



# Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



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

Issue 44, May 2018

Gardening seems an easy art, for infinitude is almost as well suggested in a small plot as a large one.

--Robert Harbison

**Eccentric Spaces  
(1977)**

## **SPEAKER TONIGHT**

Karen Shenfeld on  
The Gardens of Little Italy  
as portrayed through Film.

## **GARDEN TOUR 2018**

Tickets for the June 23<sup>rd</sup>,  
2018 Garden Tour are  
available for sale tonight,  
\$10.00 each.

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

## **FYI**

A new and exciting  
Botanical Garden is  
opening soon. For more  
information visit:  
Quinte Botanical Gardens  
664 Glen Ross Rd.  
Frankford, Ontario  
613-398-0402  
[www.qbgardens.ca](http://www.qbgardens.ca)

Environmental Days began  
Sunday, May 6 and will  
continue at various  
community centres. Pick  
up free mulch, exchange  
broken blue boxes,

composters for sale, drop  
off electronics for free  
recycling, and more. Visit  
[vaughan.ca](http://vaughan.ca) for dates and  
locations near you, or call  
905-832-2281 for more  
information.

The OHA District 15  
Annual General Meeting  
was held April 21<sup>st</sup> at the  
Gore Meadows  
Community Centre in  
Brampton, hosted by the  
Chinguacousy Garden  
Club and Horticultural  
Society. The theme for the  
meeting was ON THE  
BRINK OF 200-  
QUINGUACOUSY  
TOWNSHIP 1819 – 2019.

Attendees were warmly  
welcomed by president  
Lydia Robertson, and the  
Mayor of Brampton,  
Linda Jeffrey. Maria  
Durigon, Mary Cicchirillo,  
Nina Nolan, Rachel  
Chiovitti and Barbara  
Duco were present. A  
special guest was WHS  
member, Grace Esposito.  
District Director Barb  
O'Malley presented Grace  
with a special award, The  
Tree of Life, to mark her  
retirement after eight years  
of service.

Owen Goltz gave a very  
interesting and informative

presentation on 'If Soils  
Could Talk'.

In their 2017 publications  
contest, our yearbook came  
in 2<sup>nd</sup>, and our newsletter  
came in 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you are interested in  
obtaining a rain barrel,  
please contact Gail  
Stephenson to arrange a  
pick up date.  
Feel free to submit any  
feedback and ideas to the  
Suggestion Box, which  
will be at the main table at  
every meeting.

For the good of the Earth,  
please continue to bring  
your own cups to meetings.

'Bee' more aware about  
Canada's threatened bee  
populations with this  
booklet of 10 Permanent™  
domestic rate stamps,  
featuring eye-catching  
illustrations of two species  
of the important  
pollinators.



## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

To Penny Willis for  
receiving the Volunteer  
Recognition Award at a  
ceremony held at Vaughan



# Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



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

Issue 44, May 2018

City Hall Thursday, April 19.

## NEAT THINGS ABOUT POLLINATING GARDENS

The real workers in these gardens are bees, butterflies, moths and hummingbirds. Bees are the champion pollinators – 70% of all pollinators in North America are bees. The reason bees are best at pollinating is that they are hairy. Bee fuzz carries an electrostatic charge that attracts pollen grains. Honey bees, bumblebees, stingless bees and orchid bees carry baskets, called corbicula, for collecting pollen. These pollen carriers are located on their hind legs. Other bees collect pollen using thick, brush like hairs (setae) that hold the pollen grains in. This collection system is called scopa, and storage can occur on the hind legs or abdomen. Flowers have several strategies for attracting the right kind of pollinators. They exhibit visual clues, emit scent, offer food, mimic insect pheromones, and even use a system of entrapment - the pollinator can get into the blossom but not out

until they are appropriately covered with pollen. Hummingbirds like to feed on *Agastache*, aquilegia, milkweed, coral bells and honeysuckle. Butterflies favour coreopsis, milkweed, echinacea, liatris and salvia. Bees happily buzz on yarrow, gaillardia, monarda, spirea, Veronica, catmint, St. John's wort, and all kinds of daisies. Moths love flowers that bloom at night.



## FLEXING GARDENING MUSCLES

Prepare containers by replacing last year's soil with a new, good quality brand. Put the old soil in the rest of the garden and top with a thick layer of compost. If you don't have time to till it, enlist the help of earthworms to do the job for you. Gently rake lawn to remove winter debris. Fertilize. Remove weeds before they get out of control. To prevent insect damage, especially aphids, make your own insecticidal soap by mixing 1 tbsp.

Castile soap to 1 gallon water. Pour into a large spray bottle, shake well, and spray top and bottom of leaves late afternoon or evenings once a week. Reapply after it rains. Plant trees, shrubs and roses. Dig and divide perennials to swap with friends, or hold a plant sale.

## VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to Gail, Liz and Mace, Sally, Chris and grandson, Cameron, Mary, Maria, Alexa and Barbara for helping to put together the Spring panels that are now gracing the bridge on Woodbridge Ave. John, Maria, Gail and Mary helped with the first clean-up of the Wallace House garden. There will be another one just before the Garden Tour-please check your emails for the date and time.



## SUBMISSIONS

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