



Flamborough Horticultural Society

President's Message

Due to Covid-19 provincially-mandated rules around on-site meetings, the Annual General Meeting is going to be postponed. Your Board has appointed me as President, Susan MacMillan as VP, Trudy Bliedung as Treasurer, and Tina Coverly and Trudy Bliedung are your Co-Past Presidents. Your newly appointed Executive and your Board will continue to operate in your best interests. Our Goal is to have the AGM in January but to do this, we need your help and commitment to sign on to Zoom at the January meeting so that we have a quorum.

As I write, this my first President's message, frost is on the ground along with leaves yet still to be raked. This transition from Autumn to Winter is always a surprising time for me... when will it occur this year and what do I manage to get accomplished before snow blankets my gardens?

It is a wonderful time to begin to enjoy the beauty of what we leave in our gardens..., grasses left uncut, hydrangeas left in dry bloom, winter berries for wildlife and the bark of red dogwood. Some of the lovely winter display I enjoy while I spend more time indoors than out. What will you leave in your gardens?

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of you who were able to enjoy our last few FHS general meetings. Covid-19 has really challenged us on how we meet and the various technologies we can use to enjoy each other and our speakers. Though we had a couple of hiccups – and I apologize for them, we did end up with a successful meeting and wonderful presentation. For those of you who were not able to attend or were on hold in the Zoom 'waiting room', Darren Heimbecker has graciously offered us a recorded presentation to come. Please be assured that your Directors have met and addressed the issues that caused us problems and are confident that we will make progress. We appreciate your continued support.

Our November speaker is Paul Zammit – Planning and Planting for All Seasons of Interest. I hope to see you all there and encourage you to renew your membership for 2021. Please do not hesitate to contact us via E-mail: flamhort@hotmail.com for any help you may need to setup your technology. Remember, you are not alone during these Covid-19 times. We are a wonderful community and have some impressive topics ahead!

Take care and continue to keep safe. Your new President, Theresa L. Santin

Newsletter Nov. 2020

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Important Reminder:

An email will be sent to members with instructions for the November 18 Meeting via Zoom online. We have ironed out the bugs.

FHS News and Events

It's membership renewal time. Please support your Society and send us your \$15 renewal soon. We continue to be on mandated Covid-19 Infection Control Precautions including social distancing.

Next Meeting and Speaker Information

Paul Zammit: Planning and Planting for All Seasons of Interest. Nov. 18. 7PM via Zoom. We have ironed out the bugs from Zoom. Please show your support and join us.

Flower Show Competition

Thank you to all who sent in beautiful and creative entries. Congratulations to the three winners:

First Place: Tina Coverly



Second Place: Liz Henderson



Third Place: Ann Cochren



Honorable Mention by the Flower Show Committee

Liz Visentin



Links to Remember

Connon Nursery and Manager Terry Vanderkruk has been a wonderful supporter of our Society. Please show them your appreciation by buying products at Connon Nursery. Visit <https://connon.ca/> 905-689-7433

Wild Bird Unlimited offers at 10% discount on products you buy when you mention that you are a horticultural society member. Check out https://burlington.wbu.com/?utm_source=bing&utm_medium=local&utm_campaign=localmaps&utm_content=157

Please email your comments, suggestions or corrections to flamhort@hotmail.com.

Join Facebook to access our page at.

<https://www.facebook.com/>

In the Search bar enter Flamborough Horticultural Society to access our Facebook. Anyone can post.

Your Facebook Administrator works hard finding a variety posts for members to view.

Post something about your garden or a garden tip for others. Or, post a question for others to assist you.

Committee Updates

Caring Committee- Annamary Kilham

"We wish Arie well as he recovers from his Surgery."

FHS-related Trillium Committee Update - Ann Cochren

The City of Hamilton has agreed to purchase plaques for the winners of the Trillium Awards. Look for the Flamborough Award winners soon.

Civic Improvement- Jan Bignell

As chair of Civic Improvement, I would like to thank the volunteers for their work in the various gardens. Despite heat and drought volunteers have maintained the gardens. Mulching is now being performed.

The volunteers are:

Janice Burns. Freelton Library.

Anne Williams. Carlisle Library.

The libraries were especially appreciative that we kept their gardens looking nice while they were in fact closed.

Kathy Johnson. Freelton Park.

Heather Wilson. Bench on Hwy 5 in central Waterdown.

Harry Vander Geissen. John St corner.

Harry has looked after this garden for many years and this is now being done by Rosanne Waugh and Susan MacMillan. Ann Cochren helped with the mulch.

Will You Be Bringing in Your Boston Fern?

Compared to many other ferns, this plant is a lot easier to care for in regards to light and humidity levels. Ideally, they should be brought indoors when temperatures fall below 10° Celsius. Any temperature below 5 degrees will kill or severely damage it resulting in foliage loss. Remove old, discoloured fronds. Once indoors, a bathroom if there is a window is an ideal location due to higher humidity. Boston ferns are non-toxic to dogs and cats.



Indoor Care for Boston Ferns

Temperature: The ideal room temperature is between 60-75°F (16-24°C) and no lower than 55°F (13°C). Avoid warm air from indoor heating and cold drafts.

Light: Indirect or filtered sunlight is best. A small amount of sunlight will encourage growth. Rotating the plants is advised to ensure even growth of new fronds.

Water: Keep soil evenly moist but avoid overwatering.

Soil: Potting soil mixes with peat moss and perlite added combined with all-purpose soil will allow for some water retention and good drainage.

Humidity: Boston ferns can tolerate lower humidity levels than other varieties, but having a humidifier nearby is beneficial.

Troubleshooting:

Leaflet tips brown: Brown tips are usually due to low humidity, but could also be caused by over or under watering or over feeding. Do not feed for a month after repotting. Feed in winter only once every two to three months at half strength. Ideal NPK ratio should be between 15-0-15 to 20-10-20. Using distilled water once a month will help to flush out built up salts.

Leaf Drop: Rapid changes in conditions are the common cause of leaf drop. Most recover once they have adjusted to the new conditions and if humidity, light and moisture are adequate.



Are You Saving Your Tender Bulbs?

Plants with tender bulbs will require a period of winter dormancy. Expensive bulbs are worth the effort of overwintering. Some of these include:

- Caladiums
- Calla lilies
- Cannas
- Dahlias
- Elephant ears
- Gladiolus

For tender bulbs in pots, stop watering and allow foliage to die back. Store pots in a cool, dry location. For bulbs in the ground, dig them up and cut the foliage back. Brush off as much soil as possible and allow them dry for a week or two. Pack them loosely in a cardboard box or open container, separated by shredded newspaper or dry peat moss. Keep in a cold, dark place. Pot them up in the spring about a month before they are to be planted outdoors.

Should I Bring in Annuals and Tender Tropicals?

Many annuals and expensive tropicals can also be brought indoors if you have space and light conditions for them. Taking cuttings will require less space.

Prune back larger plants, spray down leaves with a hose and check pots for bugs or egg masses and spray plants with insecticidal soap. Spider mites have a 7 to 10-day life cycle so spraying weekly will be required.

Spray under the lips and the bottoms of containers.

Another option is to gently lift the plant from its container and repot when bringing indoors. Do not overwater or overfeed as plants require less food in lower light conditions and when not actively in growth cycle. These plants overwinter well but will require a sunny spot:

- Coleus
- Fibrous begonia
- Fuchsia
- Geranium (if given plenty of light)
- Hibiscus
- Cymbidium
- Amaryllis
- Agapanthus
- Iresine
- Mandevilla
- Rosemary

Taking Cuttings

Taking cuttings instead of bringing in large plants is a good option if space is limited. Begonias, geraniums, impatiens, and coleus are some annuals that will root easily in water.

Choose healthy shoots and trim them back about 2 to 3 inches just below a leaf node. Remove lower leaves and flower buds.

Insert the cutting in a rooting medium—such as coarse sand, vermiculite, or sterile potting mix (which typically contains both peat and perlite). Also, insert at least one leaf node below the medium surface.

It is optional, but dipping the cutting in a rooting hormone prior to planting, may increase rooting success.

Place the cutting in bright, indirect light. Maintain an even moisture level.

Covering the container with a plastic hood or clear bag will reduce overall moisture loss.

Rooting typically takes one to three weeks, depending on the plant. Once the roots are well developed, plant in a larger container.

Are You Clearing out Your Vegetable Garden Too Early?

Do not be too hasty in removing all vegetable plants in fall! Some vegetables are hardy or semi-hardy and can stay in the ground longer and taste better after a light frost (up to -2). Semi hardy vegetables include: beets, carrots, parsnip, lettuce, chard, pea, Chinese cabbage, endive, radicchio, cauliflower, parsley and celery.

For beets, carrots and parsnips, the tops will die back but the roots will tolerate lower temperatures. Hardy vegetables that can withstand heavy frost (below -3) include: spinach, Walla Walla sweet onion, garlic, leeks, rhubarb, rutabaga, broccoli, kohlrabi, kale, cabbage, chicory, Brussels sprouts, arugula, fava beans, radish, mustard, Austrian winter pea and turnips.

Fall Cleanup for Vegetable Gardens

Remove plant matter from the garden.

Chop beans and peas off at ground level. Their roots in the soil are nitrogen fixing which will feed next year's crops. They will decompose in the ground and help aerate the soil.

Compost. Break up material into smaller pieces and start (or add to) a compost pile. Do not add diseased plants to compost.

Do one final weeding. Never allow weeds to go to seed. Weeding is easier when the soil is wet.

Mulch. Cover the garden with shredded or chopped leaves (a great way to use up some of those fallen leaves).

November Garden Tasks

- Fertilize your lawn
- Divide spring and summer blooming perennial plants.
- Turn off outside water connections. Drain garden hoses.
- Buy bulbs to force for winter.
- Continue watering trees and shrubs, especially new plantings until the ground freezes.
- Wrap screening around fruit tree trunks and other vulnerable shrubs and trees to protect from small animals.
- Mulch rose bushes.
- Clean fallen leaves in downspouts and gutters.

Should I wrap my Japanese Maple (*Acer Palmatum*) in burlap for the winter?

Yes, especially for young trees. Japanese maple winter dieback is often caused by drying winds, scalding sun or frozen soil.

Begin by applying a thick layer (10cm) of mulch over the root area. Wrapping them in burlap will protect branches from breaking from ice and snow and frigid winds. The most effective way to do this is to drive stakes around the tree and attach the burlap to the stakes to form a circle around the tree. It is not necessary to cover the top. Leave the plant covered in the spring until danger of hard frosts have passed as early buds can easily be damaged by cold temperatures.

Japanese Maple Hardiness Zone Chart

[Hardiness Chart](#) Ctrl+Click to follow links.



What to Do with All Those Leaves?

Read this article: [What to do with Fall Leaves](#) for instructions for making leaf mold and for many other suggestions!

Which Perennials to Cut Back and Which to Spare?

Don't be in a rush to cut back perennials. wait until after a few hard frosts. Even if the flowers or leaves are dead, the roots continue to reclaim energy from the dying plant for healthy growth in the spring. Not all perennials need to be cut back. Perennials with seed heads add winter interest and provide food for birds and wildlife. Some of the common ones include, coneflowers and grasses. These can wait until spring to be cut back—when new growth appears. Plants prone to powdery mildew like phlox and bee balm are best cut and the foliage discarded.

Use bypass pruners and make clean cuts at an angle through the stems of the plant. Leaving at least a 6-inch stub makes it easier to locate plants in the spring.

Some plants begin to form leaves for next spring in the fall at their bases. Do not cut these back. To prune clump-forming perennials, cut away all the dead foliage to ground level.

Alpines and evergreen perennials should NOT be pruned.

Some of these include, epimediums, hellebores, euphorbias, candytuft, primulas, dianthus, hens & chicks, heaths, and heathers. Pulmonaria and penstemons should also be left in place until spring.

Gardening for Wildlife: Mid to Late Fall

Get more tips from the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

Ctrl+Click to follow this link.

[Garden Chores, Planting and Pruning](#)

Directors Appointed for 2019-2020

President – Theresa Santin
Past Co-President - Tina Coverly
Past Co-President - Trudy Bliedung
Vice President – Susan MacMillan
Treasurer -Trudy Bliedung
Secretary - Susan MacMillan
Director - Ann Cochren
Director Publicity -Shared by VP and President
Director & Facebook Adm. - Liz Visentin
Newsletter Editor – Liz Visentin
Director - Rosanne Waugh

Committee Chairpersons

2019-2020

Bus Tour– Tina Coverly
Caring – Annamary Kilham
Nominating Committee – Tina Coverly & Trudy Bliedung
Civic Improvement– Jan Bignell
Communications Copywriter- Jennifer Godyn
Flower Show & Trillium Judging Liaison– Ann Cochren
Garden Walk – To Be Determined
Meeting Hospitality – Ann Williams
Membership – Janet Waterfall
OHA Website Monitor – Phil Longstaff
Spring Plant Sale – Connie Godyn & Roxanne Riley
Sign Standardization – Ann Cochren
Speakers and Programs –Connie Godyn & Roxanne Riley

Do you know of good speakers that you would like to hear in 2021?

Please submit their name and topic to Speaker Co-Chairs Connie and Roxanne at flamhort@hotmail.com

How to Reach Us

Flamborough Horticultural Society

P.O. Box 902
Waterdown
ON LOR 2H0

E-mail: flamhort@hotmail.com

or

Phone: Susan (email monitor) at
905-977-8567

The Mission of the Flamborough Horticultural Society is to encourage interest and involvement in horticulture through civic improvement, preservation, exhibitions, the distribution of plant materials and regular instruction pertaining to the theory and practice of horticulture.

**We are dedicated to the sharing
of gardening knowledge**

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Deadline for Newsletter Submissions

Please send in your questions, comments, corrections or items for the Newsletter **a minimum of 5 days before the end of the month. Some exceptions can be made.**