

WINONA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Newsletter September 2023



SWEET PEACHY SUCCESS

This year's  **Winona Peach**
FESTIVAL
was a sweet peachy success



thanks to our generous members, corporate donors, and cheerful volunteers. The heavy rain on the Thursday night

became a challenge on Friday. Vehicles were not allowed on the grounds because it was still too wet.

I am so thankful for our great location right by the parking lot.

We didn't have far to walk to bring all our plants in to set up.

This is a view behind our booth, it's the 'sold plants holding zone' which was full before the festival even started - turns out the vendors are some of our best customers!



There were many happy gardeners telling us their favourite plant stories and we are looking forward to seeing some of them at our meetings. We also made the Stoney Creek News!



Enjoy this beautiful, slightly cooler weather!

Hélène

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Notices and Events

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

680 Plains Road, Burlington

Oron'ónhta (O-lun ` un-da) / Beings of Light – Saturday and Sunday, September 23 & 24

Hendrie Park

Oron'ónhta (O-lun ` un-da) means sunflower in Kanyen'kéha (Mohawk). Choreographer, Santee Smith's vision is to celebrate kinship to non-human entities, to extend greetings, love and respect to nature, and to embody the journey of the sunflower seeds from Skyworld to their home on Turtle Island. Four dancers embody the seed journey which is inspired by the Rotinonhsión:ni – Creation Story. Drop-in performances are included with general admission. For information on extended experiences, see the rbg website.

Let's Go Birding (for beginners): Sunday, Oct 1 9am to 12 noon

Lead by instructor, Catherine Manschot, beginner birders will learn how to identify a variety of birds in the field, using features such as colour, size, shape, behaviour, habitat, and bird song. Sessions take place in a variety of habitats on RBG lands, including the Arboretum, Hendrie Valley, Princess Point, or Rock Chapel.

Joy of Birding (Intermediate): September 28 9am to 12 noon

Take your birding up a notch and learn more about the identification nuances between similar species, bird behaviour, adaptations, and migration, and more.

Groups for both programs are limited to 12 people, and registration is required at least two days prior. \$20 (+ Service Fee + HST) per person, per session. Other fall dates are also available.

The Potting Bench – Saturday and Sundays 10:30 am to 4:30 pm

Stop by 'The Potting Bench' during your next visit to learn about what goes on behind the scenes in the greenhouse. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just plain curious, drop in for interactive demos with knowledgeable volunteers. They'll be covering topics such as seed planting, soil preparation, propagation, and more! Included with general admission.

RBG offers a great lineup of fun, and educational programs for all ages. Call 905 527-1158 or visit their website www.rbg.ca To borrow the WHS member's passes contact Hélène or Krys.

ORGANIC WEEK – September 18-24

A week of individual events showcasing the benefits of organic agriculture and its positive impact on the environment. Organic represents a vibrant alternative food system and an alternative option for clothing, personal care, and cleaning products. Events may include anything from pickling workshops to recipes contests, farm tours, or organic food and drink tastings in retail locations across the country. For details, go to <https://organicweek.ca>

WHS BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, September 27 7pm

At Anne's.

WORLD VEGETARIAN DAY (CANADA) – Sunday, October 1

In Canada, people across the country organize various events like vegetarian cooking workshops, food festivals, and social media campaigns to spread awareness about vegetarianism. Many restaurants and cafes offer special vegetarian menus or discounts on plant-based dishes to encourage more people to try and enjoy the diverse flavours of vegetarian cuisine. This day serves as a reminder for Canadians to explore the benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle and potentially make a positive change for themselves, the planet, and the animals.

<https://www.wincalendar.com/ca/World-Vegetarian-Day>

BALL'S FALLS THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL – October 6-9 10am to 5pm daily

3292 Sixth Ave., Ball's Falls, ON

A local tradition since 1974, events include: farmers' market; vendors; live music and entertainment; family fun and children's activities. <https://thanksgivingfestival.ca/>

HAMILTON FALL GARDEN & MUM SHOW – October 20-29 9am to 7pm daily

Gage Park Greenhouse, Hamilton

This year's theme is "Medieval Mums". Tickets available at the door and online tickets coming soon.

Adults \$8 Seniors/Kids \$7 <https://www.hamilton.ca/things-do/festivals-events/fall-garden-mum-show>

WHS NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, October 18 7:30 pm

St. John's Anglican Church Hall, Winona

Business: election of 2024 Board of Directors Speaker: Garden, travel and humour writer, Paul Knowles, author of "The Magic Garden". Copies of his books will be available for purchase.

DISTRICT 6 FALL DINNER – Saturday, November 4

Waterford, ON

Everyone is welcome to attend. Details coming soon.

Tonight's Speaker

Tanya Blankenburg is from the Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture, where she has been the instructor/curator of the Rose, Herb, and Vegetable Gardens, since 2017. Besides curatorial responsibilities, Tanya teaches courses in fruit and vegetable production, soils and hydrology, and propagation. Prior to joining the Niagara Parks Commission, Tanya spent 12 years teaching and working in research development at Niagara College, with a focus on sustainable food production in both indoor and outdoor environments.

Tonight's presentation will focus on chemical-free rose maintenance. With Tanya's help, we will explore how to successfully maintain roses without being dependent on potentially harmful chemicals, and understand how adjustments in our cultural control methods can improve the overall health of our rose gardens.

Jumping Worms

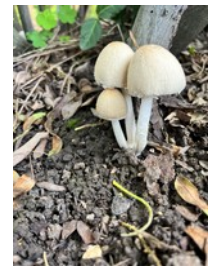
Invasive jumping worms (aka snake worms, crazy worms) have recently been found in Ontario. With the ability to quickly spread into new habitats, jumping worms rapidly deplete organic matter near the surface, exposing soils to desiccation, erosion and nutrient loss, and harming plant biodiversity.

Signs to look out for: loose crumbly castings, like coffee grounds, 1 cm to 10 cm deep. Clusters of slender, wriggling worms. The bodies are smooth and shiny, light grey to grey-brown in colour. Adults have a milky white band, forming an all-around collar, near the worm's head. When disturbed, these worms agitate wildly, even jumping off the ground, thus giving them the name.

Help to limit the spread by not sharing plants or soil amendments from infested locations, and clean off all footwear and tools when working or walking in the area. Inspect your own locations for signs of infestation, and report any sightings to <https://www.eddmaps.org/> or contact Dr. Michael McTavish at michael.mctavish@alum.utoronto.ca Additional information can be found at <https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/>



Summertime Pics



Maggie went camping in Algonquin and took nature photos. Then she came home and enjoyed her garden. So did the bees.

Joy stayed home and grew veggies. The tomato below weighed 2 lbs!



and the zucchinis



... took over!



Ryan had fun taking pictures of tree frogs and katydids climbing up the kitchen window.

In nature, colour reigns supreme!



Student Awards

In the spring of this year, the Winona Horticultural Society Board of Directors voted to double the amount of bursaries awarded to students, in the hope of attracting young people to horticulture and the environment. We proudly presented an **ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AWARD** to each of the following students:

Antonia G. - Saint John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary School (\$200); Thewan V. - Winona Elementary School (\$100); Ella A. - CAIRN Christian School (\$50); Sophia D. - CAIRN Christian School (\$50); Sheldon A. - St. Gabriel Catholic Elementary School (\$50); Ethan T. - St. Gabriel Catholic Elementary School (\$50); Joanne S. - Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Elementary School (\$50); and Morgan S. - Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Elementary School (\$50). In addition, a cheque was made out to *Hamilton Foundation for Student Success*, for Orchard Park Secondary School - student's name was not given. (\$200)
Congratulations students!

October Meeting – Annual Elections

Our annual election to choose and/or acclaim the Board of Directors for the coming year will take place at our next meeting, Wednesday, October 18, at 7:30pm. All positions are open, and any member in good standing may put their name forward. An Elections Chairperson will be in touch over the next month to gather nominations. Please give some serious thought to this. In 2023, we are fortunate to have a number of new members, and would encourage them to consider learning about the Society, from the inside out, so to speak. New blood, and new ideas are not only welcome, but essential to a healthy organization. We especially need a Secretary, as that position has been open for quite some time! The WHS Board needs your input and support -- please, give it a try, and we'll all be happy you did!

District 6

Hypertufa Workshop

9:30 am Sept 23/23

Cost \$45

4064 Hwy 6 Hagersville



Make one pot for yourself and make a 2nd one for the District 6 fundraiser
contact
haldimandhorticulture@gmail.com

Mum Show Volunteers

OHA and District 6 are looking for volunteers to man the OHA information table at the Mum Show, coming up October 20 – 29. If you can give a few hours of your time, please contact Sandi Remedios at sandiremedios@gmail.com. Admission to the show is free for volunteers (on the same day as their shift), so it's worth it just to see the beautiful flowers. :)

Peach Festival Thanks

Our success at Peach Festival would not have been possible without our wonderful sponsors, and member volunteers. Donations from Freeman Herbs, Hillside Growers, Trillium Hill Greenhouses, Vanderhout Florist, Van Noort Bulbs, Winona Gardens, P. Ravensbergen & Sons, Vineland Nurseries, JVK (St. Catharines), Real Canadian Superstore, and Woolverton Nursery, as well as plant and money donations from WHS members made our space a thing of beauty!

Many thanks also to all those who volunteered their time helping out at the tent. It's a big job, but when people work together, the outcome is spectacular!!

Cover photos by H el ene

Jumping worms pic from informational poster

Maggie's camper, toadstools, and allium by Maggie

Other "summertime pics" photos by Ryan.

Members' Corner

As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions. Who would you like to have as future speakers? What kind of topics or activities interest you? Share gardening tips or pictures of your yard or garden. Please, drop us a line, send an e-mail or talk to one of the Board members. This is the 2023 Board:

President – H el ene Br ul e-Besner
905 977-9329 hebrulebesner@gmail.com

Vice-president – position open

Secretary – position open

Treasurer – Krysm Moraal
905 643-4592 krysm@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor &
Past President – Joy Brunel
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Directors:
Georgina Beattie Ryan Inch
Anne Bono Maggie Martin
Greta Carpenter Rien Moraal
 Rosemary Salisbury

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