbAppeal.

***Please note:** The judges' visits will adhere to all COVID-19 safety measures and orders. Recognized properties will receive a Curb Appeal sign on their lawn in July or August.

REMINDER*

There will not be meeting in August. We will resume **Monday, September 20.** Claudette Sims will be discussing **The Future of Gardening.**

