



Woodbridge Horticultural Society

# Newsletter

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[www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com](http://www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com)



"Spring shows what God can do with a drab and dirty World."

-Virgil A. Kraft

## Pencil Cactus - From Seedling to Mature



## Did You Know...?

- That the three oldest cultivated crops, thousands of years old, are figs (Middle East), peaches (China and Japan) and Hemp (Asia).
- That wild flowering plants have been in existence (traced in Spain) back 130 million years ago. However, cultivated flowers are a much more recent activity (only several thousand years old).
- That in Ontario, as in other parts of the world, plants/crops were prioritized before flower gardens. Early on, Ontario had a harsh and threatening climate. Even once survival through the winter became easier, pioneer women had very little regard and energy directed towards visual prettiness, organization and neatness for her flowers.

For the inclusion of pertinent WHS news or information, contact the editor one week before the next meeting.



## News

The special guest speaker on Monday, April 17th, 2023 is Loui Kakarelis. The topic will be plant propagation.

Vaughan celebrates the WHS 100th Anniversary on April 25th, at Vaughan City Hall, noon to 1 pm. Please RSVP.



**\*\*2023 membership fees will continue to be collected.\*\***



## Preparing for Spring Gardening

1. Check the maintenance of your tools. Upgrade, sharpen and oil your blades.
2. Shop for products such as fertilizer, plant supports, cages, etc.
3. Clear your beds of weeds, debris and fresh mulch. Dispose of debris in such a way that the weed seeds are destroyed or contained.
4. Prune old wood, except for those plants that bloom from old wood. Know which plants should not be pruned. Clean your cutting tools with alcohol to prevent the possible spread of disease from other plants.
5. Prepare the soil. Turn the soil up to a level of 12 to 14 inches. Add compost and amendments. Rake and water lightly.
6. Expand your gardening area, if desired and/or if you still have the area capacity.
7. Carefully divide perennials that require space to flourish. Prepare their new home and replant ASAP.
8. Plant. Some plants, especially vegetables, can be given an early start indoors. Follow directions included with your purchases.
9. Apply a thick layer of mulch, which will help to inhibit weed growth.

Taken from "Wayside Garden" from the article entitled "Simple rules for planting the perfect spring garden."

## Crossword Answers

### Down:

1. biennials
3. annuals
5. herbicides
6. perennials
8. blade
10. rhizome
12. dormancy
13. weed
17. rest

### Across:

2. loam
4. grafting
7. fertilizer
9. leaflets
11. thorn
14. petiole
15. root
16. compound
18. seed
19. germination

