



- Arthur & District
- Elora & Salem
- Erin
- Fergus & District
- Grand Valley & District
- City of Guelph
- Guelph Township
- Harriston & District
- Hillsburgh
- Moorefield & District
- Mount Forest
- Orangeville & District
- Shelburne & District

District 7 Newsletter November 2025



Gardens are quiet and plants snuggle under their blankets of leaves. Those new bulbs from the OHA bulb fundraiser are looking around at their new home and wondering what will happen in Spring. Tools are cleaned, sharpened and stored away. Seeds are filed and the more tender bulbs nestled in their winter hibernation spot.

Birds pick thru the remains of seed pods searching for gold. Winter is coming, the bunnies whisper as they hunker down in their nests. Winter is coming, the chipmunks and squirrels chatter as they gather nuts and seeds to store against the hungry days. Winter is coming but Spring will return, the trees sigh as they shed their summer clothes.

1. Our most important business this month, besides preparing for Christmas with loved ones, is the **completion of the OHA AGM on November 22nd**. Hopefully you registered by the deadline of November 8

2. 'Tis the season for the Annual General Meeting for each Society. District Board members will try to be available to install new boards. It is always good to keep your Board fresh with a turnover of people in the positions.

3. **Friday December 5th at 7pm**, a web-based education session on **Recruitment, Retention and Succession Planning** for your Club/Society. Just waiting for the speaker contract so we can publicize but please save the date!

Doris cassandoris@hotmail.com

Ontario Invasive Plant Council has posted a new Southern (Ontario) Grow Me Instead brochure with fantastic pictures and clear advice about what plants to avoid due to their invasive, non-native nature, and what plants to use instead.

<https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Southern-Grow-Me-Instead-1.pdf>

**UPCOMING DISTRICT 7
INFORMATION MEETING**

Date to be determined

March 2026

Via ZOOM

- Please try to have two people attend to represent each society
- Please send me ideas for topics and we will choose two.

So far I have

- Fundraising
- Code of Conduct

**NEXT DISTRICT 7 MEETING
Also District 7's Annual Meeting**

Saturday, April 25, 2026

Moorefield Community Centre

9:30 am to approx. 12:30 pm

Come and help celebrate

Moorefield Horticulture's 100th anniversary

Guest Speaker Vicky Culbert

President of Ontario Horticultural Association

2025-26 DISTRICT 7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WE WILL NEED ONE NEW DIRECTOR AS OF APRIL 2026

as Connie Bienia leaves the Board. Talk to us if interested!

	Position	Society Membership
Doris Cassan	District Director	Arthur, Moorefield
Jude Dowling	Secretary	Elora and Salem, Fergus
Liz Doherty	Treasurer	Mount Forest
Kathy Bouma	Director	Fergus, Elora and Salem
Cheryl Yuill	Director	Fergus
Connie Bienia	Director	Hillsburgh, Erin
Sally Andrade	Director	Harriston



**HIGHLIGHTS OF OCTOBER 2025
BOARD MEETING OF THE
ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**

- New documents on gardenontario.com about Garden Tours. We cannot at this time offer insurance for the home owners. OHA Insurance covers OHA members only for these events. If the tour is a fundraiser, consider purchasing an event insurance policy.
- Documents on the website for those societies with a tool lending program
- **OMAFRA TPON training dates** November 25 January 14
- **Upcoming Educational Webinar** Friday December 5 at 7 pm
Recruitment, Retention & Succession Planning By Lily Vigianno, Volunteer Canada
Intergenerational Initiatives Manager
- **More education coming** (Date to be determined) regarding **cyber security**
- **Code of Conduct will be signed by all District Board members and Executive**
- **Grants for societies on their 100th Anniversary are underway.** Information about how to apply is on website



Garden Ontario[®] JOIN OUR EXCITING
50/50 RAFFLE!
 50% to the winner

Fall for Gardening, Win Big!!
 Proceeds will support Garden Grants and Education in Ontario

DRAW:
DECEMBER 13, 2025

GET YOUR TICKET NOW!
 Licence # RAF1449351

Tickets cost
 700 for \$75
 200 for \$50
 40 for \$20
 10 for \$10

Creative Ideas:

1. Form a group at your Society and each chip in 5 dollars... split the proceeds when you win! This happened in October when a Porcupine Society group won over 2600 dollars!
2. Use a package of tickets as a door prize or silent auction item!

Come Join Us!



Be part of the **FUN** next summer in Oshawa!

Please check www.gardenontario.com for details as they become available

ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
 2026 ANNUAL MEETING & CONVENTION
 Hosts: Districts 4 & 17



Garden Ontario[®]

IN-PERSON LIVE CONVENTION 2026: COMPETITIONS

Please enter the flower show, but also please enter the other competitions!!
 The schedules are on Gardenontario.com under Convention 2026 tab
<https://gardenontario.org/convention/auto-draft/>
 The committee is working on virtual competitions for 2027

WHERE DID FERGUS GET THEIR TEE SHIRTS?

Several people asked about this at our Oct 18 District Meeting

Here is the response from Mary Ann Branciere, President of Fergus & District Horticultural Society

Please note that this pricing may be altered by now, and that other companies in other towns and cities, can also sell the same sort of tee shirts... search for Promotional Products in your area!

Premum Promoworx 157 St. David St. N., Fergus, N1M 2J5 519-787-5168

info@premiumpromoworx.com

GILDAN TEE SHIRTS 100% U.S. COTTON 5.3 OZ. CLASSIC FIT, RIB COLLAR, CREW NECK

Taped neck and shoulder, tear-away label. Sizes Small to 5XL

One colour screen print on front chest and back. One time set up fee 50.00 (25.00 per side)

Order of 12 shirts 15.85 plus tax/shirt add 3.00 for XXL and 5.00 for XXXL

Order of 36 shirts 13.00 plus tax/shirt add 3.00 for XXL and 5.00 for XXXL



QUESTION AND ANSWER TIME!!

Why Do We Keep Minutes of Meetings?

- Communication!!
 - To those absent from meeting
 - To our future selves and others e.g.new members, to provide history
- To ensure that we can prove:
 - What news was communicated to members
 - What help was asked for
 - What issues and concerns were raised by members
- To provide a record of motions and decisions by the Society/ Club
- Overall, we don't want anyone to be able to say "you never told me"!!

What is a Code of Conduct?

- A guide to the behaviour and actions expected of members of a group (e.g. a board)
- A guide for the response to unexpected and harmful behaviour

What are the roles of Leadership?

1. Create and share a vision
2. Develop people
3. Get results .

*May you have a Christmas, New Year's, Any other celebration,
that is Safe, Healthy, Happy and full of Joy!*