



Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com

Issue 38, May 2017

*Take thy plastic spade,
It is thy pencil; take
thy seeds, thy plants,
They are thy colours.
William Mason
The English Garden
(1782)*

ACTIVITY TONIGHT

Tonight we will be having fun with a workshop on building bee, bird and butterfly houses, courtesy of Lee Valley Vaughan.

FYI

Helen Peacock's double Narcissus won Best in Show at our April meeting. Environmental Days will be held at various community centres. Pick up free mulch, exchange broken blue boxes, composters for sale and more. Visit vaughan.ca for dates and locations near you.

Backyard composters can be purchased for \$20.00 year round at the Joint Operations Station, 2800 Rutherford Road.

The OHA District 15 Annual General Meeting was held April 22nd at the Thornhill United Church. The theme was *Thornhill- Preserving our Heritage and Planting for the*

Future. Very fitting, as it was also Earth Day. It was hosted by the Thornhill Garden & Horticultural Society and was attended by four WHS members: Maria Durigon, Mary Cicchirillo, Syliva Ciuciura and Barbara Duco.

Attendees were warmly welcomed by THS president, Bernadette Burns and Federal Conservative MP Peter Kent. The guest speaker was Marion Jarvie, who spoke passionately about her garden-*A Garden in Thornhill.* She opens her garden to anyone interested; all you need to do is contact her at marionjarvie@sympatico.ca

Please feel free to submit any feedback and ideas to the Suggestion Box which will be at the main table at every meeting.

CANADA'S NATIONAL FLOWER

Thanks Gilda, for bringing this to our attention: Should Canada have a National flower? To vote please visit [surveymonkey.com/r/8Z9WDW9](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8Z9WDW9)

The deadline is midnight, June 30. The winner will be announced July 1, just

in time to celebrate Canada's birthday.

For the good of the Earth, please visit and watch: [Why we all need to stop using Styrofoam](#)
In keeping with supporting this cause, please remember to bring your own cups to meetings.

FLEXING GARDENING MUSCLES

Top up soil by adding a thick layer of compost and good quality garden soil. Gently rake lawn to remove winter debris. Fertilize. Set lawn mower to 6-8 cm high to weaken formation of weeds. Plant trees, shrubs and roses. Dig and divide perennials to swap with friends, or hold a plant sale.

FIELD TRIP

Our visit to Toronto Botanical Garden will be Saturday, June 3, from 10 - 11:00 a.m. For anyone interested in carpooling, we will meet at the Woodbridge Arena.

Let's Carpool!





Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com

Issue 38, May 2017



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to Maria Durigon, Mary Cicchirillo, Joan Stubberfield, John Mazzella, Gail Stephenson, Penny Willis, Susan Piotrowski and Chris Andrews for their help in the initial clean-up of the Wallace House Garden. Thank you to Enza Lucivero, Sally and Chris Andrews, Susan Piotrowski, Penny Willis, Liz Langenberger and Mace Blundell for their assistance in the 1st clean-up of Armstrong Park held April 22. Thanks to Lucy Cardile's posting our request for volunteers on the city's website, three employees from the Woodbridge Public Library: Jessica, Rose, and Daniela, took some time to help out as well.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Madeleine Sisti-Petrucelli for receiving the Volunteer Recognition

Award at a ceremony held at Vaughan city hall Thursday, April 27.

GARDEN TOUR 2017

Tickets for the June 24, 2017 Garden Tour are available for sale tonight, \$10.00 each.

If you wish to purchase more, please contact John or Maria.



NEAT THINGS ABOUT RAIN

*After the rain cometh
the fair weather.*

Aesop

After battling the effects of last year's drought, will plants now suffer from too much rain? It depends. Ornamentals, herbs and vegetables planted in well-drained soil stand a better chance of surviving. Gardens in water-logged areas may suffer losses. It all goes back to soil preparation. Improve drainage by adding compost and mulch so plants don't have wet feet. Refrain from turning on irrigation systems. Avoid walking on an overwatered, drenched

garden. Put down some type of mulch to prevent weeds and to help ease soil erosion. Do not dig in swamped soil, allowing it to dry out before working. Expect an abundance of weeds after heavy rain; the excessive moisture to the soil will encourage weeds to spring up almost overnight.

Aerate soil to help alleviate its soggy state. Damp, humid conditions are perfect for fungal and bacterial disease as well as encouraging moisture loving slugs. Diseases, such as powdery mildew, will spread very quickly in these conditions. Treat as soon as they are noticed. Waiting too long to act can mean serious trouble for plants. Overturn any buckets, wheelbarrows, pots and saucers that contain rainwater. These are breeding grounds for mosquitoes, once the weather warms up.

SUBMISSIONS

If you have a newsletter submission, please call or email Mary no later than one week before the next meeting.