



Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com

Issue 65, March 2022

"Thank God men cannot fly, and lay waste the sky as well as the earth."

--Henry David Thoreau.

SPEAKER MARCH 21

Liana D'Andrea, on Backyard Birds through the Seasons.

PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR

Schizachyrium Scoparium, known commonly as Little Bluestem, has high ecological value and is low maintenance. It's easy-care, unfussy, and beautiful. It occurs naturally throughout Canada and all but two states in the U.S. Drought tolerant, it adapts to poor soils. Once established, it thrives without supplemental irrigation or fertilizer, and should be cut back once a year.

It has bright blues and greens in spring, summer pinks and purples, followed by deep, rich colors in the fall. Clusters of flowers emerge in late summer, maturing to showy seed heads. The foliage often retains copper and rust tones into winter, and its structure provides visual texture and interest. It is relatively pest and disease-free. Little Bluestem and its cultivars grow freely on slopes, in prairie plantings, in perennial beds, and as refreshing additions to containers. They provide food and shelter for wildlife, including birds and butterflies. These grasses withstand the rigors of shared public spaces—parking lots, roadsides, parks, and street plantings—and help make them greener and more beautiful.

BIG YEAR, NEW BEGINNING!



The Canadian Garden Council (CGC) is proud to proclaim 2022 as Canada's Year of the Garden, commemorating Canada's horticulture sector and rich garden heritage. In honour of its Centennial, the 100th Anniversary of the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association, the Year of the Garden will publicly launch on March 20, 2022, the first day of spring. Members of





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Canada's Garden Family—growers, garden centres, retailers, designers, landscapers, public gardens, horticultural societies, garden clubs, garden communicators, and educators—are all invited to engage with Canada's Year of the Garden 2022 activities.

You may already enjoy gardening. You may have recently discovered the pleasure of spending time in a garden. Gardening may be your antidote to boredom, a great form of exercise, a way to connect with nature, a way to combat rising food costs by growing your own produce, etc. You'll want to learn more about how gardens impact so much of life. here's something for everyone to mark our country's rich garden heritage, and create important legacies for a sustainable future.

From the Planter's Moon in the spring of 2022, to the Frost Moon in the fall, discover the many ways you can celebrate today's vibrant garden culture at home, at work, in school, in your community, and at public gardens across the country.

For more ideas and insights on how to celebrate this exciting 100th anniversary, watch the Zoomer Report on:

[theZoomer on The Year of the Garden - YouTube](#)

FLEXING GARDENING MUSCLES

Since there's not much to do while there's still a chance of snow, and the ground is not yet workable, March is the ideal time to plan and prepare for the growing season ahead.

Go through your seed packets, jot down what you'll need, and buy while the selection is great.

Check out the City of Brampton's 10th Annual Seedy Saturday, running virtually from Saturday, March 12 at 10:00 a.m. until Saturday, May 12: [**brampton.ca/seedysaturday**](http://brampton.ca/seedysaturday)

In mid-March, get a head-start on tomato, pepper and dahlia planting.

