

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1. Don't let your plants boss you.				1 	2	3
4	5	6 GHS Board	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 GHS Meeting	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

GHS Events		
Date	Time	Details
06	7:00 PM	GHS Board Meeting
20	7:00 PM	GHS Zoom Meeting Marie Decker Growing and Caring for Vegetables Seed, or transplant, choose the right plant, intercropping crop rotation, companion planting

In the Community

- ### Things to do in the garden this month
- Plan your garden projects from last summer's notes in your garden journal.
 - Brush heavy snow from evergreens and shrubs.
 - Start geranium seeds. They need 12 weeks from transplanting to bloom.
 - Check stored bulbs, corms or tubers for rot.
 - Check houseplants for pests and disease. Repot if needed.
 - Tramp snow down around young trees, shrubs, Rhododendrons, etc. to deter mice from nesting.
 - Take a gardening course.
 - Buy your seeds for the coming year. There are many reputable Canadian seed suppliers.

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 	11	12	13	14 
15	16 	17 GHS Meeting	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

GHS Events		
Date	Time	Details
17	7:00 PM	GHS Zoom Meeting Darryl Cheng An Engineer's approach to house plants Uncovering the true joys of houseplants: Aesthetics, Biology, and Companionship. More science and realistic expectations. Less fluff and perfectionism.

In the Community

Things to do in the garden this month

- Feed houseplants weekly with ¼ strength fertilizer.
- Take cuttings of geraniums, coleus, or any other houseplants to use as fillers in outdoor containers.
- Buy summer flowering bulbs and store them in a cool place.
- Check stored bulbs, corms or tubers for rot.
- Check and clean supplies for starting seeds.
- Sow seeds that need a long growing period before flowering.
- Cut spring flowering shrubs for forcing in water. Allow 6– 8 weeks to flower.
- Prune storm damaged trees and shrubs.
- Check Magnolia Trees for winter scale
- Take a gardening course.

2. There are only two seasons, before the heat and after the heat.

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	GHS Events			
1	2	3 	4	5	6	7	Date	Time	Details	
8 	9	10 FCEF-MGOC talk	11	12	13	14	17	6:30 PM	GHS In-Person Meeting Leigh Bain from Lee Valley Tools Tools for the urban gardener How to select garden tools and keep them in good shape.	
15	16	17 GHS Meeting	18	19	20 	21 	In the Community			
22 	23	24 FCEF-MGOC talk	25	26	27	28 	4 & 18			
29	30	31	3. A litte bit everyday beats a torn disc and backbreaking labour later.				19-22 28	8:30 PM	Ottawa Home and Garden Show Earth Hour	
		Hospitality						Things to do in the garden this month		
		Margaret McLaren						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prune fruit trees and grape vines while the ground is still frozen. – Spray dormant oil before leaf buds burst on fruit trees and temperature is above 5°C – Check houseplants for pests and disease. Repot if needed. – Prune shade trees except bleeders such as maple or birch. – Sow annuals indoors that take 70– 90 days to bloom. Plant according to packet information. – Start quicker maturing annuals toward the end of the month. – Sprinkle lettuce seeds mixed with sand on the snow to get a jump on this cool weather crop – Remove winter protection from shrubs and evergreens on an overcast day to prevent sun-scorch 		

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4. Procrastination in the garden, especially when it relates to pests, is a big no-no.			1	2	3 	4
5 	6 	7 GHS Board FCEF-MGOC talk	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 D1 AGM
19	20	21 GHS Meeting FCEF-MGOC talk	22 	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

GHS Events		
Date	Time	Details
07	7:00 PM	GHS Board Meeting
21	6:30 PM	GHS In-Person Meeting
18	9:00 AM	D1 AGM Vankleek Hill

In the Community		
7 & 21		Friends of the Farm and Master Gardener Speakers' Series FCEF-MGOC

- Things to do in the garden this month**
- Prune roses and feed.
 - Prune non-flowering shrubs.
 - Fertilize trees and shrubs as the ground thaws.
 - Apply dormant oil spray to fruit trees and shrubs.
 - Plant new shrubs, evergreens, trees and vines.
 - Clear leaf mulch from the crowns of perennials and bulbs.
 - Remove dead perennial stalks ONLY after temperatures rise to around 10°C, so as not to disturb any hibernating insects.
 - Rake debris from the lawn only after it has dried enough so if walked on would leave no footprint. Repair bald spots, add new soil and reseed. Fertilize with high nitrogen fertilizer..
 - Press any perennials, which have heaved due to frost, back into the soil.
 - Plant peas, lettuce, carrots, beets and leeks in the garden.
 - Divide summer and fall blooming perennials.
 - Turn over the compost pile and mix in some shredded leaves
 - Put out hummingbird feeder and birdbath.

Hospitality
Jacqui O'Callaghan
Laurie Loh
Phyllis McBain

Pot up plants for the sale

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5. There are three major opportunity points: before a rain, after a rain, and as seasons transition.					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Drop off plants	9 GHS Plant Sale
10 FCEF Plant Sale 	11 Last Frost	12 	13	14	15	16
17	18 	19	20 	21	22 	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Hospitality		Nursing Home Flowers		Pat Clark Gardens	
			Laurier Manor:		May 11 - 24:	
			Rothwell H		May 25 - June 7:	
			Osgoode Care: Joan Born Flett			
			Saint Louis: Donna Kemp			

GHS Events		
Date	Time	Details
08	Morning	Plant drop off Pricing and sorting of plants
09	9:00 AM	GHS Plant Sale at the Orleans Fruit Farm
Please pot your plants well in advance when dividing treasures from your gardens for the GHS Sale		
In the Community		
2 & 3		Orchidophilia
12	8AM-1PM	Friends of the Farm (FCEF) Plant Sale Neatby Building Parking lot Fletcher Wildlife Garden plant sale will be online check onfc.ca
Things to do in the garden this month		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harden-off seedlings started indoors. - Watch for adult lily beetle. Hand pick and squash. - Deadhead tulips and daffodils. Allow the leaves to yellow. - Check local nurseries for new stock. Refer to the master plan from January. - Plant vegetables and direct seeded annuals when danger of frost has passed and the soil has warmed to about 10°C. - Check trees for tent caterpillars and other pests. - Compost last winter's waste and incorporate leaves. - Fertilize Amaryllis and put outside in a shady spot. - Rejuvenate flowering shrubs by removing 1/3 of the old wood after blooming. - Prune cedar hedges and recycle prunings. - Divide fall flowering perennials now. - Install staking for tall perennials and vegetables. - Set lawn mower to cut grass at 2.5-3" high. 		

Take a picture this month for the photo contest

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	GHS Events			
	1	2	3	4	5	6				
										
7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	In the Community			
							Visit the Purdon Conservation Area to see the <i>Cypripedium reginae</i> (Showy Lady's Slipper) in the wild.			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	Things to do in the garden this month			
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Remove hardy bulb foliage after yellowing. Dig bulbs up only if relocating. – Thin out crowded annuals and vegetables. – Do the Chelsea Chop on perennials you want shorter and bushier until the 15th. – Fertilize annuals and perennials to maintain strong healthy plants which can resist pests and diseases. – Start biennial and perennial seeds outdoors. Label well. – Watch for red lily beetle adult and larvae which is covered with black, mucous excrement. Hand pick. – Hill up potatoes when the plants are about 8" high. – Plant pepper and eggplant seedlings as they are susceptible to late frost. – Control weeds by cultivating or mulching. – Plant tender gladioli, dahlias and other summer flowering bulbs. – Check plants for pests and hand pick green worm (end of 			
28	29	30	6. Gardens should match the style and architecture of the home and speak the same language.							
		Nursing Home Flowers		Pat Clark Gardens						
		Laurier Manor:		June 8 - 21: Margaret McLaren						
		Rothwell H		June 22 - July 5:						
		Osgoode Care:								
		Saint Louis: Donna Kemp								
Take a picture this month for the photo contest										

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	GHS Events		
7. Make your garden match your personal lifestyle, not the other way around.			1 	2	3	4	Date	Time	Details
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	04		Members' Garden Sharing Tour Want advice, or ideas for your garden? Sign up for our garden tour with a twist.
							24-26		OHA Convention Oshawa Campus of Durham College
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In the Community		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Things to do in the garden this month		
26 	27	28	29	30 	31		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water generously any newly planted trees or shrubs. - Prune bleeder trees (maples and birch). - Prune back spring flowering shrubs, or evergreens such as boxwood or yews, whose shape you want to change or control. - Cut back and fertilize delphiniums after they have bloomed. - Pest alert; slugs, earwigs and lily beetles can all be dropped into hot soapy water. - Hose down evergreens to discourage spider mites. - Dig up and dry garlic. - Prune water sprouts on fruit trees. - Deadhead flowers to enjoy a long blooming season. - Walk through your vegetable garden for the daily picks and add a selection of your vegetables to your favorite recipe or share a few with neighbours or friends. - Sow Chinese cabbage, white turnip and beets for fall harvest. -Water potatoes. -Take time to enjoy and share the beauty of your garden. 		
		Nursing Home Flowers		Pat Clark Gardens					
		Laurier Manor:		July 6 - 19:					
		Rothwell H		July 20 - Aug 2: Laurie Loh					
		Osgoode Care:							
		Saint Louis:							
Take a picture this month for the photo contest									

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	GHS Events		
8. A garden without life and movement is not a garden. It's a stage set.						1	Date	Time	Details
2	3 <i>Civic Holiday</i>	4	5	6	7	8	In the Community		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Things to do in the garden this month		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Divide iris rhizomes every 3-5 years. Cut iris leaves to about two inches, remove any diseased parts and replant. - Harvest herbs for drying or freezing. Collect flowers for drying and pressing. - Collect seeds of plants you wish to propagate. - Cut summer bearing raspberry canes to the ground but leave ever-bearing canes alone. - Take cuttings of geranium to root over winter for next summer. - Harvest ripe vegetables. - Allow Amaryllis to die down by withholding fertilizer and gradually reducing water, then rest. - Monitor lawn for grubs - Sow vegetables for fall harvest - Take notes and photos of the yard for future planning - List what your needs are for next year NOW, you will not remember them next spring. 		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	Nursing Home Flowers Laurier Manor: Rothwell H Lodge Osgoode Care: Saint Louis:		
30	31	Pat Clark Gardens			Aug 3 - 16: Aug 17 -30:				
Take a picture this month for the photo contest									

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	GHS Events		
		1 GHS Board	2	3	4	5	Date	Time	Details
							01	7:00 PM	GHS Board Meeting
							15	6:30 PM	Melanie Ouelette-Ottawa Wildflower Seed Library Native plant gardening, why it's important and how you can help the environment with simple practices
6	7 	8	9	10	11	12	29		Photo Competition Deadline
13	14	15 GHS Meeting	16	17	18	19	In the Community		
20	21	22 	23 	24	25	26	Things to do in the garden this month		
27	28	29 GHS Photo Comp Deadline	30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation 	9. Gardens are ever changing, dynamic organisms. Try to embrace and work WITH the garden. Don't fight it.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Divide spring flowering perennials. - Plant garlic between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15. - Plant or transplant trees and evergreens. - Bring your rosemary plant in when nights get cool. - Reseed lawn. - Add compost or manure to garden beds. - Collect seed and herbs for drying. - Cover water features with netting to collect falling leaves. - Plant spring flowering bulbs (daffodils, tulips, crocus etc.) and add bulb fertilizer to the hole. - Divide old Lilium clumps or plant news ones. - Cut peonies back to 2", move roots or divide as desired, leaving foliage on until Sept will encourage more blooms - Bring in houseplants summering outside except Christmas cactus which likes a bit of cold to set buds. Check plants and soil for pests. Wash with insecticidal soap and rinse to eliminate. - Check your garden for jumping worms. 		
Hospitality		Nursing Home Flowers		Pat Clark Gardens					
Candace Dressler		Laurier Manor: Marie-Reine Yuristy		Aug 31 - 13:					
		Rothwell H Lodge: Candace Dressler		Sept 14-27:					
		Osgoode Care:		Sept 28-Oct 4:					
		Saint Louis:							
Take a picture this month for the photo contest									

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10. Always always always remember context. What climate you're in, what neighbourhood you're in, what season you're in.				1	2	3
				First Frost		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 GHS Meeting	21	22	23	24 OHA D1
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 

GHS Events		
Date	Time	Details
20	6:30 PM	
24	10:00 AM	


In the Community

Things to do in the garden this month

- Prune dormant bleeder trees (maple and birch).
- Rake leaves from the lawn and pile on garden beds.
- Water plants, shrubs and TREES until the soil freezes.
- Edge border in fall to save time for other spring duties.
- Cut lawn on low setting to deter snow mould next spring.
- Prepare new beds for next summer.
- Pull annuals and remove debris. Leave perennial stalks because beneficial insects lay eggs on them.
- Check for lily beetle; they over winter as adults on the soil.
- Empty composter and spread around the garden.
- Empty and thoroughly clean your planters and pots.
- Pot tulips, hyacinths and daffodils to force for Christmas.
- Leave parts of your garden untouched for animals to hide or rest and overwinter.
- Allow a layer of leaves to settle on garden beds.
- Dig and store summer bulbs.
- Leave seeds & berries for migrating & overwintering animals.

Hospitality	Nursing Home Flowers
Phyllis McBain	Laurier Manor: Rothwell H Phyllis McBain Osgoode Care: Joan Born Flett Saint Louis: Phyllis McBain
Take a picture this month for the photo contest	

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2	3 GHS Board	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11  Remembrance Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 GHS AGM
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	11. Shit happens. Don't take it personally and try not to slit your wrists. To be a gardener is to suffer. There is always the next season, the next year.				

GHS Events		
Date	Time	Details
03	7:00 PM	GHS Board Meeting Budget to be approved
17	11:00 AM	GHS AGM Luncheon Pat Clark Community Centre

In the Community

Things to do in the garden this month
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only prune Oak trees Nov - March to prevent the spread of Oak Wilt - Hill hybrid tea roses with soil from another part of garden after the ground is frozen. This discourages mice from nesting. - Clean and sharpen garden tools and oil them to prevent rusting. - Clean and winterize lawn mower. - Check snow blower and shovels. - Water Amaryllis and bring it into the light when dormancy has broken, i.e. when a new tip is showing. - Check houseplants for pests as they hitchhike on people coming inside from the garden. Do not fertilize plants between November and January. - Wrap young exposed trees with white trunk wrap to prevent splitting of bark on thin barked trees, and to deter deer and rabbits from nibbling bark. - Look for and remove gypsy moth egg masses from trees.


Submit your volunteer hours

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December 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Betty Prophet's Punch



To Serve 75
 4 cups sugar
 2 cups water
 2 cups hot strong tea
 12 oranges
 12 lemons
 2 l pineapple juice
 3 l cold water - some made into ice cubes
 2 l gingerale
 1 jar maraschino cherries with juice (optional)
 750 ml Gin (optional)

Boil sugar and water together for 10 minutes, add tea and chill overnight. Add orange, lemon and pineapple juice, ice and cold water. Add gingerale just before serving.

Things to do in the garden this month

- Make potpourri and other Christmas gifts from your garden produce or other dried material.
- Make an outdoor Christmas arrangement.
- Protect plants from sun/wind by recycling Christmas tree branches to trap snow.
- Enjoy your free time, peruse your gardening books.
- Plan next year's garden changes.
- Check stored bulbs, corms or tubers for rot.
- Send for gardening catalogues to review next year's offerings.

Order seeds ASAP.

12. Embrace your inner kindergartener. Never lose the joy and excitement of a seed germinating, a flower finally blooming, and the miracles wrought by mother nature.